

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 19<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(all ToRs apart from ToR1c - chemical food safety risk)

**Held on 11 January 2022, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 17 January 2022)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis, Filipa Vinagre Silva

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Kris De Smet (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this 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)



## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 16-17 November 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 25 November 2021.<sup>3</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

**5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The EFSA coordinator provided a short feedback of the briefing provided at the 150<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meeting (held on 8-9 December 2021). The WG Chair presented the draft Scientific Opinion for thorough reading and the most important comments raised by the Panel members were discussed. Major comment was to reconsider the assessment related to the recommendation of the minimum requirements of the HPP for the control of relevant pathogens to achieve an equivalent efficacy to that of thermal pasteurisation. Currently, the conclusions on equivalent conditions are restricted to the most resistant pathogen identified (*Staphylococcus aureus*) and it was considered to broaden the scope by including also the other pathogens. The Panel further stressed the need to shorten the scientific opinion overall, in particular the conclusions. During the WG meeting, the comments raised by the BIOHAZ panel were addressed. Major changes were made in particular in the conclusions related to the recommendation of minimum requirements as regards time and pressure of the HPP, for the control of relevant pathogens to achieve an equivalent efficacy to that of thermal pasteurisation of milk and colostrum and related to the comparative assessment of the risk to human health that could derive from the consumption of HPP-treated vs. raw vs. pasteurised vs. UHT-treated milk or colostrum. Tasks were allocated, so the draft Scientific Opinion can be presented for adoption at the 151<sup>st</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meeting (26-27 January 2022).

## 6. Next meeting(s)

This was the last WG meeting.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00380>

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 18<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(all ToRs apart from ToR1c - chemical food safety risk)

**Held on 16-17 November 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 25 November 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis, Filipa Vinagre Silva

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Kris De Smet and Jean-Baptiste Perrin (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this 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)



## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 4 October 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 13 October 2021.<sup>3</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

**5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The EFSA coordinator provided a short feedback of the briefing provided at the 149<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meeting (held on 20-21 October 2021). The WG Chair presented the draft Scientific Opinion for first reading and the most important comments raised by the Panel members were discussed. The Panel agreed that there is no need to express the overall uncertainty for term of reference 1a (ToR1a) and ToR1b based on the formulation of the ToRs. For the other ToRs they informed that both concluding remarks and conclusions can have uncertainty included but keeping in the conclusions only the essential parts. During the WG meeting, the comments raised by the BIOHAZ panel were addressed. The discussions focused on the uncertainty sections and the finalisation of the concluding remarks and conclusions. Tasks were allocated, so the draft Scientific Opinion can be presented for thorough reading at the 150<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meeting (8-9 December 2021).

## 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meeting (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk) has been scheduled on 11 January 2022.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00380>



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(all ToRs apart from ToR1c - chemical food safety risk)

**Held on 4 October 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 13 October 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis, Filipa Vinagre Silva

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens, Nikolaos Giannoulis

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Kris De Smet and Jean-Baptiste Perrin (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this 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)



## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 28-29 June 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 6 July 2021.<sup>3</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

**5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The EFSA coordinator provided a short feedback of the briefings provided at the 147<sup>th</sup> and 148<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meetings (held on 7-8 July and 15-16 September 2021). The panel was informed that the sections dealing with food contact materials (FCM) and processing contaminants were endorsed by the CEP and CONTAM panel, respectively, at their July plenary meetings. At the BIOHAZ July plenary meeting, several sections dealing with ToR2 (to assess the efficacy of HPP when applied to raw milk and raw colostrum from ruminants) were presented for information to the BIOHAZ panel and discussed. At the BIOHAZ September plenary meeting, the whole draft Scientific Opinion was presented and the WG Chair went through the specific comments as raised by the Panel members. Some were not addressed before or during the plenary and will be discussed with the WG. The approach presented to assess the relative levels of exposure to pathogens through the consumption of various types of milk was agreed with the panel. The panel suggested to shorten the Scientific Opinion by checking for redundancy and moving parts of the body text to appendices. During the WG meeting, some shortening the Scientific Opinion was agreed. The discussions focused on the uncertainty sections and the finalisation of the concluding remarks. Tasks were allocated, so the draft Scientific Opinion can be presented for first reading at the 149<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting (20-21 October 2021).

## 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk) have been scheduled on 16-17 November 2021 and 11 January 2022.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00380>



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 16<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(all ToRs apart from ToR1c - chemical food safety risk)

**Held on 28-30 June 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 6 July 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis, Filipa Vinagre Silva

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Kris De Smet and Jean-Baptiste Perrin (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this 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)



## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 16 June 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 16 June 2021.<sup>3</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

**5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The EFSA coordinator provided a short feedback of the briefings provided at the 145<sup>th</sup> and 146<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meetings (held on 29 April/6 May 2021 and 3-4 June 2021) and discussed the planning of the work. At the 145<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting some sections of the draft scientific opinion were shared for review. This concerned the introduction and interpretation of the Terms of Reference (ToRs, and the data and methodologies, assessment and conclusions related to (i) the foods to which high pressure processing (HPP) could be applied along with the processing conditions (it was concluded that most frequently, pressures between 400 and 600 MPa are applied for 1.5 to 8 min), (ii) the other relevant hazards in milk/colostrum (i.e. *Mycobacterium bovis*, *Brucella melitensis*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Salmonella* spp., STEC, *Campylobacter* spp., Tick-borne encephalitis virus and *Staphylococcus aureus*), (iii) the most relevant foods associated with human listeriosis in the EU and that are relevant to be treated with HPP (i.e. ready-to-eat cooked meat products, soft and semi-soft cheese, fresh cheese, smoked or gravad fish) and (iv) the other relevant pathogens in these foods (i.e. *Salmonella* spp. and pathogenic *Escherichia coli*). The panel was also updated on the approach used for modelling for equivalence in ToR2 (requirements as regards time and pressure for the control of the hazards to achieve an equivalent efficacy to that of thermal pasteurisation of raw milk and raw colostrum) and 3 (requirements to reduce significantly *L. monocytogenes* levels in foods associated with human listeriosis). At the 146<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting, the sections dealing with food contact materials (FCM) and processing contaminants were shared for information before these are scheduled for endorsement by the CEP and CONTAM panel, respectively, at their July plenary meetings. During the WG meeting an update was given of the work carried out and the next steps were discussed, in particular related to the intrinsic (e.g. food related) and extrinsic (e.g. processing related) factors that may influence the efficacy of HPP in terms of microbial reduction, the potential microbiological food safety concerns and the appropriate indicators to verify the efficacy of HPP of raw milk/colostrum from ruminants. At the 147<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting (7-8 July 2021), the sections related to the minimum HPP requirements for the control of pathogens in raw milk and raw colostrum to achieve an equivalent efficacy to thermal pasteurisation and appropriate indicators will be presented for discussion. Tasks were allocated.

## 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk) have been scheduled on 4 October 2021, 16-17 November 2021 and 11 January 2022.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00380>





## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 15<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants)

**Held on 16 June 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 16 June 2021)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Annette Petersen
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Anna Christodoulidou

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the

<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)



issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

#### **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 8 June 2021, WEB-conference**

The minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021.<sup>3</sup>

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

##### **5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.**

The draft text on the risk assessment of contaminants formed or modified during the HPP compared to conventional processes, was revised according to the comments provided by the BIOHAZ Panel on 3 June 2021. The draft opinion will be presented to the CONTAM Panel at its next meeting for possible endorsement.

#### **6. Next meeting(s)**

The next WG meetings will be held on 28-29 June (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk).

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00380>



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 14<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials)

**Held on 8 June 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 11 June 2021)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Laurence Castle, Konrad Grob, Maria Rosaria Milana
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Eric Barthélémy  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens<sup>1</sup>

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Bastiaan Schupp (DG SANTE).

#### 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>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management,<sup>3</sup> EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the

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<sup>1</sup> On the uncertainty analysis

<sup>2</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>3</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)



Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process.

Certain interests were declared orally by the members before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declaration(s) of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the Annex.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 14-15 April 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 28 April 2021.<sup>4</sup>

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

##### 5.1. The efficacy and safety of high-pressure processing of food<sup>5</sup>: ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials

The WG discussed the sections of the draft opinion on the effect of HPP on food contact materials. In particular, the WG addressed the comments received following the discussion held at the CEP plenary meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May, the consultation of the HPP WG dealing with all ToRs apart from ToR1c - chemical food safety risk - by 3<sup>rd</sup> May, and the discussion held at the BIOHAZ Plenary on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. The text was modified accordingly. The updated sections will be scheduled at the next CEP Plenary meeting in July for possible endorsement.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 16 June (ToR1C: chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants) and on 28-29 June 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c - chemical food safety risk).

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wg-wq-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00380>



## **Interests and actions resulting from the Oral Declaration of Interest done at the beginning of the meeting**

NO CONFLICT: With regard to this meeting, Mr Konrad Grob declared the following interest: he is member of the Council of Europe Working Group on technical guide on compliance documentation that supplements the Resolution CM/RES(2020)9. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was not deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest for the expert concerned.

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<sup>6</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>7</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 13<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk)

**Held on 14-15 April 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 28 April 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis, Filipa Vinagre Silva

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Kris De Smet and Jean-Baptiste Perrin (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this 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)



## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 8 April 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 12 April 2021.<sup>3</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

**5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The EFSA coordinator provided a short feedback of the briefing provided at the 144<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meeting (10-11 March 2021) and discussed the planning of the work. The scientific opinion now contains a draft of the sections dealing with food contact materials (FCM) and contaminants. The WG members were asked to review those sections before they are shared with the BIOHAZ panel at their 146<sup>th</sup> meeting (3-4 June 2021) and then endorsed by the CEP and CONTAM panel, respectively. Some sections of the BIOHAZ work were reviewed carefully in order to share these for information and approval with the BIOHAZ panel already at their next (145<sup>th</sup> meeting) on 6 May. This concerns the introduction and interpretation of the ToRs and the data and methodologies, assessment and conclusions related to the other relevant hazards in milk/colostrum (ToR2) and the most relevant foods known to cause human listeriosis and the other relevant pathogens in these foods (ToR3). During the WG meeting an update was given of the work carried out and the next steps were discussed. Tasks were allocated.

## 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 8-9 June 2021 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials) and on 28-29 June 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk).

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00380>



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 12<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials)

**Held on 8 April 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 12 April 2021)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Laurence Castle, Konrad Grob, Maria Rosaria Milana
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Eric Barthélémy

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Bastiaan Schupp (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process.

<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)





Certain interests were declared orally by the members before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declaration(s) of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the Annex.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 8 March 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 15 March 2021.<sup>3</sup>

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

##### 5.1. The efficacy and safety of high-pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>: ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials

The WG discussed the section of the draft opinion on the effect of HPP on food contact materials. The text will be modified accordingly. The updated section will be scheduled at the next CEP Plenary meeting for a first discussion.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meeting will be held on 14-15 April 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c - chemical food safety risk).

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wg-wq-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00380>



## **Interests and actions resulting from the Oral Declaration of Interest done at the beginning of the meeting**

NO CONFLICT: With regard to this meeting, Mr Konrad Grob declared the following interest: he is member of the Council of Europe Working Group on technical guide on compliance documentation that supplements the Resolution CM/RES(2020)9. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and 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, the interest above was not deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest for the expert concerned

<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 11<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials)

**Held on 8 March 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 15 March 2021)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Laurence Castle, Konrad Grob, Maria Rosaria Milana
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Eric Barthélémy

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Bastiaan Schupp (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process.

<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)



Certain interests were declared orally by the members before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declaration(s) of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the Annex.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 2 March 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 2 March 2021.<sup>3</sup>

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

##### 5.1. The efficacy and safety of high-pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>: ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials

The WG discussed the section of the draft opinion on the effect of HPP on food contact materials. The text will be modified accordingly. Tasks for the next meeting were allocated.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 8 April 2021 (ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials) and on 14-15 April 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk).

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Please be aware that EFSA's Register of Questions is unavailable from 21 January until mid-February. The temporary suspension of the tool is necessary to allow us to implement the launch of our new OpenEFSA portal. We apologise for the inconvenience. Further information is available at <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/register-of-questions>.



## **Interests and actions resulting from the Oral Declaration of Interest done at the beginning of the meeting**

NO CONFLICT: With regard to this meeting, Mr Konrad Grob declared the following interest: he is member of the Council of Europe Working Group on technical guide on compliance documentation that supplements the Resolution CM/RES(2020)9. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and 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, the interest above was not deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest for the expert concerned.

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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 10<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants)

**Held on 2 March 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 2 March 2021)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Annette Petersen
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Anna Christodoulidou

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the

<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)



issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

#### **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 17-18 February 2021, WEB-conference**

The minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 1 March 2021.<sup>3</sup>

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

##### **5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.**

The draft text on the risk assessment of contaminants formed or modified during the HPP compared to conventional processes, was discussed. The draft opinion will be modified accordingly. The text will be updated.

#### **6. Next meeting(s)**

The next WG meetings will be held on 8 March and 8 April 2021 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials) and on 14-15 April 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk).

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Please be aware that EFSA's Register of Questions is unavailable from 21 January until end of March. The temporary suspension of the tool is necessary to allow us to implement the launch of our new OpenEFSA portal. We apologise for the inconvenience. Further information is available at <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/register-of-questions>

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 9<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk)

**Held on 17-18 February 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 1 March 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens (17 February), Maria Teresa Da Silva Felicio (18 February), Katrin Bote (18 February)

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Jean-Baptiste Perrin (DG SANTE) (17 February)

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. She informed that Chris Michiels has decided to resign from the WG and that a replacement is being sought. Apologies were received from Kris De Smet (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 3-4 February 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 12 February 2021.<sup>3</sup>

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

**5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The EFSA coordinator provided a short feedback of the briefing provided at the 142<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meeting (25-26 January 2021). The WG Chair presented the draft protocol, including the problem formulation (step 1) and the planning of the methods to conduct the assessment (step 2). The protocol was simplified and considered final. Feedback was given on the outcome of the last WG meeting using a presentation. Replies to the questionnaire on the commercial use of high pressure processing (HPP) are being received. The panel suggested to use a narrative approach for answering ToR1b, based on a literature review, including the review of existing meta-analysis. For ToR3, confirmation was received from the EC to concentrate on the foods known to cause human listeriosis and therefore the food categories that will be considered are cooked RTE meat, smoked and gravid fish and soft and semi-soft cheese. The other relevant pathogens in these foods were suggested but would need to be justified. The experts discussed the update of the work for the three ToRs and the next steps. Tasks were allocated.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 2 March 2021 (ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants), on 8 March and 8 April 2021 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials) and on 14-15 April 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk).

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<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)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Please be aware that EFSA's Register of Questions is unavailable from 21 January until March. The temporary suspension of the tool is necessary to allow us to implement the launch of our new OpenEFSA portal. We apologise for the inconvenience. Further information is available at <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/register-of-questions>



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 8<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials)

**Held on 3-4 February 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 12 February 2021)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Laurence Castle, Konrad Grob, Maria Rosaria Milana, Annette Petersen<sup>1</sup>
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Eric Barthélémy  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Anna Christodoulidou<sup>1</sup>

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Bastiaan Schupp (DG SANTE).

#### 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>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the

<sup>1</sup> On 3<sup>rd</sup> February for the discussion on the potential formation of process contaminants

<sup>2</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>3</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)



issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 3 February 2021, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 3 February 2021.<sup>4</sup>

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

##### 5.1. The efficacy and safety of high-pressure processing of food<sup>5</sup>: ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials

The WG discussed the papers selected for the full-text review and the table used to further appraise the papers selected for being possibly referred in the draft opinion. Thanks to the participation of a Member of the CONTAM Panel, the WG also discussed about the effect of HPP on the possible formation of reaction products in food and the related mechanisms that may occur in food contact materials during the HPP. The WG discussed the table of content and the draft sections on the effect of HPP on food contact materials. Tasks for the next meeting were allocated.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 17-18 February 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk), on 2 March 2021 (ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants), on 8 March 2021 and on 8 April 2021 (both on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials).

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Please be aware that EFSA's Register of Questions is unavailable from 21 January until mid-February. The temporary suspension of the tool is necessary to allow us to implement the launch of our new OpenEFSA portal. We apologise for the inconvenience. Further information is available at <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/register-of-questions>



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants)

**Held on 3 February 2021, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 3 February 2021)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Annette Petersen
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Anna Christodoulidou, Carina Wenger

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the

<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)



issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 14-15 December 2020, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 4 January 2021.<sup>3</sup>

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

- 5.1. **The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The relevant literature on the high pressure processing effects related to the formation of contaminants has been discussed and the issues identified have been clarified. The text, to be included in the opinion, will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 3-4 February 2021 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials), on 17-18 February 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk) and on 2 March 2021 (ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants).

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Please be aware that EFSA's Register of Questions is unavailable from 21 January until mid-February. The temporary suspension of the tool is necessary to allow us to implement the launch of our new OpenEFSA portal. We apologise for the inconvenience. Further information is available at <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/register-of-questions>

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk)

**Held on 14-15 December 2020, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 4 January 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Chris Michiels, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Jean-Baptiste Perrin and Kris De Smet (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this 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)



## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 8-9 December 2020, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 13 December 2020.<sup>3</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

**5.1. The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The EFSA coordinator provided a short feedback of the briefing provided at the 141<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meeting (9-10 December 2020). The draft protocol, that includes the problem formulation (step 1) and the planning of the methods to conduct the assessment (step 2), was shared with the BIOHAZ panel. The panel agreed with the WG proposal to consider for ToR2 the following additional hazards to be reduced by thermal pasteurization of raw milk/raw colostrum from ruminants: *Campylobacter* spp., Tick-borne encephalitis virus and *Staphylococcus aureus*. For ToR3, a discussion was held on the foods to consider (the most relevant foods known to cause human listeriosis in the EU). The WG agreed to consider foods known to cause human listeriosis that are relevant within the context of the use of HPP. The focus will be on cooked meat, smoked and gravid fish and soft and semi-soft cheese. The previously identified food category frozen vegetables will not be considered because they cannot be subjected to HPP. Additionally, when dealing with other relevant pathogens, the foodborne outbreak database will be used to identify the pathogens. The WG members checked for further clarifications of the ToRs and protocol and gave an update of the work done. Tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts. The future meetings on all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk, were scheduled.

## 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 3 February 2021 (ToR1c - chemical food safety risks due to contaminants), on 3-4 February 2021 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials) and on 17-18 February 2021 (all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk).

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00380>

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials)

**Held on 8-9 December 2020, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 13 December 2020)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Laurence Castle, Konrad Grob, Maria Rosaria Milana
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Eric Barthélémy

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Bastiaan Schupp (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this 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)





#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 17 November 2020, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 17 November 2020.<sup>3</sup>

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

##### 5.1. **The efficacy and safety of high-pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>: ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials.**

The WG presented and discussed the review of the articles selected further to the screening of the titles and abstracts of the articles identified from the literature search. A draft table of content was proposed. Tasks for the next meeting were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 14-15 December 2020 (on all ToRs apart from ToR1c - chemical food safety risks), on 3 February 2021 (ToR1c - chemical food safety risks due to contaminants) and on 3-4 February 2021 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials).

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-wg-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00380>

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants)

**Held on 17 November 2020, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 17 November 2020)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Annette Petersen
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
BIOCONTAM Unit: Anna Christodoulidou, Carina Wenger

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Frans Verstraete (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the

<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)



issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 10 November 2020, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 13 November 2020.<sup>3</sup>

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

##### 5.1. The efficacy and safety of high-pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.

The EFSA staff and the expert discussed the outcome of the literature searches and selected the articles relevant for further review.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 8-9 December 2020 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials), on 14-15 December 2020 (on all ToRs apart from ToR1c – chemical food safety risks) and on 3 February 2021 (ToR1c - chemical food safety risks due to contaminants).

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wq-wq-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00380>

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(all ToRs apart from ToR1c -chemical food safety risk)

**Held on 10 November 2020, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 16 November 2020)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Chris Michiels, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Jean-Baptiste Perrin (DG SANTE)

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Winy Messens

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Kris De Smet (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the

<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)



issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

#### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 14-15 October 2020, WEB-conference

The minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 23 October 2020.<sup>3</sup>

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

- 5.1. **The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>4</sup>.** The EFSA coordinator provided a short feedback of the briefing provided at the 139<sup>th</sup> and 140<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ plenary meetings (22-23 September and 21-22 October 2020). She informed the WG members that following clarifications of the terms of reference of the mandate were agreed with the EC: (a) high pressure homogenisation is out of scope, (b) the aim of the high pressure processing (HPP) is to increase the microbiological food safety, (c) HPP can be applied at different points in the processing of food and (d) nutritional aspects are out of scope. In ToR1, HPP could be applied to any food, with few exceptions (low moisture foods). The focus can be on those foods that are currently subjected commercially to HPP (for processing conditions). To broaden the range, evidence for experimental studies could complement. The translation of each ToR into assessment questions (AQs) and sub-questions (SQs) was presented and the panel proposed to change microbiological food safety "risk" to "concerns" (e.g. spores) which was agreed with the EC. For ToR2, it was clarified that the end point in the assessment is the raw milk or colostrum for direct consumption. Its further use in cheese or yoghurt production is out of scope. The minimum time/temperature requirements for thermal treatments of milk and colostrum from ruminants from legislation are applicable. The WG experts further discussed the first steps for protocol development, in particular the problem formulation (step 1) was slightly revised and the planning of the methods to conduct the assessment (step 2) was discussed. The protocol will be presented to the BIOHAZ panel for comments. Tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts.

#### 6. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 17 November 2020 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants), on 8-9 December 2020 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials) and on 14-15 December 2020 (on all ToRs apart from ToR1c – chemical food safety risks).

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wg-wq-high-pressure-processing-food-efsa-q-2020-00380.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00380>

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

(ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials)

**Held on 14-15 October 2020, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 23 October 2020)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Laurence Castle, Konrad Grob, Maria Rosaria Milana
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Eric Barthélémy

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Bastiaan Schupp (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this 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)



## 4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 4.1. **The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>3</sup>: ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials.**

The background and Terms of Reference (ToR) of the mandate received from the European Commission (EC) were introduced to the WG including a short presentation of related EFSA work.

The WG discussed the ToR 1a and 1c related to Food Contact Materials (FCM). The EFSA draft framework for protocol development and the Scientific Committee's Guidance on Uncertainty Analysis in Scientific Assessments were shortly introduced.

The first steps for protocol development were discussed; in particular the problem formulation (step 1) was finalised and the planning of the methods to conduct the assessment (step 2) was initiated.

Upon EFSA request, Dr Yoon Song, Senior Scientist on food packaging safety from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was invited as hearing expert to present on the FDA's work and knowledge on the effect of HPP on the migration potential including the possible changes in the FCM properties/characteristics. The EFSA and Working Group thank Dr Yoon Song very much for the valuable presentation and discussion held at the meeting.

The WG experts were appointed to lead the various parts of the scientific assessment and tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts. A timeline for WG meetings in 2020 and in 2021 was agreed.

## 5. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 10 November 2020 (on all ToRs apart from ToR1c – chemical food safety risks), on 17 November 2020 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants) and on 8-9 December 2020 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact materials).

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<sup>3</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00380>

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

### MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE BIOCONTAM BIOHAZ WORKING GROUP ON HIGH PRESSURE PROCESSING OF FOOD

**Held on 16-17 September 2020, WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 2 October 2020)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Ana Allende, Laurence Castle, Sara Bover-Cid, Matteo Crotta, Chris Michiels, Annette Petersen, Artur Xavier Roig Sagués, Panagiotis Skandamis

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Jean-Baptiste Perrin, Bastiaan Schupp (DG SANTE)

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Anna Christodoulidou, Winy Messens

FIP Unit: Eric Barthelemy

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Kris De Smet and Frans Verstraete (DG SANTE).

#### 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. No Conflicts of Interest related to the

<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)





issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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

- 4.1. **The efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food<sup>3</sup>.** The background and Terms of Reference (ToR) of the mandate received from the European Commission (EC) were introduced to the WG including a short presentation of related EFSA work. The WG discussed the ToRs and clarified these with the EC representative. The EFSA draft framework for protocol development and the Scientific Committee's Guidance on Uncertainty Analysis in Scientific Assessments were shortly introduced. The first steps for protocol development were discussed; in particular the problem formulation (step 1) was finalised and the planning of the methods to conduct the assessment (step 2) was initiated. The WG experts were appointed to lead the various parts of the scientific assessment and tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts. A timeline for WG meetings in 2020 was agreed.

#### 5. Next meeting(s)

The next WG meetings will be held on 14-15 October 2020 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through food contact material), on 10 November 2020 (on all ToRs apart from ToR1c – chemical food safety risks) and on 17 November 2020 (on ToR1c - chemical food safety risks through formation of process contaminants).

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<sup>3</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00380>