

Parma, 12 October 2010

Seminar for the Candidate Countries and the Potential Candidate Countries on

Dietary Reference values, Nutrition and Health Claims

Hotel Parma e Congressi, Parma, 22-23 September 2010

DRAFT REPORT

Background information:

This seminar was organized within the EFSA Pre-Accession Programme 2009-2010 for the Candidate and Potential Candidate countries* financed by the European Commission under the IPA Component, and it meant to raise awareness among the beneficiary countries officials on dietary reference values, human nutrition and health claims issues.

The overall objective of the Programme is to promote the understanding of EFSA's work, share expertise and create information exchange mechanisms in order to ensure that the national authorities of the beneficiary countries can participate effectively in the activities of EFSA both prior to accession and following accession to the EU. The participation in this Programme may contribute to the beneficiaries in familiarising themselves with the EU policies and working methods particularly focusing on "from field to plate" integrated approach to food safety.

The audience consisted of 35 participants representing competent food safety institutions of the Candidate countries and the Potential Candidate countries (see the Annex 2 List of Participants and Speakers).

Relevance of the Seminar to objectives of the Programme:

- The seminar provided an overall knowledge on the role and the work of EFSA's NDA Panel, which deals with questions related to dietetic products, human nutrition, food allergies and novel foods. The Panel's work is based on reviewing scientific information and data in order to evaluate risks and to provide scientific advice concerning human nutrition and the nutritional value of foods, food ingredients and products.
- In particular, in the framework of the Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006, representatives from the EFSA explained their work on evaluation of scientific substantiation of health claims performed to ensure that claims made on food labeling and advertising are meaningful and accurate, and can thereby help consumers in making healthy diet choices.
- Experts from the European Commission (Food law, nutrition and labelling Unit of the Directorate General for Health and Consumers), the UK (Food Standards Agency) and France (General Directorate for Competition Policy, Consumer Affairs and Fraud Control) presented their approaches in the area of dietary reference values and health claims, sharing views on the importance of risk communication and scientific cooperation, both on national and on the international level. Representatives of Croatia, Turkey and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia presented their competent

* **Candidate countries:** Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey

Potential Candidate countries: Albania, Bosnia&Herzegovina, Kosovo (under UNSCR1244), Montenegro, Serbia

authorities engaged in the respective topic and delivered an overview of present and future activities in the fields.

- This seminar provided a solid starting point for networking and creation of information exchange systems, where dietary reference values, nutrition and health claims are in question, and will facilitate the preparation of the Pre-Accession countries for their future active participation in EFSA networks.

The agenda of this seminar is enclosed as Annex 1

Conclusions and recommendations:

This seminar gave a solid platform for exchange of views and experiences between the representatives from the beneficiary countries, the European Commission, EFSA and the Member States. The participants took an active part in discussing different topics related to nutrition, dietary recommendations and health claims. The further future cooperation between the Member States, EFSA and the Pre-Accession countries was one of the topics of the discussion as well.

The contacts established during the seminar together with the knowledge and information gained will help EFSA in planning its future collaboration with the enlargement countries, primarily within the framework of the Pre-Accession Programme.

Providing training seminar on dietary reference values, nutrition and health claims should enhance the beneficiary countries' capacity to disseminate competences and improve services, particularly in the framework of opening and closing of accession negotiations, as well as adaption, implementation and enforcement of the acquis.

The participants were informed about, and encouraged to join EFSA's Expert Database and, in addition to apply for the open call for expressions of interest for Seconded National Experts within EFSA. The participants were also invited to apply to the EFSA call for expressions of interest for placement on the reserve list of the Scientific Panels and the Scientific Committee of EFSA.

Results of the satisfaction questionnaire

A total of 35 representatives from different competent authorities of the 3 Candidate countries and the 5 Potential Candidate countries attended the seminar. 32 participants answered to the evaluation questionnaire and the results are as follows.

Hotel facilities including meeting room were considered as excellent or very good by 68% of participants while the presentation skills of the speakers (87%), the content of speeches (72%) as well as responsiveness to the questions (78%) were on high level as well. 81% of the participants found presentations being on the right level and the majority felt they had enough opportunity to express their opinion and ask questions (96%). The participants considered that this seminar was an excellent or very good opportunity for improving their knowledge on this topic (71%). Additional topics they would like to see addressed in the future seminars include food contact materials, emerging risk, multiannual control planning, parnuts (dietetic foods), food supplements, official control in the fields and nutrient profiles.

In conclusion, **22%** of participants found the overall value of the seminar as excellent while **69%** considered it as very good, and **9%** as good.

Seminar on Dietary Reference values, Nutrition and Health Claims

Agenda

22 September 2010	
13.30 - 14.00	Registration
14.00 – 14.10	Welcome and practical information by the chair <i>Finn Sheye</i> , Pre-Accession Coordinator, Legal and Policy Affairs Unit, EFSA
14.10 -14.30	Welcome with a short introduction to EFSA's work in the area of Risk Assessment by <i>Luisa Venier</i> , Legal Officer, Legal and Policy Affairs Unit, EFSA
14.30 – 15.10	NDA Unit's work on Nutrition activities by <i>Ariane Titz</i> , Scientific Officer the NDA Unit, EFSA
15.10- 16.10	Experts from the 3 Candidate countries inform on their nutrition activities: Croatia: <i>Darja Sokolć Mihalak</i> , Expert Associate, Risk analysis office, Croatian Food Agency and <i>Koraljka Knežić</i> , State Sanitary Inspection Service, Food Safety Department, State Sanitary Inspector, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: <i>Vladimir Kendrovski</i> , Head of Sector for Environmental Health, Food Safety and Nutrition, Institute for Public Health, Turkey: <i>Fulya Arican Oznur</i> , Expert, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
16.10 – 16.30	Coffee Break
16.30 – 17.10	UK Dietary Recommendations: expert advice, process and use by <i>Alison Tedstone</i> Head of Nutrition Science, Food Standards Agency, UK
17.10 – 17.30	Discussion
20.00	Dinner

23 September 2010	
09.30 – 10.15	NDA work on evaluation of health claims by <i>Leng Heng</i> , Senior Scientific Officer NDA Unit, EFSA
10.15 – 11.00	Background and the developments on approval of health claims in the EU , by <i>Noel Griffin</i> European Commission, Directorate General for Health and Consumers, Food law, nutrition and labelling Unit,
11.00 – 11.20	Coffee break
11.20 – 12.00	The work on Health Claims in France by <i>Ellie Daguët</i> , General Directorate for Competition Policy, Consumer affairs and Fraud control (DGCCRF), Paris
12.00 - 12.30	EFSA and Pre-Accession today and in the future by <i>Goran Kumrić</i> , Policy Officer, Legal and Policy Affairs Unit, EFSA
12.30 – 13.00	Short input by appointed <i>national rapporteurs</i> from the beneficiary countries and Conclusions of the meeting by the chair
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch

List of Participants and Speakers

Speakers

	Name and Surname	Institution	Title
1.	ARICAN ÖZNUR Fulya	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	General Directorate of Protection and Control, Expert - Food Engineer,
2.	DAGUET Ellie	General Directorate for Competition Policy, Consumer affairs and Fraud Control	Nutrition and Health Claims Unit
3.	GRIFFIN Noel	European Commission, Directorate General for Health and Consumers	Food law, nutrition and labelling Unit
4.	HENG Leng	NDA Unit, EFSA	Senior Scientific Officer
5.	KENDROVSKI Vladimir	Institute for Public Health of Republic of Macedonia	Head of Sector for Environmental Health, Food Safety and Nutrition
6.	KNEZIĆ Koraljka	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Croatia	Food Safety Department, State Sanitary Inspector
7.	KUMRIC Goran	Legal and Policy Affairs Unit, EFSA	Policy Officer
8.	SHEYE Finn	Legal and Policy Affairs Unit, EFSA	Pre accession coordinator
9.	SOKOLIĆ-MIHALAK Darja	Croatian Food Agency	Risk Analysis Office, Expert Associate
10.	TEDSTONE Alison	Food Standards Agency, UK	Head of Nutrition Science
11.	TITZ Ariane	NDA Unit, EFSA	Scientific Officer
12.	VENIER Luisa	Legal and Policy Affairs Unit, EFSA	Legal Officer

Participants from Croatia

	Name and Surname	Institution	Title
1.	COLIĆ-BARIĆ Irena	Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology	Full Professor, Head of Laboratory for Food Chemistry and Nutrition
2.	GACIĆ Milica	Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology	Head of Food Control Center
3.	GROSS-BOŠKOVIĆ Andrea	Croatian Food Agency	Head of Risk Analysis Office
4.	JURKOVIĆ Martina	Croatian Food Agency	Risk Analysis Office, Expert Associate
5.	KOVAČ Marina	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	Food Safety Department, State Sanitary Inspector
6.	POLLAK Lea	Croatian National Institute of Public Health	Head of Food Supplements and Dietetic Products Unit
7.	STRAŽANAC Danijela	Croatian Food Agency	Risk Analysis Office, Expert Associate
8.	VOLAR PANTIĆ Edita	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development	Department of Food Safety and Quality Sector for Food Labelling and Quality, Head of Sector

Participants from the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

	Name and Surname	Institution	Title
1.	BACHANOVIKJ Angelina	Ministry of Health	Head of Sector for Normative-Legal Affairs and Administrative Activities
2.	JOSIFOVSKI Marijan	Center for Public Health, Probistip	Director
3.	KADRIJA Kadri	Food Directorate, Ministry of Health	Head of Inspection Unit- Tetovo, Food Control Department
4.	KONJANOVSKI Toni	Center for Public Health Bitola	Deputy Director
5.	MANOV Gligor	Center for Public Health, Kumanovo	Director
6.	MIHAILOV Atanasko	Centre for Public Health Ohrid	Director
7.	MLADENOVA Valentina	Food Directorate Ministry of Health	State Food Inspector, Inspection Unit-Stip, Food Control Department
8.	PETRESKI Bozin	Food Directorate, Ministry of Health,	Head of Food Control Department
9.	POPOVSKA-DOMAZETOVA Marina	Food Directorate, Ministry of Health	Director

Participants from Turkey

	Name and Surname	Institution	Title
1.	AYAZ Selman	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	General Directorate of Protection and Control, Turkey, Director of Codex Division
2.	APAYDIN Halil	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA),	General Directorate of Protection and Control, Expert - Agriculture engineer
3.	YAŞAYAN A. Derya	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	General Directorate of Protection and Control, Agriculture engineer
4.	GAZIOĞLU Özgür	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	General Directorate of Protection and Control, Food Engineer/ Food Inspector
5.	AYAZ Mürsel	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	General Directorate of Protection and Food and Feed Registration, Agriculture Engineer
6.	ÜNSAL Seyfettin	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	Ankara Provincial Directorate, Deputy of Provincial Director
7.	SABANCI Rukiye	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	Izmir Provincial Directorate, Higher Agriculture Engineer,
8.	KURT Engin,	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	Manisa Provincial Directorate, Director of Control Division,
9.	UYANIK Zekai	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	Istanbul Provincial Directorate, Director of Control Division,

Participant from Albania

Name and Surname	Institution	Title
GJOCI Ana	National Food Authority of Albania, Department of Risk Assessment and Communication	Specialist at Research Section

Participant from Bosnia and Herzegovina

Name and Surname	Institution	Title
MAČKIĆ Sejad	Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Director

Participant from Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244)

Name and Surname	Institution	Title
KADRIU Flamur	Kosovo Food and Veterinary Agency	Chief of veterinary Public Health

Participant from Montenegro

Name and Surname	Institution	Title
SCEPANOVIĆ Zora	Ministry of Health	Health- Sanitary Inspector

Participant from Serbia

Name and Surname	Institution	Title
STOJKOVIĆ Goran	Ministry of Health, Department for Inspections, Group for Internal Control	Independent Advisor