



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> WG MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON the  
'request for scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline  
phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of  
raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products'

**Held on 8 December 2020 (9:00-13:00), web meeting**

**(Agreed on 18 December 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Ingrid Clawin-Rädecker, Jan De Block, Charlotte Egger and Caroline Willis.
- EFSA:  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens (Chair), Katrin Bote

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### 3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>2</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to the Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 13 November 2020, web conference.

The minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 20 November 2020.<sup>3</sup>

#### 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

##### 5.1. Request for scientific report on the use of alkaline phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products (EFSA-Q-2020-00331)<sup>4</sup>

The WG was informed that the deadline for approval of the scientific report (31 January 2020), will likely to be extended by three months (i.e. until 30 April 2021), as already informally agreed with the EC. The additional information received through the questionnaire to gather information about the current usage of alkaline phosphatase (ALP) and possible alternatives to verify pasteurisation of relevant products, was presented. The contributions received in the whole report were reviewed and discussed with focus on the first Terms of Reference. The way forward of the assessment was agreed. Potential answers to the ToRs were discussed. Tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts.

#### 6. Any other business

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

#### 7. Next meetings

The next WG meetings have been scheduled as indicated below:

- 5<sup>th</sup> WG mtg 14 January 2021 (9:00-13:00 and 14:00-15:00, Parma times, web conference)
- 6<sup>th</sup> WG mtg 11 February 2021 (9:00-13:00 and 14:00-15:00, Parma times, web conference)

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wq-wq-alp-milk-pasteurisation-efsa-q-2020-00301.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00331>



## Annex

### Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH WAIVERS:** In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Dr. Charlotte Egger, the following interest has been declared: an on-going occasional consultancy with FIL-IDF (International Dairy Federation) on the development of analytical methods for the dairy sector as member of the SCAMPAI (Standing committee on analytical methods for processing aids and indicators) and SCAMC (Standing committee on analytical methods for composition), being Deputy Chair of the SCAMPAI until 2019 and action team leader for the development of an alternative (non-proprietary) method for alkaline phosphatase measurement in dairy products (SCAMPAI), which will be adopted as a technical specification within ISO/IDF. The subject matter of the consultancy activity overlaps with the remit of the scientific group at stake and the activity is performed for the benefit of FIL-IDF, a non-Public Institution representing the dairy sector worldwide that holds a direct interest in EFSA's activities and is directly concerned by the outcome of the scientific evaluations and outputs delivered by EFSA.

This constitutes a conflict of interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>6</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Report on 'scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products', and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> WG MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON the  
'request for scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline  
phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of  
raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products'

**Held on 13 November (9:00-13:00), web meeting**

**(Agreed on 20 November 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Ingrid Clawin-Rädecker, Jan De Block, Charlotte Egger and Caroline Willis.
- EFSA:  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens (Chair), Katrin Bote

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants and informed that the meeting foreseen on 15 October 2020 had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances from EFSA. No apologies were received.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### 3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>2</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to the Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

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#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 18 September 2020, web conference.

The minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 1 October 2020.<sup>3</sup>

#### 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

##### 5.1. Request for scientific report on the use of alkaline phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products (EFSA-Q-2020-00331)<sup>4</sup>

It was clarified that for both ToR 1 and ToR 2, the thermal pasteurisation applies to milk or colostrum, while the end products are the milk or colostrum for direct consumption and the products based on those such as yoghurt, cheese, ice cream, milk powder, cream, fermented milk. The results from the questionnaire to gather information about the current usage of alkaline phosphatase (ALP) and possible alternatives to verify pasteurisation of relevant products, was presented. The Chair presented additional information received from the European Dairy Association (EDA). The whole report was reviewed and the way forward of the assessment was agreed. Potential answers to the ToRs were discussed. Tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts.

#### 6. Any other business

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

#### 7. Next meetings

The next WG meetings have been scheduled as indicated below:

- 4th WG mtg 8 December (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
- 5th WG mtg 8 January (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
- 6th WG mtg to be agreed

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wq-wq-alp-milk-pasteurisation-efsa-q-2020-00301.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00331>



## Annex

### Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH WAIVERS:** In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Dr. Charlotte Egger, the following interest has been declared: an on-going occasional consultancy with FIL-IDF (International Dairy Federation) on the development of analytical methods for the dairy sector as member of the SCAMPAI (Standing committee on analytical methods for processing aids and indicators) and SCAMC (Standing committee on analytical methods for composition), being Deputy Chair of the SCAMPAI until 2019 and action team leader for the development of an alternative (non-proprietary) method for alkaline phosphatase measurement in dairy products (SCAMPAI), which will be adopted as a technical specification within ISO/IDF. The subject matter of the consultancy activity overlaps with the remit of the scientific group at stake and the activity is performed for the benefit of FIL-IDF, a non-Public Institution representing the dairy sector worldwide that holds a direct interest in EFSA's activities and is directly concerned by the outcome of the scientific evaluations and outputs delivered by EFSA.

This constitutes a conflict of interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>6</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Report on 'scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products', and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> WG MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON the  
'request for scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline  
phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of  
raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products'

**Held on 18 September (9:00-13:00), web meeting**

**(Agreed on 1 October 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Jan De Block, Charlotte Egger and Caroline Willis.
- EFSA:  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Maria Teresa Da Silva Felicio (Chair), Katrin Bote

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Ingrid Clawin-Rädecker.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### 3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>2</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to the Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting held on 24 July 2020, web conference.

The minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 30 July 2020.<sup>3</sup>

#### 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

##### 5.1. Request for scientific report on the 'request for scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products' (EFSA-Q-2020-00331)<sup>4</sup>

The full scientific report was carefully reviewed during the meeting, sections were reallocated to WG members for a careful review to complete the text, clarify any pending comments and develop further new subsections. It was agreed to summarise the most important information about the different methods available for ALP activity determination in a Table and relevant column headings were agreed.

EFSA's protocol development framework which is being piloted has been taken into consideration when describing the approach followed to answer both ToRs of this mandate and this has been integrated under section 2.2. Methodologies.

The WG reviewed the draft questionnaire that was prepared by EFSA for a consultation to Member States in the EU. A final version of the questionnaire was approved for distribution to the MRA network. The Chair presented the reply from EDA (European Dairy Association) providing some clarifications regarding the production of colostrum and colostrum-based products from non-bovine species (e.g. sheep, goats, solipeds, camelids etc.) for human consumption. The Chair will follow-up on this reply updating the WG. Tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts.

#### 6. Any other business

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

#### 7. Next meetings

The next WG meetings have been scheduled as indicated in the table below:

3 <sup>rd</sup> WG mtg	15 October (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
4 <sup>th</sup> WG mtg	13 November (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
5 <sup>th</sup> WG mtg	8 December (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
6 <sup>th</sup> WG mtg	8 January (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wq-wq-alp-milk-pasteurisation-efsa-q-2020-00301.pdf>

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## Annex

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**CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH WAIVERS:** In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Dr. Charlotte Egger, the following interest has been declared: an on-going occasional consultancy with FIL-IDF (International Dairy Federation) on the development of analytical methods for the dairy sector as member of the SCAMPAI (Standing committee on analytical methods for processing aids and indicators) and SCAMC (Standing committee on analytical methods for composition), being Deputy Chair of the SCAMPAI until 2019 and action team leader for the development of an alternative (non-proprietary) method for alkaline phosphatase measurement in dairy products (SCAMPAI), which will be adopted as a technical specification within ISO/IDF. The subject matter of the consultancy activity overlaps with the remit of the scientific group at stake and the activity is performed for the benefit of FIL-IDF, a non-Public Institution representing the dairy sector worldwide that holds a direct interest in EFSA's activities and is directly concerned by the outcome of the scientific evaluations and outputs delivered by EFSA.

This constitutes a conflict of interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>6</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Report on 'scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products', and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS BIOCONTAM UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>st</sup> WG MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON the  
'request for scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline  
phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of  
raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products'

**Held on 24 July (9:00-13:00), web meeting**

**(Agreed on 30 July 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Ingrid Clawin-Rädecker, Jan De Block, Charlotte Egger and Caroline Willis.
- European Commission (DG SANTE, Unit G4):  
Martial Plantady (9:30-11:30)
- EFSA:  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Maria Teresa Da Silva Felicio (Chair), Katrin Bote, Francesca Generali and Marco Conterbia (only from 9:00 to 11:00)

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### 3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>2</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to the Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the (n-1)th Working Group meeting held on dd Month yyyy, web conference.

Not applicable, as this was the 1<sup>st</sup> WG meeting.

#### 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

##### 5.1. Request for scientific report on the 'request for scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products' (EFSA-Q-2020-00331)<sup>3</sup>

EFSA introduced Microsoft Teams' collaborative platform which will allow the WG members to co-edit the scientific report. EFSA also introduced the process for delivering scientific reports and provided information on administrative issues for the experts.

The background and Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Mandate from the European Commission (EC) were presented by the EFSA Chair. Minor editorial amendments were made to the background of the mandate including updating the regulation that describes the determination of alkaline phosphatase activity in cow's milk. The WG discussed the terms of reference received from the European Commission, clarified their interpretation with the EC's representative and agreed on a common understanding of these. Possible approaches to be taken to answer both terms of reference were discussed. The WG agreed to review the relevant literature, including guidance documents, ISO standards, scientific peer-reviewed papers, books chapters, non-peer-review papers known by the experts themselves or retrieved through non-systematic searches as well as reports and opinions from different national food authorities. The WG discussed possible alternative sources for relevant data. It was agreed to make efforts to explore the possibility of organising a consultation: (i) with hearing experts that may have additional information on the production of colostrum and colostrum-based products from non-bovine species (e.g. sheep, goats, solipeds, camelids etc.) for human consumption, (ii) to Member States via EFSA's MRA network to ask specific questions to National Reference Laboratories of milk and milk products. All WG members will also check the availability of relevant ALP data in their laboratories. The preliminary table of contents of the draft scientific report was agreed, section leaders were identified for each subsection of the section 3.Assessment. Tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts. The need to: (i) perform an uncertainty analysis according to the EFSA Scientific Committee's Guidance on Uncertainty Analysis in Scientific Assessments and (ii) follow the draft framework for protocol development for EFSA's scientific assessments was introduced. Sources of uncertainty will be identified describing the nature or cause of the uncertainties. Additional considerations about the uncertainties in the assessment and their impact on the conclusions will be described. At this stage the WG didn't consider relevant to translate the ToRs into subquestions.

#### 6. Any other business

<sup>3</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00331>



The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

## 7. Next meetings

The next WG meetings have been scheduled as indicated in the table below:

2 <sup>nd</sup> WG mtg	18 September (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
3 <sup>rd</sup> WG mtg	15 October (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
4 <sup>th</sup> WG mtg	13 November (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
5 <sup>th</sup> WG mtg	8 December (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)
6 <sup>th</sup> WG mtg	8 January (9:00-13:00, Parma times, web conference)



## Annex

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**CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH WAIVERS:** In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Dr. Charlotte Egger, the following interest has been declared: an on-going occasional consultancy with FIL-IDF (International Dairy Federation) on the development of analytical methods for the dairy sector as member of the SCAMPAI (Standing committee on analytical methods for processing aids and indicators) and SCAMC (Standing committee on analytical methods for composition), being Deputy Chair of the SCAMPAI until 2019 and action team leader for the development of an alternative (non-proprietary) method for alkaline phosphatase measurement in dairy products (SCAMPAI), which will be adopted as a technical specification within ISO/IDF. The subject matter of the consultancy activity overlaps with the remit of the scientific group at stake and the activity is performed for the benefit of FIL-IDF, a non-Public Institution representing the dairy sector worldwide that holds a direct interest in EFSA's activities and is directly concerned by the outcome of the scientific evaluations and outputs delivered by EFSA.

This constitutes a conflict of interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>4</sup> and Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>5</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Report on 'scientific and technical assistance on the use of alkaline phosphatase and possible alternative testing to verify pasteurisation of raw milk, colostrum, dairy and colostrum-based products', and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)