

Parma, 21 March 2011
EFSA/CONTAM/1386 rev. 1

**MINUTES OF THE 43RD PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON
CONTAMINANTS IN THE FOOD CHAIN (CONTAM) HELD ON 18 JANUARY 2011
BY CONFERENCE CALL**

Agreed on 21 March 2011

PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:

Jan Alexander, Diane Benford (vice-chair), Alan Boobis, Sandra Ceccatelli, Jean-Pierre Cravedi, Alessandro Di Domenico, Daniel Doerge, Eugenia Dogliotti, Lutz Edler, Peter Farmer, Johanna Fink-Gremmels, Peter Fürst, Metka Filipič, Thierry Guérin, Helle Katrine Knutsen, Miroslav Machala, Antonio Mutti¹, Josef Schlatter (chair) and Rolaf van Leeuwen (vice-chair)

EFSA:

Unit on Contaminants (CONTAM unit)

Marco Binaglia, Katleen Baert, Claudia Heppner, Doina Stoika, and Elena Zeraschi

Unit on Assessment Methodology (AMU unit)

José Cortinas Abrahantes

European Commission:

Almut Bitterhof, Frank Swartenbroux (DG Health and Consumers, unit E3) and Marina Marini (DG Health and Consumers, unit 03)

1. WELCOME

The chair of the CONTAM Panel welcomed the members to the 43rd CONTAM plenary meeting. The chair of the CONTAM Panel invited the vice-chair, Rolaf van Leeuwen, to chair agenda item 5. This proposal was accepted by the vice-chair.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received of the CONTAM Panel and the European Commission.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

No revisions were proposed to the draft agenda, and the agenda was adopted

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

EFSA secretariat screened both the annual and specific declarations of interest (ADoI, SDoI) filled in by the scientific experts invited to this meeting in accordance with EFSA's Policy on declarations of interests.

With regard to the ADoI, SDoI and this meeting, no interests were declared by the experts other than those already declared in the ADoI or in a previous SDoI and screened by EFSA in accordance with its Policy on Declaration of Interests and implementing documents thereof.

5. TOLERABLE WEEKLY INTAKE FOR CADMIUM. DRAFT STATEMENT

The chair of the CONTAM WG on cadmium modelling presented the draft statement on the tolerable weekly intake for cadmium (question number: EFSA-Q-2010-01008) taking into account the revisions proposed during the 42nd CONTAM panel meeting.

The members of the CONTAM Panel appreciated that the current draft statement outlines clearly the methodological differences between the two assessments of the EFSA's CONTAM Panel and the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) in relation to i) the identification of the reference point on the basis of the urinary cadmium and beta-2-microglobulin concentration data, ii) the statistical approach to account for the variability and uncertainty of the biomarker of exposure and the biomarker of response in the concentration-effect model, and iii) the methodology for transforming urinary cadmium concentrations into dietary intake values. The CONTAM Panel adopted the opinion subject to incorporation of minor changes as suggested during the meeting. The vice-chair of the CONTAM Panel expressed his appreciation to the members of the WG and EFSA staff for the preparatory work on the draft statement.

6. WORKING PROGRAMME

This agenda item was deferred to the 44th CONTAM Panel meeting due to lack of time.

7. FEEDBACK FROM EFSA

This agenda item was deferred to the 44th CONTAM Panel meeting due to lack of time.

8. GENERAL INFORMATION FROM THE COMMISSION SERVICES ON MATTERS RELATING TO CONTAM

This agenda item was deferred to the 44th CONTAM Panel meeting due to lack of time.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No additional other business was raised.