



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE WG ON COPPER

Held on 15 December 2020 via Teleconference

(Agreed on 23 December 2020)

Participants

■ **Working Group Members:**

Polly Boon, Gordon Ferns, Jean-Charles Leblanc (Chair), Oliver Lindtner (morning), Josef Schlatter, Martin Wilks

■ **EFSA:**

Maria Bastaki, Arianna Chiusolo, Agnès de Sesmaison, Lucien Ferreira da Costa, Georges Kass, Francesca Riolo

■ **Commission:**

Eric Liégeois

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management,² EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest filled out 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, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Reverse Planning of the scientific opinion

The main milestones and timelines for the development of the draft opinion and public consultation to meet the deadline for adoption by the Scientific Committee were reviewed.

5. Methodology to perform a copper exposure assessment from all sources: discussion and agreement on the approach.

A discussion on a methodology for a common exposure approach took place. It was agreed that data and method harmonisation were necessary to allow for a direct comparison between the different sources. A proposal for a common stepwise exposure approach and a roadmap for achieving this were made.

6. Setting of a Health-based Guidance Value for Copper

A discussion took place on new relevant papers on the biological, kinetic and toxicological properties of copper that have been published since the last EFSA evaluations of copper in 2015 and 2018. Their potential impact on the existing health-based guidance value was discussed.

7. Next steps and distribution of tasks

The tasks for the next meeting were discussed and agreed upon.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE AD-HOC MEETING OF THE EXPOSURE SUB-GROUP ON COPPER

Held on, 18 November 2020 via Teleconference

(Agreed on 4 December 2020)

Participants

■ **Working Group Members:**

Polly Boon, Jean-Charles Leblanc (Chair), Oliver Lindtner

■ **EFSA:**

Davide Arcella, Maria Bastaki, Lucien Ferreira da Costa, Luna Greco, Georges Kass, Francesca Riolo

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management,² EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest filled

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



out 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, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Sources contributing to copper exposure: Assessment of data availability and presentation of past exposure assessments

The different sources of occurrence and exposure data were discussed. In brief, the STMR from supervised residue trials and monitoring data available for copper compounds used as plant protection products (PPP) were presented and discussed in the context of their use for an exposure assessment. This was followed by a presentation of the occurrence and composition data available in the EFSA food consumption database. Finally, the potential contribution of other sources, including background levels, feed carry-over and the relevance of non-food sources, to the overall copper intake was discussed in the context of the mandate.

5. Methodology to perform a copper exposure assessment from all sources: discussion and agreement on the approach.

A discussion on a methodology for a common exposure approach took place. It was agreed that data and method harmonisation were necessary to allow for a direct comparison between the different sources and that construction of different total exposure scenarios was needed to best reflect the range of exposures to different populations. A first proposal for a common exposure approach was made.

6. Next steps and distribution of tasks

The tasks for the next meeting were discussed and agreed upon.



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COPPER

Held on, 21 September 2020 via Teleconference
(Agreed on 12 October 2020)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Gordon Ferns, Jean-Charles Leblanc (Chair), Josef Schlatter, Martin Wilks

- **Observer:**

Eric Liegeois (DG SANTE)

- **EFSA:**

Maria Bastaki, Arianna Chiusolo, Agnès de Sesmaison, Lucien Ferreira da Costa, Georges Kass, Francesca Riolo

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management,² EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest filled out 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, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Presentation of the Mandate

The mandate received from EC was presented to the WG. In brief, the mandate tasks EFSA (i) to provide a scientific opinion on an Health Based Guidance Value (HBGV) for copper that can be used by the Commission as a reference value in managing copper-containing regulated products and (ii) to perform a new estimation of copper intake, taking into account all sources of exposure and by integrating different approaches and scenarios and all new data available to EFSA for the estimation of exposure, and to assess the contribution from all major sources of exposure, including pesticide residues, to the overall copper intake.

5. Interpretation of the Terms of Reference and development of the Scientific Opinion

A discussion on the interpretation of the Terms of Reference took place. The new draft EFSA Statement on the derivation of HBGV for regulated products that are also nutrients³ will be consulted for the methodology and the terminology to be used for the mandate. For the contribution to the overall oral exposure to copper, the following sources should be considered: natural occurrence in food, occurrence in drinking water, plant protection products, biocides, food and feed supplements/additives, fertilisers and personal care products. The contribution from other non-oral sources for copper will be examined. A protocol development approach will be implemented.

6. Next steps and distribution of tasks

The tasks for the next meeting were discussed and agreed upon.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ EFSA Scientific Committee (2020) Draft statement on the derivation of Health Based Guidance Values (HBGVs) for regulated products that are also nutrients (under public consultation). [Link](#).