

**MINUTES OF THE 16TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE
SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON DIETETIC PRODUCTS, NUTRITION AND ALLERGIES
HELD ON 2-3 MAY 2007**

PARTICIPANTS

Panel members:

- Albert Flynn
- Marina Heinonen
- Karin Hulshof
- Hannu Korhonen
- Pagona Lagiou
- Martinus Løvik
- Rosangela Marchelli
- Ambroise Martin
- Bevan Moseley
- Hildegard Przyrembel
- John John (Sean) Strain
- Stephan Strobel
- Inge Tetens
- Hendrik van Loveren
- Hans Verhagen

EFSA staff:

- Wolfgang Gelbmann
- Leng Heng
- Cecilia Lloyd
- Pilar Rodríguez Iglesias
- Silvia Valtueña Martínez

European Commission:

- Sabine Osaer¹

¹ DG Health and Consumer Protection

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed two new members of the Panel, Inge Tetens and Hannu Korhonen, and all participants to the plenary meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Andreu Palou, Jean-Louis Bresson, Henk van den Berg, and Seppo Salminen.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with some changes in the order of items discussed.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made in relation to the items of the agenda.

4. CO-ORDINATION WITH EFSA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND OTHER EFSA PANELS

The secretariat briefed the Panel about the discussion at the Scientific Committee level to provide guidance to Panel members on declaration of interests.

5. GENERAL INFORMATION BY EFSA ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE PANEL

The Scientific Co-ordinator informed the Panel that EFSA is planning a series of events and activities to mark EFSA five year anniversary:

- Scientific Forum (20-21 November) on “From safe food to healthy diets: EU risk assessment past, present and future”, for scientists and other interested parties from the EU to debate issues with EFSA including nanotechnology, animal cloning, chemical and microbiological risks and nutrition.
- Food Safety Summit (22 November) for decision-makers from the Member States, EU institutions, international organisations and non-EU partner countries, to consider jointly the future of food and feed risk assessment in Europe.
- Parma week in co-operation with local authorities (1-7 October).

Detailed programme is available on EFSA Webpage:
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/about_efsa/efsa_5th_anniversary.html

In addition, the Scientific Co-ordinator also briefed the Panel that EFSA Management Board at its 31st meeting on 19 June will receive a presentation by Albert Flynn, Chair of the NDA Panel, on the work carried out by the NDA Panel and on future challenges. The meeting will be live broadcasted:
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/mboard/mb_meetings/mb_31st_meeting.html.

6. NEW REQUESTS FOR SCIENTIFIC OPINIONS

6.1 Nutrition and health claims

EFSA received on 6 March 2007 from the European Commission a request to issue an opinion on scientific and technical guidance for the applications for authorisations of health claims under Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods³ (http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/science/nda/requests_mandates.html).

The scientific co-ordinator highlighted that it is the first time the mandate was presented to the Panel, and at the same time a Draft Opinion on “**Scientific and technical guidance for preparation and presentation of the application for authorisation of a health claim**” was submitted by the Panel’s Working Group on Claims to the Panel for adoption (see Agenda item 7.1).

The European Commission has also requested to EFSA for scientific advice on the setting of **nutrient profiles** pursuant article 4 of Regulation 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods (http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/science/nda/requests_mandates.html). The request has been allocated to the Panel’s Working Group on Claims. The timeframe to complete the task is January 2008.

6.2 Novel foods

The scientific co-ordinator informed the Panel about a new request for opinion from the European Commission on a novel food application related to **Allanblackia oil**, submitted in accordance with the Novel Foods Regulation 258/97/EC.

The request has been allocated to the Panel’s Working Group on Novel Foods. More information about this request can be found on the EFSA Register of Questions (http://www.efsa.europa.eu/register/qr_panels_en.html).

7. NUTRITION AND HEALTH CLAIMS

7.1 Draft opinion on “**Scientific and technical guidance for preparation and presentation of the application for authorisation of a health claim**”

The draft opinion prepared by the Working Group on Claims was introduced and discussed. The Panel agreed on a Draft opinion to be released for public consultation.

Before adoption of the opinion by the NDA Panel, potential applicants, stakeholders (i.e. industry, consumer organisations and other NGOs), Member States and all other interested parties were invited to participate in this public consultation by commenting on the draft opinion. The draft opinion will be adopted following amendment, as considered appropriate, in the light of relevant comments received.

The text of the draft opinion appears on the EFSA web site, available at: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/science/nda/nda_consultation.html. Comments should be submitted on-line: <http://www3.efsa.europa.eu/cf/consultation.cfm?doc=16>

³ OJ L12, 18/01/2007

8. FOOD ALLERGY: APPLICATIONS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 PARAGRAPH 11 OF DIRECTIVE 2000/13/EC (PERMANENT EXEMPTION)

The following draft opinions prepared by the Working Group on Food Allergy were introduced and discussed:

- **Draft opinion on mustard seed oil**
- **Draft opinion on distillates made from cereals**
- **Draft opinion on distillates made from whey**
- **Draft opinion on distillates made with nuts**
- **Draft opinion on natural mixed tocopherols, D-alpha tocopherol acetate, and D-alpha tocopherol succinate**
- **Draft opinion on vegetable oils-derived phytosterols and phytosterol esters from soybean sources**
- **Draft opinion on wheat-based maltodextrin**
- **Draft opinion on wheat-based glucose syrups, including dextrose**

The opinions were adopted subject to the incorporation of modifications agreed upon by the Panel.

The text of each of the full opinion appears on the EFSA web site, available at: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/science/nda/nda_opinions/food_allergy.html.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

10. ADOPTION OF THESE MINUTES

These minutes were adopted by written procedure on 28 June 2007.