



PROGRESS REPORT

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Stakeholders Platform meeting, 4th and 5th June 2009

Panel on food additives and nutrient sources added to food (ANS)

- 9 opinions and 13 statements. The ANS Panel is dealing with 86 other nutrient sources, which have to be evaluated by 5 June 2009 and are scheduled for discussion during its Plenary meeting at the beginning of June

Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)

- 7 opinions on stunning and killing of fish, 1 statement on fish welfare
- Two self-mandates were accepted by the Executive Director on 'Ticks as Vectors of African Swine Fever and Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever' and 'Fostering harmonised Risk Assessments approaches on animal health and welfare issues in the Member States'

Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ)

- 6 opinions among which one opinion on Genetic TSE resistance in Goats, Public health significance of meticillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) in animals and foods, and the updated risk for human and animal health related to the revision of the BSE monitoring regime in some Member States (EU15, Slovenia and Cyprus)

Food contact materials, enzymes, flavourings and processing aids (CEF)

- 22 opinions. 1 statement on 4-methylbenzophenone in breakfast cereals and an opinion on re-assessment of benzophenone were adopted as urgent advice to Commission. 2 open consultations were launched in April.

Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)

- 5 opinions among which one opinion on uranium in foodstuffs and mineral water, and one on nitrite as undesirable substance in animal feed and 1 statement on shellfish toxins
- 1 joint statement prepared with DATEX, EmRisks and Praper on the potential risks for public health due to the presence of nicotine in wild mushrooms

Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed (FEEDAP)

- 15 opinions on applications for authorisations on a feed additive and one general opinion on yello carotenoids

Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)

- 10 opinions were adopted, including 5 opinion on six GMO applications for authorisation, and two Opinions on guidance : one for GM plants used for non-food or non-feed purposes and one for Statistical considerations for the safety evaluation of GMOs .
- MON810: Meeting with experts from Member States initiated by EFSA

Plant Health (PLH)

- 2 opinions on Citrus black spot and on the Pinewood Nematode.

Plant Protection Products and their residues (PPR)

- Two scientific reports on the outcome of two public consultations (on the existing guidance document on dermal absorption and on the draft project plan for the Development of a new Guidance Document on emissions from protected crops systems) were published

Dietetics Products, Nutrition and Allergies (NDA)

- On the 15th June 2009 EFSA will organize a Stakeholders Meeting in Brussels on health claims
- Update on health claims applications

	IN	WITHDRAWN	ADOPTED	PROGRESS
Children health and risk reduction claims	253 (70% request for more data)	14	52 (59 applications)	9
Claims based on new science	20	6	11	3

Scientific Committee (SC) & Advisory Forum

- The Scientific Committee adopted the following two opinions: “Guidance of the Scientific Committee on Transparency in the Scientific Aspects of Risk Assessments carried out by EFSA. Part 2: General Principles” and “Existing alternative approaches incorporating replacement, reduction and refinement of animal testing: applicability in food and feed risk assessment
- The Advisory Forum held its 31th plenary in Bucharest in April 2009,
- The AF discussed the cooperation in the field of food contact materials, enzymes, flavourings and processing aids, EFSA’s approach to public consultation on scientific outputs, the ESCO report on folic acid, and the draft programme for grants and procurement in 2010

Scientific Cooperation (SCO)

- 5th Focal Point meeting held on the 13-14^o May in Lisbon
- 26 Focal Point agreements signed
- Expert database counts 1500 experts
- The draft final report on risks and benefits of folic acid, which also includes the outcome of the scientific event in Uppsala in January 2009, is currently being finalised by the ESCO Working Group following presentations at the Scientific Committee and the Advisory Forum in their April meetings. The report will be submitted to EFSA's Executive Director in the summer

Data Collection Exposure (DATEX)

- The Unit provided the occurrence, consumption and exposure chapters for the cadmium opinion and prepared together with the CONTAM Unit the uranium opinion published by the CONTAM Panel
- The Unit collected detailed consumption data for mushrooms for the nicotine statement and estimated exposure for the most vulnerable group

Pesticide Risk Assessment Peer Review (PRAPeR)

- Five conclusions were finalised concerning the peer review of the pesticide risk assessment for active substances.
- 19 reasoned opinions on MRL applications were adopted. In addition, in response to a request regarding certain MRLs of concern, the Unit finalised two reasoned opinion on the active substances concerned

Zoonoses

- 3 guidance documents (reporting manuals) were issued in March to guide the zoonoses and food-borne outbreak data reporting. In addition, a scientific report on a statistical and spatial analyses of the zoonoses data with critical overview of statistical analyses carried out in the Community Summary Reports was published in May

Scientific Cooperation and Assistance

Assessment methodologies (AMU)

- AMU organised and chaired the first meeting of the ISOFLAVONS hazard characterisation ESCO Working Group in May 2009
- The AMU unit attended WG meetings and provided significant scientific support, statistical and data management to ZOOSES, PLH, BIOHAZ, PRAPeR, AHAW and NDA

Emerging risks

- The unit contributed to the preparation of the EFSA statement on nicotine in wild mushrooms, and also to EFSA's surveillance of the novel influenza A H1N1 outbreak, including the internal scientific report (a crisis unit on AH1N1 outbreak being established within EFSA).
- The Unit has organised three meetings for establishing a network of European Agencies, engaged in building capacities for the identification of emerging risks, with partners within the EC.

9 -13 March: EFSA delegation visits the US



Objectives of the Visit

- Learn about activities within EFSA's remit, in the US these are carried out by several federal institutions
- Create awareness of EFSA's role and activities
- Explore possibilities for collaboration and exchange of scientists

Institutions visited

CDC, Atlanta: Center for Disease prevention and Control

CEAH, Fort Collins: Center of Epidemiology on Animal Health (CEAH)

APHIS, Washington DC: Animal and Plant Health Services

EPA, Washington, DC: Environmental Protection Agency

FDA, Washington DC: Food and Drug Administration



Relations with Partners and Stakeholders

- As from 1st of March EFSA is coordinating the network of the Head of EU Agencies
- On the 21^o April the EFSA's Executive Director attended the "Food Research in support to science-based regulations: challenges for producers and consumers" Conference, organized by the Czech Presidency

From the 6/8 May the EFSA's Executive Director visited the Baltic Countries

On the 9^o May celebrations took place in Parma for the Europe's day

On the 20^o May the EFSA executive Director visited ECHA Agency and signed a MoUs

