

PANEL ON PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS AND THEIR RESIDUES

**48th PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON
PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS AND THEIR RESIDUES
HELD IN PARMA ON 24-25 NOVEMBER 2010**

(ADOPTED BY WRITTEN PROCEDURE ON 23 DECEMBER 2010)

#	Items
1.	Adoption of the agenda, apologies for absence, declarations of interest.
2.	Adoption of the Guidance Document on how to use field persistence and accumulation studies for exposure assessment in soil
3.	Information on the Guidance Document on protected crops.
4.	Information on the draft opinion on the identification of pesticides to be included in cumulative assessment groups on the basis of their toxicological profile
5.	Information on the Guidance Document on the probabilistic methodologies for modelling dietary exposure to pesticide residues
6.	Information on the draft opinion on the evaluation of the toxicological relevance of metabolites and degradates of pesticide active substances for the dietary risk assessment
7.	Miscellaneous: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feed-back from the Scientific Committee and its Working Groups• IESTI equation: feed back from the SCFCAH meeting of October• Information on Focus Groundwater document

PANEL ON PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS AND THEIR RESIDUES

PARTICIPANTS

Members of the PPR Panel

Mr. J. BOESTEN, Ms. C. BOLOGNESI, Mr. T. BROCK, Mr A. HARDY (Chair), Mr A. HART, Ms K. HIRSCH-ERNST, Ms. S. HOUGAARD BENNEKOU, Mr. M. KLEIN, Mr. R. LUTTIK, Mr. A. MORETTO, Ms. B. OSSENDORP, Ms. A. PETERSEN, Ms. Y. PICO`, Mr. A. SCHAEFFER, Mr. W. STEURBAUT, Ms. A. STROMBERG, Ms. M. TASHEVA, Mr. T. VAN DER LINDEN, Ms C. VLEMINCKX.

Apologies

Mr. E. CAPRI, Mr. P. SOUSA.

Commission

Ms. J. HOUINS-ROULET (DG SANCO)

EFSA

PPR Panel secretariat: Ms. M. DUNIER-THOMANN, Ms S. BOPP, Mr. M. EGSMOSE, Mr. L. MOHIMONT, Mr. I. SEBESTYEN, Mr. H. STEINKELLNER, Ms. N. SUCIU (trainee), Ms. G. BOSCHETTO, Ms. A. PASQUIN, Ms. M. SODANI, Ms. J. RICKETTS

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The agenda was adopted without changes; apologies were received from Mr. CAPRI and Mr. SOUSA.

In accordance with EFSA's policy on Declarations of Interest, EFSA screened the ADoI filled in by the Panel members invited to the meeting. No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process and no new interests were declared in the SDoI or at the beginning of this meeting.

Ms. DUNIER-THOMANN announced her resignation and departure from EFSA in February 2011 and the Chair acknowledged all the work done for the PPR Panel and Unit in the past 8 years.

The recruitment of the 2 scientific officers (replacement of junior and senior posts) in Ecotoxicology is ongoing.

2. ADOPTION OF THE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON HOW TO USE FIELD PERSISTENCE AND ACCUMULATION STUDIES FOR EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT IN SOIL

The Chair updated the panel on the ongoing work for the revision of the GD Persistence in Soil. The Panel discussed and adopted the "*Guidance for evaluating laboratory and field dissipation studies to obtain DegT50 values of Plant Protection Products in soil*". The Panel agreed to change the title to reflect the purpose of the guidance. The Guidance Document had been revised based on the comments received from the public consultation that was closed on 4 October 2010. The guidance provides methodology for estimating DegT50 in soil relevant for assessments in soil,

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surface water and ground water. The Panel chair thanked the three rapporteurs and the WG for preparing and finalising this guidance.

Two procurements: 1) on validation of the draft guidance on estimating exposure of Plant Protection Products to soil organisms and 2) data collection on crop interception of Plant Protection Products, have been finalised and published on the EFSA website.

3. INFORMATION ON THE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON PROTECTED CROPS

The Chair of the WG gave an update on the development of the new GD on estimating emissions from protected crop systems (green-houses and covered crops). The WG will meet again on 25/26 November.

A second data collection on protected crop structures in the EU is ongoing for filling the data gaps from the first data collection. The call for EU central regulatory zone is finalised and published on the EFSA web-site. The data-collection for EU southern regulatory zone is scheduled for completion by the end of this year.

An open call for estimation/calculation of emissions of PPPs from protected crops is ongoing and the final report is expected by January next year. The external reports will be published on the EFSA website when finalised.

The secretariat informed the panel that MSs and stakeholders will be consulted on the draft guidance through a public consultation in the first part of 2011, before the guidance is finalised.

4. INFORMATION ON THE DRAFT OPINION ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF PESTICIDES TO BE INCLUDED IN CUMULATIVE ASSESSMENT GROUPS ON THE BASIS OF THEIR TOXICOLOGICAL PROFILE

The rapporteur informed the Panel that the first meeting of the Working Group on Cumulative Assessment Groups of Pesticides took place on 23/24 November 2010. During this meeting the WG discussed the legal background, the scope and the structure of the opinion as well as the lessons learnt during the preparation of the previous opinions related to the cumulative risk assessment. A work plan was also agreed. The work on the recent opinion started with an outsourced project for data collection and identification of cumulative assessment groups of pesticides. The final report from this outsourced project is expected in December 2010. However the contractor requested an extension of the deadline. The EFSA secretariat started the necessary administrative steps for negotiating with the contractor and requesting the agreement of the Authorisation Officer for amending the Grant Agreement, if necessary.

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5. INFORMATION ON THE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON THE PROBABILISTIC METHODOLOGIES FOR MODELLING DIETARY EXPOSURE TO PESTICIDE RESIDUES

The rapporteur informed the Panel on the outcome of the last WG meeting. Progress has been made in the preparation of case studies and the WG group discussed a number of issues concerning cumulative exposure assessment and conversion factors. A specific question regarding sampling uncertainty was referred to the Panel and the Panel agreed to include this uncertainty in the modelling of the acute exposure, the MRL-setting and high exposure events scenarios. The Panel also agreed to include the uncertainty of RPFs in cumulative assessments.

The Panel agreed to include 2 statisticians in the WG and was informed about the time table of the activities of the WG in 2011.

6. INFORMATION ON THE DRAFT OPINION ON THE EVALUATION OF THE TOXICOLOGICAL RELEVANCE OF METABOLITES AND DEGRADATES OF PESTICIDE ACTIVE SUBSTANCES FOR THE DIETARY RISK ASSESSMENT

One of the rapporteurs gave a presentation on the ongoing work. The current mandate foresaw the application of non-testing methods for assessment of pesticide metabolites. Therefore, the starting point for the opinion was the final reports of the outsourced projects where applicability of the Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC) Concept, assessment of the impact of metabolism on toxicity and Quantitative Structure Activity Relationships (QSARs) were explored. In particular the TTC concept will have a key role in future assessments of metabolites next to exposure predictions and QSAR tools. Adoption of the opinion was foreseen for the meeting in June. It was noted that a lot of uncertainties were involved in the application of QSARs. The Chair of the WG on the mandate pointed out that an entire chapter was foreseen for addressing uncertainties in the assessment, including those arising when QSARs are used.

In regard to exploration of QSAR tools, the PPR Panel was informed by the Secretariat that it outsourced further preparatory work to JRC that should be ready for consideration by the WG by the end of May.

7. MISCELLANEOUS:

- **Feed-back from the Scientific Committee and its Working Groups**

The Chair gave an overview of the last Scientific Committee held on 9/10 November in Copenhagen, back to back with the 6th Annual Meeting of the Chairs and Secretariats of the EU Commission and Agencies Scientific Committees and Panels involved in Risk Assessment (which he also attended). He announced the start of a new SC Working Group on harmonisation of scientific terminology between Panels' opinions. He and Mr. HART

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will represent the PPR Panel. The Panel members belonging to WGs gave a short feedback on progress made.

- **IESTI equation: feedback from the SCFCAH meeting of October**

Mr. MOHIMONT informed the Panel on the outcome of discussion at the SCFCAH meeting of October about a possible mandate on the IESTI equation. It was agreed to wait for the official agreement regarding the OECD calculator and the new rounding methods for the adoption of MRLs. In addition Commission and MSs need to agree on a number of issues which could result in changes in the draft terms of reference (e.g. number and representativeness of the foreseen modelling exercises).

- **Information on Focus Groundwater document**

Ms. DUNIER-THOMANN announced that DG SANCO is preparing a request for 2011 for the Panel to deliver an opinion on the Focus Groundwater document. As the PPR staff vacancies in the environmental sector should be filled by the end of the first quarter 2011, it should be possible to start this new task and PRAPeR colleagues will be closely involved. The “fate” Panel members and experts are anyway too busy with the ongoing work for the moment.

- **Information on the open call for tender regarding the investigation of the state of the science on combined actions of chemicals in food through dissimilar modes of action and a proposal for a science-based approach for performing related cumulative risk assessment.**

Mr. SEBESTYEN informed the Panel that the call for tender was successful.

The next Plenary meeting will take place on 19-20 January 2011 in Parma, starting at **14h00** on 19 January.
