

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 20th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 06 April 2018, Parma

(Agreed on 20 April 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (Chair), Kenisha Garnett, Terence Donohoe, Alfons Oude Lansink

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Discussion of draft report

The SWG finalised the draft report to be submitted for possible endorsement by the Scientific Committee plenary meeting in May 2018.

Recommendations were given in three areas: (i) Further develop a food system based approach including the integration of social sciences to improve understanding of interactions and dynamics between actors and drivers and the development of horizon scanning protocols; (ii) Improve data processing pipelines to prepare big data analytics, implement a data validation system and develop data sharing agreements to explore mutual benefits; (iii) Revise the EFSA procedure for emerging risk identification to increase transparency and improve communication.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 19th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 12-13 March 2018, Parma

(Agreed on 15 March 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn

- **EFSA:**

SCER Unit: Angelo Maggiore (Chair), Raquel Garcia Matas

AMU Unit: Didier Verloo, Federica Barrucci and Alexandra Papanikolau

GMO Unit: Giacomo De Sanctis

BIOCONTAM Unit: Marco Binaglia and Yves Van der Stede

PLANT AND ANIMAL HEALTH Unit: Ciro Gardi and Sofie Dhollander

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working

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group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. CLEFSA

The scope, objectives and plan of the CLEFSA project (Climate Change and Emerging Risks for food safety) was presented and discussed with the CLEFSA group. This group has been set up with the aim of enlarging the knowledge network capacity, ensuring adequate expertise of all areas affected by climate change and also proper geographic cover (see annex for the list of participants). Besides exploring the possibility of using drivers for long term anticipation of emerging risks, CLEFSA is also testing horizon scanning and crowdsourcing as a tool to collect a broad range of signals. At this regard, the results of a survey were discussed together with a definition of the identification criteria and a multi-criteria decision analysis tool for prioritization.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

A next CLEFSA meeting was scheduled for 6 December in Rome, following the Health and Climate Change conference of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità, (pending confirmation).

Annex

CLEFSA group.

Organization/project	Name
IPCC	Marco Bindi
UNEP	Pynia Sarasas
GlobalHAB	Elisa Berdalet
JRC	Andrea Toreti
EuroCigua	Jorge Diogene Fadini
FAO-IPPC	Sarah Brunel
OIE	Stefano Messori
ECDC	Jan Semenza

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 18th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 2 February 2018, Wageningen, NL

(Agreed on 28 February 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (Chair), Terence Donohoe

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Caroline Merten, Raquel Garcia Matas (by teleconference)

AMU unit: Marios Georgiadis (by teleconference), Alexandra Papanikolaou (by teleconference)

- **Hearing experts:**

Hans MARVIN (RIKILT), Esther van Asselt (RIKILT), Yamine Bouzembrak (RIKILT), Nathan Meijer (RIKILT), Don Willems (FBR)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Presentation and discussion of interim report 5 (deliverable 6) of the AQUARIUS project

The SWG was presented with:

- A short overview of the structure and content of deliverable 6
- Revised data sources to monitor indicators
- Methodology of Bayesian Network analysis + demonstration
- Baselining indicators and vulnerabilities

The SWG provided extensive feedback to the proposed methodology of Bayesian Network analysis.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

A revised deliverable 6 is expected to be discussed at the next meeting on 18 May 2018, in Parma.

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 17th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 31 January 2018, Parma

(Agreed on 12 February 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (Chair), Kenisha Garnett, Terence Donohoe, Alfons Oude Lansink

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

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4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Discussion of draft report

The SWG reviewed the draft report and in particular the SWOT analysis and the recommendations for future Emerging Risks identification activities. The SWG prepared the presentation for the Scientific Committee plenary meeting in February 2018.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 06/04/18 Parma.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 16th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 15 January 2018, Parma

(Agreed on 30 January 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (HN), Vittorio Silano (VS) and Matthew MacLeod (MM) via teleconference (from 13:15-16:00)

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Caroline Merten (CM), Georges Kass (GK) from the SCER unit

- **Hearing experts**

Jan Oltmanns (JO), Marie-Léonie Bohlen (MLB) from FoBiG and Oliver Licht (OL) from Fraunhofer ITEM

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest

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related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. REACH 2: Presentation and discussion of Interim Report 4

The SWG was presented with a detailed description of task 6 – Interim evaluation. The different evaluation approaches were applied, compared and evaluated. In the end, a list of 209 potential emerging risk substances was generated, which will be possibly extended by additional compounds after in depth-evaluation during task 7. The SWG provided feedback for minor revisions of interim report 4.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 2 July 2018, Parma.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 15th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 8 December 2017, Parma

(Agreed on 11 December 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (Chair), Kenisha Garnett, Terence Donohoe, Alfons Oude Lansink

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

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4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Discussion of draft report

The SWG reviewed the draft report. A SWOT analysis was made to review EFSA's current emerging risks identification procedure and identify recommendations for future work.

It was agreed that the secretariat would draft the meeting report and distribute it for comments and contributions.

The ongoing work is expected to be presented to the Scientific Committee in February 2018.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 31/1-1/2/18 Parma.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 14th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 28 November 2017, Teleconference

(Agreed on 15 December 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn, Terry Donohoe

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Caroline Merten, Raquel Garcia Matas

AMU unit: Marios Georgiadis, Alexandra Papanikolaou

- **Hearing experts:**

Hans Marvin, Nathan Meijer, Yamine Bouzembrak and Esther van Asselt from Wageningen RIKILT

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of

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Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Demonstrating how Bayesian network (BN) analysis would work to detect emerging risks.

A PowerPoint was presented i) summarizing the work and results obtained in task 2 to 7 ii) showing the approach followed to link vulnerabilities to indicators and iii) explaining how the Bayesian Network (BN) was developed including a demonstration. The latter two parts of the presentation deals with the work conducted in task 8 of the project.

The SWG asked for clarifications and provided several recommendations on points ii and iii in order to clarify the work to be done for task 8.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting is scheduled for 02/02/18 (physical meeting in Wageningen) to discuss the deliverable 6.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 13th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 13 November 2017, Teleconference

(Agreed on 5 December 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (Chair), Kenisha Garnett, Terence Donohoe, Alfons Oude Lansink

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

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4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Discussion of draft report

The SWG discussed the scope of the report and ways forward to address the terms of reference.

The report, should set out what we do now, how food systems work, who are the people involved and recommend methods to help us assess vulnerabilities, drivers and potential impacts related to emerging issues across the short, medium and long term timescales as well as social science techniques to help us identify and manage behaviours.

It was agreed that a revised structure would be proposed by end of November.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 8/12/17 Parma.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 12th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 12 October 2017, Teleconference

(Agreed on 5 December 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (Chair), Kenisha Garnett, Terence Donohoe, Alfons Oude Lansink

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

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4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Discussion of draft report

The SWG revised the contributions provided and tasks to be developed.

4.2. Interaction with EFSA Scientific Committee

The presentation of the report will be done by the Chair of the SWG in February 2018 instead of November 2017. It was not possible to include the item in the agenda of the November plenary.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 13/11/17 by teleconference and 8/12/17 in Parma.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 11th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 9 October 2017, Teleconference

(Agreed on 15 November 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Vittorio Silano (VS), Matthew MacLeod (MML)

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Caroline Merten (CM), Georges Kass (GK)

- **Hearing experts:**

Jan Oltmanns (JO), Marie-Léonie Bohlen (MLB) from FoBiG

Oliver Licht (OL) from Fraunhofer

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest

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related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Presentation and discussion of interim report 3

The SWG was presented with a detailed insight into the extraction procedure of toxicity classification information of the four relevant endpoints and the subsequent scoring. The decided approach makes sure that (i) substances receiving a toxicity score of 10 are likely to have a robust background on classification purpose behind them and will not be diluted by other unreliable substances, (ii) prevents the generation of many false positives and (iii) other substances that popped up with a classification for a relevant endpoint will not be lost and can potentially be evaluated in another manner. After discussion and clarification the SWG agreed with the proposed approach.

4.2. Brief description of work on task 6 (Interim evaluation: selecting and analysing priority substances)

Ranking according to weighting scenarios 4 and 7 will be performed as recommended in the pilot study. At the same time, a Pivot table selection will be performed with a defined criterion for each block.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 15/01/18 (physical meeting in Parma0 to discuss the interim report 3.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 10th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 18 September 2017, Teleconference

(Agreed on 29 September 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (Chair), Kenisha Garnett, Terence Donohoe, Alfons Oude Lansink

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

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4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Discussion of draft report

The SWG revised the proposed draft. It was agreed to discuss in relation to the three conceptual horizons (contextual, market and operational) what are the necessary inputs and outputs for emerging risk identification. Each section will constitute a revision of methodologies, approaches and a discussion on challenges and opportunities. The terminology to be used was discussed. The glossary to be developed can be an important deliverable to facilitate communication activities.

4.2. Interaction with EFSA Scientific Committee

A presentation of the report will be done by the Chair of the SWG in November 2017

4.3. Emerging Risks Communication – EU insights

The call was awarded and the kick off meeting for the project will be on the 29/9/17. Results are expected in December 2017. The survey results can be a valid source of information for the SWG report.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 12/10/17.

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 8 September 2017, Parma

(Agreed on 11 September 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn, Terry Donohoe

- **Hearing experts:**

DLO-RIKILT: Hans Marvin, Esther van Asselt (minutes)

DLO-FBR (via teleconference): Don Willems (13.30-16.30)

NOFIMA (via teleconference): Grete Lorentzen (10.00- 12.00)

- **EFSA:**

SCER Unit: Caroline Merten, Ana Afonso (until 10.00 h), Raquel Garcia Matas, Taya Huang, Marios Georgiadis

1. Welcome and Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

2. Declarations of Interest

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the experts invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

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3. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

(OC/EFSA/SCER/2015/02) Food Chain Analysis of selected aquaculture species products: Identification and monitoring of vulnerabilities and drivers of change for the identification of emerging risks

3.1. Presentation of Deliverable 5

Hans gave an overview of the tasks already performed within the project. Furthermore, the structure of the interim report D5 was discussed.

3.2. Brief description of work done

The Deliverable 5 presents the results of a Delphi study to identify and prioritize drivers of change, indicators and related data sources of selected vulnerabilities to human and salmon health for each segment in the salmon supply chain. The identified data sources were assessed for their quality and several software platforms were evaluated to retrieve data from these data sources.

The Delphi study consisted of 3 main rounds divided into six sub-rounds with interaction with the experts. In total, 40 experts were involved in the Delphi study originating from a range of countries.

For the two highest scored drivers per supply chain segment, indicators were selected and prioritised and finally for the two highest scored indicators per driver, data sources were identified. The quality of the data sources for the highest scored indicator per driver was assessed based on the parameters: relevance, accuracy, timeliness, accessibility, clarity, comparability and coherence. At least 1 indicator with an associated data source was obtained for each supply chain segment. Finally, various software platforms were evaluated for their suitability to automatically retrieve information from the identified data sources.

3.3. Comments and discussions on Deliverable 5

The project team stressed that the Delphi study to select and prioritise the drivers and indicators for the most important vulnerabilities was performed as systematically as possible. In the Deliverable 5, the pros and cons of all methods for obtaining information would be discussed, including literature review, online questionnaires, in-depth interviews, Delphi and workshop.

The project team chose to do a Delphi study for expert knowledge elicitation because the project team wanted consensus on the chosen drivers and indicators. The involvement of as many participants as possible from various geographic regions was aimed for. Therefore, the

project team did not select the Sheffield or Cook method. This should be explained in the report.

It was recognised that the quality of data sources identified for each indicator may change over time. For example, producing areas, websites and data sources in websites may change over time. This may become a challenge in automatic data retrieval.

Additional data sources should be found by contacting the administrators of the databases directly, and by contacting additional experts. The project team will indicate for which part of the supply chain the different data sources can be used.

4. Using the Bayesian Network Analysis, a sensitivity analysis can be done to identify the most relevant nodes/indicators.

The way forward is to start building the Bayesian Network, linking as many indicators as possible. The focus will be on human health and on the Norwegian salmon supply chain. Animal health indicators will be included, but the Bayesian Network will be built to predict human health emerging hazards. Simultaneously, additional relevant data sources will be sought for the top 2 indicators per driver.

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 8th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

**Held on 6th September 2017, (Teleconference)
(Agreed on 29 September 2017)**

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Terence Donohoe

- **EFSA:**

SCER Unit: Ana Afonso, Angelo Maggiore

DTS: Angelo Scotto

- **Hearing experts:**

GP/EFSA/AFSCO/2016/01 "DEMETER"- Consortium Partner WR-RIKILT: Hans Marvin, Nathan Meijer; Consortium Partner WR-FBR: Don Willems; Consortium Partner BfR: Matthias Filter; Consortium Partner NÉBIH: Akos Jozwiak, Kata Kerekes; Consortium Partner UW: Arnout Fischer; Consortium partner UNEW: Beth Clarck and Robert Comber

1. Welcome and Adoption of agenda

Ana Afonso welcomed the participants. The SWG meeting was organized in coordination with the Teleconference meeting of the EFSA partnership grant GP/EFSA/AFSCO/2016/01: Determination and Metrics of Emerging Risks (DEMETER). The agenda was adopted without changes.

2. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

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present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

3. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Feedback from KNIME workshop: KNIME is an open source, community based software; it can integrate different programming and scripting languages. A commercial KNIME Server is also available. Pros and Cons of the different technical frameworks for the ERKEP platform (such as KNIME Server, VRE etc.) should be discussed and will be addressed in Concept Note.

DEMETER will use the open source KNIME software for developments in the data analytics field. Resulting KNIME workflows will be made available via an ERKEP demonstrator hosted (and paid) by BfR – as it was outlined in the DEMETER proposal.

Plans and progress of work packages

WP1: Data retrieval systems. The objectives and structure of the questionnaire were discussed.

WP2: Expert elicitation. A series of interviews will be conducted to EFSA and Industry stakeholders.

WP3: Emerging Risk Exchange knowledge platform user needs. Interviews are planned in October. The feedback from the EFSA survey on EREN can be used (end of October available) to select the countries to be interviewed. The questionnaire is currently being planned.

4. Timelines for next steps

The standing working group will meet to discuss the progress of the project on the 6/12/17.

Project Deliverables

- Emerging Risks Knowledge Exchange Platform Concept note M12 (11/4/18)
- Interim report (including progress reports of finalised and ongoing tasks) M20 (11/12/18)
- Final report and impact assessment M36 11/4/20

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 7th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 3 July 2017, Parma

(Agreed on 7 July 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Vittorio Silano (VS), Matthew MacLeod (MM) Hub Noteborn (HN)

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso (AA), Caroline Merten (CM), Taya Huang (TH), Georges Kass (GK)

- **Hearing experts:**

OC/EFSA/SCER/2016/01

Consortium Partner FoBiG: Jan Oltmanns (JO), Marie-Léonie Bohlen (MB)
Consortium Partner Fraunhofer ITEM: Oliver Licht (OL)

- **EFSA guest scientist:**

SCER unit: Mrs Woan Ru Lee (Taiwan visiting expert)

1. Welcome and Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

2. Declarations of Interest

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the experts invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

3. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

(OC/EFSA/SCER/2016/01) Applying a tested procedure for the identification of potential emerging chemical risks in the food chain to the substances registered under Reach – REACH 2

3.1. Presentation of interim report 2

JO presented the objective and outcome of interim report 2.

3.2. Brief description of work done

The interim report 2 describes the data, methodology and outcomes for the evaluation of the 2336 selected substances according to the three blocks:

Block A – Releases to the environment evaluation (task 2)

Block B – Biodegradation evaluation (task 3)

Block C – Bioaccumulation in food and feed evaluation (task 4)

Each substance was given a Total Score for each Block from 1-10. Score for Block A was estimated based on the tonnage and use information, as well as the Environmental Release Categories (ERCs) from REACH registration dossiers. A good degree of differentiation for score distribution was achieved. Block B was assessed using a battery approach, combining the open source BIOWIN models 3, 5, and 6 available in the QSAR Toolbox. Overall, the predicted rate of biodegradation indicated a good differentiation among the 2336 substances. Results were comparable to the outcome of the REACH-1 pilot study. For Block C, a batch version of the ACC_HUMANsteady model was applied to estimate concentrations of all 2336 selected substances in

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

each food and feed item. An initial Score A-C for each substance was then calculated as a sum of scores from the three blocks.

3.3. Comments and discussions on interim report 2

For Block A, a default tonnage score of 5 was given to joint REACH submissions and 2.5 for individual REACH submissions. A default maximum score of 5 was given to substances with missing ERC data in order to avoid false negatives. For Block B, experimental key values are considered confidential information and therefore not available for all 2336 selected substances. This presents an uncertainty and it was recommended that experimental key values from REACH registration data should be made publicly available in order to facilitate research on this area.

For Block C, scoring was based on quartile concentrations for each food or feed item. The maximum score in any food item for each substance was taken as Score C for the substance.

It was concluded that uncertainties present in Blocks A, B and C will be further discussed in the report and taken into consideration in the next phase of evaluation.

It was stated that substances with a low Score A-C should still be considered, in order to validate the screening methodology. For substances already evaluated by EFSA, that ultimately results from the REACH 2 screening procedure should be compared with findings by EFSA.

4. Timelines for next steps

The next phase of the evaluation will be to examine the classification and labelling data from the ECHA C&L inventory in order to evaluate the toxicity of the selected 2336 substances. Data extracted for the selected substance include harmonised, IARC and REACH registration dossier classification, including self-classifications in joint and individual submissions of REACH registration. The work is currently on-going.

The interim report 2 will be finalised by 18 August 2017. Interim report 3 will be drafted by 2 October 2017. A second teleconference will take place on 9 October 2017 to discuss results to be presented in interim report 3.

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 6th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

**Held on 30 June 2017, Parma (Italy)
(Agreed on 10 July 2017)**

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (HN) (Chair), Kenisha Garnett (KG), Terence Donohoe (TD), Alfons Oude Lansink (AL)

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso (AA), Taya Huang (TH), Caroline Merten (CM), Raquel Garcia Matas (RGM)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the meeting.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Discussion of draft report – Focus areas and final objective

The objective set for the SWG report is to provide strategic orientation for EFSA work on Emerging Risks building on the EFSA Emerging Risks process (ERI) and past and ongoing projects. It is important that the SWG is well aware of the various EFSA projects on methodological developments, and integrates results and recommendations in its report.

Emerging risks are the outcome of external factors and the behaviour (or actions) of causal actors such as importers of plant and animal materials, and affected actors such as consumers and food producers. Actions/interventions on actors (casual and/or affected) may trigger consequences in the medium to long term so an ERI framework needs to encourage 'interveners' to learn about what has led to an incident (triggered by behaviour of an actor) and the broader drivers and contextual influences in play. This requires information and monitoring approaches that capture a wide range of drivers and indicators as part of an integrated, continuous process of collecting (sharing), monitoring and assessing data

This framework does not provide an exhaustive overview of all possible relations, it serves the purpose of providing a conceptual representation of the system and getting a better understanding of where actions be taken. A structure for the report was proposed covering the dimensions discussed above.

4.2. Interaction with EFSA Scientific Committee

The WG discussed possible ways to interact with the SC and agreed to:

- Propose that the report will be developed as an EFSA scientific report, regularly updating the SC on progress made and discuss conclusions and recommendations;
- Use the report as a background document to be discussed at a workshop with the future scientific committee to improve engagement of the scientific panels in the ERI process and guide the EFSA Working plan.

4.3. Emerging Risks Communication – EU insights

Several activities are being developed in EFSA which have a direct or indirect link with the subject of Emerging Risk Communication.

The working group discussed the importance of including in the report a map of the needs on ER communication, these include among others aspects related to:

Risk perception

Target audiences and communication needs

Framing communication objectives and strategies

Transparency and confidentiality

It was agreed that developing guidelines for emerging risks communication is beyond the scope of the SWG, but the report can provide useful recommendations for future work based on a description of progress made since the last EFSA colloquium on emerging issues and some lessons learned including a few examples/case studies.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 12/10/17.

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

**Held on 29 May 2017, (Teleconference)
(Agreed on 7th July 2017)**

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Terence Donohoe

- **EFSA:**

SCER Unit: Ana Afonso, Angelo Maggiore

- **Hearing experts:**

GP/EFSA/AFSCO/2016/01 "DEMETER"- Consortium Partner WR-RIKILT: Hans Marvin, Nathan Meijer; Consortium Partner WR-FBR: Don Willems; Consortium Partner BfR: Matthias Filter; Consortium Partner NÉBIH: Akos Jozwiak, Kata Kerekes; Consortium Partner UW: Arnout Fischer

1. Welcome and Adoption of agenda

Ana Afonso welcomed the participants. The SWG meeting was organized in coordination with the 1st Teleconference meeting of the EFSA partnership grant GP/EFSA/AFSCO/2016/01: Determination and Metrics of Emerging Risks (DEMETER). The agenda was adopted without changes.

2. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

3. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The main discussion focused on the document presented by the consortium outlining scenarios for change of deliverables' reporting and timelines.

The proposal presented of having three main deliverables, was accepted.

- Emerging Risks Knowledge Exchange Platform Concept note M12 (11/4/18)
- Interim report (including progress reports of finalised and ongoing tasks) M20 (11/12/18)
- Final report and impact assessment M36 11/4/20

The roadmap for developing the Emerging Risk Knowledge Exchange Platform (ERKEP) concept was presented but EFSA and the SWG requested additional time to provide comments. Terminology and integration of various DEMETER tasks need to be further clarified.

4. Timelines for next steps

The standing working group will meet to discuss the progress of the ERKEP concept note and the expert elicitation and the inventory of data sources structure on the 6/9/17.

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

**Held on 21 April 2017, Parma (Italy)
(Agreed on 26 May 2017)**

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Hub Noteborn (HN) (Chair), Kenisha Garnett (KG), Terence Donohoe (TD), Alfons Oude Lansink (AL)

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Ana Afonso (AA), Taya Huang (TH)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the context and Terms of reference of the SWG on Emerging Risks.

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 and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Presentation of WG members activities /experience

Each of the working group (WG) members gave a presentation of their own activities in the area of emerging risks identification. TD presented the work developed at the Food Standards Agency between 2010 and 2016, methodological experiences and lessons learned. KG gave a presentation on “Integrated horizon scanning and risk prioritisation for the identification of emerging issues/risks”, focusing on the most recent work at Cranfield University while AL gave an overview of his work on Economic impact assessment of plant and animal pests and diseases and the relevance of economic analysis for monitoring chemical and biological hazards in food supply chains.

4.2. Presentation of EFSA’s Emerging Risk Activities

AA presented the ongoing activities at EFSA in the area of emerging risks, stressing the need to build on experience gained and previous recommendations from the Scientific Committee.

4.3. Discussion on the proposed table of contents and possible contributions

The WG members agreed that the proposed report should describe the evolution of the EFSA procedure for identifying emerging issues in food and feed. The report must build upon experience gained since 2006, and previous recommendations from the Scientific Committee (2015). The scope of the report is to improve the efficacy of current procedures by providing innovative and advanced solutions that will allow EFSA, EU Member State authorities and various stakeholders to share data, knowledge and methods in a rapid, transparent and timely manner.

The WG discussed what could be the main issues to address. Strategic horizon scanning, working across departments and drawing on insights from experts of various domains is necessary. The outcome of the discussion was reflected in the possible table of contents including:

1. Scope of the Emerging Risks identification in Food and Feed process
2. Methodologies for Emerging Risks identification
 - Integration of Economic and Social sciences
 - Foresight studies
 - Horizon scanning
 - Prioritisation
 - Big data (and “Citizens’ Science”)
 - Information Sharing
 - Emerging Risks Communication

4.4. Working group composition and expertise

The composition of the WG was discussed as well as the need to integrate experts in the area of risk communication. A link to the ongoing work in communication of uncertainty should be made.

5. Deliverables and next meetings

The WG discussed the possible deliverables including the type of scientific output, the drafting of a peer reviewed paper and the idea to extend the discussion on the emerging risks process to other stakeholders at a future scientific event to be organised during the next EFSA scientific conference in 2018.

The next WG meeting was scheduled for 30/6/17.

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 11 April 2017, (Parma)

(Agreed on 29 May 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Terence Donohoe

- **EFSA:**

Ana Afonso, Taya Huang, Tobin Robinson, Andrea Germini, Carsten Behring, Jacopo Alabiso, Lisa Brovall

- **Hearing experts:**

GP/EFSA/AFSCO/2016/01 "DEMETER"- Consortium Partner WR-RIKILT: Hans Marvin, Nathan Meijer, Arjen Jongebreur; Consortium Partner WR-FBR: Don Willems; Consortium Partner UNEW: Rob Comber, Paul Brereton; Consortium Partner BfR: Matthias Filter, Cathleen Wolff; Consortium Partner NÉBIH: Kata Kerekes

1. Welcome and Adoption of agenda

Ana Afonso welcomed the participants and explained the context and Terms of reference of the SWG on Emerging Risks.

The SWG-ER supports EFSA's activities in the identification of emerging risks and in the development of methodologies and collection of data in the area of emerging risks. The SWG-ER also supports EFSA in the coordination of the outsourced activities in the area of emerging risks in food and feed. The SWG meeting was organized in coordination with the Kick off meeting of the EFSA partnership grant GP/EFSA/AFSCO/2016/01: Determination and Metrics of Emerging Risks (DEMETER). The agenda was adopted without changes.

2. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

3. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

EFSA presented the ongoing activities in Emerging Risks, highlighting the need to avoid duplications and take advantage of already concluded work. The background for the project was explained and the interest in developing a platform to support not only EFSA but EFSA partners, MS competent risk assessment agencies.

The consortium coordinator presented the project proposal, tasks, timelines and deliverables and suggestions were provided

The main discussion focused on the need to better integrate the various tasks into the overall project objective of establishing a collaborative emerging risks approach to further strengthen EU capacity to identify emerging risks in food and feed. The approach comprises the integration of data and methodologies into a common platform.

It was proposed to develop an Emerging Risk Knowledge Exchange Platform (ERKEP) concept after the first year that would detail the overall picture of the ERKEP (vision) and that will show how the various deliverables will contribute to this vision.

It was also proposed to restructure reporting of the deliverables of the various tasks to achieve simplification and better integration.

4. Timelines for next steps

The standing working group will meet for discussion of the consortium reply to EFSA proposals on the 29/5/17.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 4 April 2017, (Teleconference)

(Agreed on 27 April 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Vittorio Silano and Matthew MacLeod

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Caroline Merten, Taya Huang

- **Hearing experts:**

OC/EFSA/SCER/2016/01 - Consortium Partner FoBiG: Jan Oltmanns, Marie-Léonie Bohlen and consortium Partner Fraunhofer ITEM: Oliver Licht

1. Welcome and Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

2. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

3. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

(OC/EFSA/SCER/2016/01) Applying a tested procedure for the identification of potential emerging chemical risks in the food chain to the substances registered under Reach – REACH 2

3.1. Presentation of interim report 1

JO presented the objective and outcome of interim report 1.

3.2. Comments on interim report 1 and discussion

This first interim report describes the selection of substances for further evaluation in relation to exposure potential, biodegradation, bioaccumulation in food and toxicity based on the recommendations of the previous project. The stepwise approach for the selection of substances first extracts all substances registered under REACH with a full registration from ECHA's database. This step excludes (a) substances registered with an intermediate registration only (i.e. intermediates exclusively handled under strictly controlled conditions) and (b) substances notified under Directive 67/548/EEC ('NONS') as well as (c) a very small fraction of substances for which the registration type is not available ('NA').

The WG discussed the pros and cons of excluding the NONs and agreed in the end to the proposed approach of excluding the NONs. Further, there was a general agreement on the exclusion of Chemical Substances of Unknown or Variable Composition, Complex Reaction Products and Biological Materials (UVBCs), if no chemical abstract service (CAS) number and meaningful simplified molecular-input line-entry system (SMILES) was available. The use of different SMILES (canonical SMILES vs. non-canonical SMILES) with same quantitative structure activity relationships (QSAR) output and exclusion of duplicate SMILES was discussed.

Overall the report was deemed very satisfactory and a few suggestions were put forward for revisions.

3.3. Brief description of work on tasks 2-5

Task 2 – Environmental release: handling of missing data

In progress, very labour intensive because of intensive manual work. Preliminary results indicate for 5% missing data for all substances.

Task 3 – Biodegradation: input for validation; input required from ECHA

In progress, QSAR results produced, ECHA data extraction in preparation, evaluation of confidential key values for biodegradation will be conducted on site.

Task 4 – Bioaccumulation: ACC-HUMANsteady batch version; results of trial run

In progress, validation of ACC-HUMANsteady batch version completed, bugs fixed

Task 5 – Toxicity (classification)

4. Timelines for next steps

The standing working group will meet after the delivery of the second interim report which is expected by end of June 2017, to provide feedback and scientific advice to the project.

Scientific Committee

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Standing Working Group on Emerging Risks

Held on 9 January 2017, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 30 January 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Vittorio Silano, Matthew MacLeod and Hub Noteborn

- **EFSA:**

SCER unit: Caroline Merten, Georges Kass, Ana Afonso, Taya Huang

PRAS unit: Rositsa Serafimova

- **Hearing experts:**

OC/EFSA/SCER/2016/01 - Consortium Partner FoBiG: Jan Oltmanns, Marie-Léonie Bohlen and consortium Partner Fraunhofer ITEM: Oliver Licht, Sylvia Escher

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants and explained the context and Terms of reference of the SWG on Emerging Risks.

The SWG-ER supports EFSA's activities in the identification of emerging risks and in the development of methodologies and collection of data in the area of emerging risks. The SWG-ER also supports EFSA in the coordination of the outsourced activities in the area of emerging risks in food and feed. The SWG meeting was organized in coordination with the Kick off meeting of the EFSA procurement OC/EFSA/SCER/2016/01: Applying a tested procedure for the identification of potential emerging chemical risks in the food chain to substances registered under REACH – REACH 2.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes. It was requested for the guest scientists to do a presentation of their project proposal on Ranking of Chemical hazard risks.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

KICK off meeting (OC/EFSA/SCER/2016/01) Applying a tested procedure for the identification of potential emerging chemical risks in the food chain to the substances registered under Reach – REACH 2

4.1. Objective of the project

A framework procedure for the identification of emerging chemical risks occurring in the food chain was proposed (EFSA, 2014³). The procedure consists of a multi-step selection process to identify substances of potential concern. The selection criteria take into account a number of parameters such as volumes of production or import, persistence in the environment, potential for bioaccumulation, dispersive uses, toxicity and any available outcomes of risk assessments. The procedure was developed and tested with a subset on data rich chemical substances registered under the REACH legislation (Bitsch et al. 2016)⁴. The overall objective of the contract is to apply the tested simplified multi-step procedure to the chemicals currently registered under the REACH legislation.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/en-547>

⁴ <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/sp.efsa.2016.EN-1050/abstract>

4.2. Issues discussed in more detail

Several issues regarding the implementations of various tasks of the outsourced project were discussed, in particular issues related to substances to be excluded from the evaluation, how to handle missing data, input required from the Environmental Chemical Agency regarding toxicity and biodegradation and the potential use of ACC-HUMANsteady batch version.

5. Next Steps: Deliverable dates; meeting dates in 2017

The standing working group will meet after the delivery of the first interim report which is expected by end of March 2017, to provide feedback and scientific advice to the project.