



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON RAX

Held on 4 December 2020 via Teleconference

(Agreed on 23 December 2020)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Qasim Chaudhry, Tamara Coja, Susanne Hougaard Bennekou (Chair), Grace Patlewicz

- **EFSA:**

Anna Lanzoni, Georges Kass, Fabiola Pizzo, Rositsa Serafimova

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. Planning of the technical content of the RAx project to be outsourced

The WG discussed and agreed on the technical content of the project to identify the applicability domain (in terms of toxicological endpoints and chemical space) for the use of RAx in food safety.

5. 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 RAX

**Held on 22 & 25 September 2020 via Teleconference,
(Agreed on 13 October 2020)**

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Aldo Benigni, Tamara Coja, Susanne Hougaard Bennekou (Chair), Grace Patlewicz

- **Hearing Experts:**

Mark Cronin, Takashi Yamada (for sections 4-5)

- **Observers:**

George Cartlidge (ECHA), Qasim Chaudhry (SCCS), Kim Petersen (WHO), Magdalini Sachana (OECD)

- **EFSA:**

Paolo Colombo, Anna Lanzoni, Georges Kass, Fabiola Pizzo, Rositsa Serafimova

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 and Terms of Reference were presented. The main objective of this mandate is to develop a framework and guidance on the use of Read Across (RAx) in risk assessment, and to identify the applicability domain (in terms of toxicological endpoints and chemical space) for the use of RAx in food safety.

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 and considered existing RAx frameworks, including ECHA's [RAAF](#), and the need to provide specific guidance for EFSA's needs. The key elements to be considered for the identification of the applicability domain (in terms of toxicological endpoints and chemical space) for the use of RAx in food safety, including the types of chemicals and databases were discussed.

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