

Parma, 10 June 2011
EFSA/CONTAM/1464

**MINUTES OF THE 45TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON
CONTAMINANTS IN THE FOOD CHAIN (CONTAM) HELD FROM
9 MAY 2011 BY CONFERENCE CALL**

Agreed on 8 June 2011

PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:

Jan Alexander, Diane Benford, Alan Boobis, Sandra Ceccatelli, Bruce Cottrill, Alessandro Di Domenico, Daniel Doerge, Eugenia Dogliotti, Lutz Edler, Peter Farmer, Metka Filipič, Peter Fürst, Thierry Guérin, Helle Katrine Knutsen, Miroslav Machala, Antonio Mutti, Josef Schlatter (chair), and Rolaf van Leeuwen

EFSA:

Unit on Contaminants (CONTAM unit)

Claudia Heppner, Luisa Ramos Bordajandi, and Doina Stoika

1. WELCOME

The chair of the CONTAM Panel welcomed the members to the 45th CONTAM plenary meeting by conference call. Bruce Cottrill, recently appointed by the EFSA Management Board as a member to the CONTAM Panel, was welcomed by the chair and introduced himself.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Jean-Pierre Cravedi, Johanna Fink-Gremmels and Martin Rose (new member) of the CONTAM Panel and from Frank Swatenbroux, Almut Bitterhof, Frans Verstraete (DG Health and Consumers, unit E3) and Marina Marini (DG Health and Consumers, unit 03) of the European Commission.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The draft agenda was adopted.

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Declarations of Interests, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of interest (ADoI) and/or Specific Declaration of interest (SDoI) filled in by the experts invited for the present meeting. No conflicts of interests related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the beginning of this meeting.

5. POLYBROMINATED DIPHENYL ETHERS. DRAFT OPINION

EFSA was asked by the European Commission for a scientific opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) in food (question number: EFSA-Q-2009-00684). The chair of the CONTAM working group (WG) on brominated flame retardants presented the draft opinion, particularly highlighting the revisions which were carried out since the 44th CONTAM plenary meeting. The CONTAM Panel adopted the opinion subject to incorporation of minor changes as suggested during the meeting. The chair of the CONTAM Panel expressed his appreciation to the members of the WG and EFSA staff for the preparatory work on this opinion.

6. WORKING PROGRAMME

6.1 OFFICIAL REQUEST TO EFSA FOR CONTAM PANEL

A request for a scientific opinion on the maximum hygiene criteria to be applied to clean seawater and on the public health risks and hygiene criteria for bottled seawater intended for domestic use (M-2011-0129) was received by EFSA and allocated to both the Scientific Panel on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) and CONTAM Panel. The BIOHAZ Panel will establish a WG to address this question. The CONTAM Panel has asked to receive further clarifications from the European Commission on the terms of reference in relation to chemical criteria to be identified for domestic use of bottled clean seawater.

6.2 TEMPLATE FOR JOINT OPINION ON MEAT INSPECTION

EFSA presented the draft template for a scientific opinion on the public health hazards to be covered by inspection of meat (M-2010-0232) which will include

contributions from three Scientific Panels (Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW), BIOHAZ, and CONTAM). The CONTAM Panel endorsed the proposed template.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No matters were raised.