

Parma, 29 August 2017

Note on the establishment of a Standing Working Group on Applications of the Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources Added to Food (ANS) (2017-2018)¹

The Food Ingredients and Packaging (FIP) Unit is requested to manage the administrative and scientific activities of the Standing Working Group on Applications. The Food Ingredients and Packaging (FIP) Unit is also requested to organise the meetings of the Standing Working Group and assist in the preparation of the relevant EFSA scientific outputs in line with the tasks delegated to the Standing Working Group.

Background:

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is the keystone of European Union risk assessment regarding food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, nutrition, plant protection and plant health. In close collaboration with national authorities and in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent and transparent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks associated with the food chain. On request from the European Commission, European Parliament and Member States or on its own initiative², EFSA provides scientific opinions on issues falling under its remit.

The Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources Added to Food (ANS), which deals with questions on the safety of use of food additives, nutrient sources and other substances deliberately added to food, excluding flavourings and enzymes, confirmed during its 52nd Panel Plenary Meeting (inaugural meeting of the ANS Panel mandate 2014-2017) the need of a Standing Working Group on Applications related to i) the evaluations of applications of food additives under Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008³ and in accordance with the EFSA "Guidance for submission for food additive evaluations"⁴ and ii) to the evaluations of the safety of nutrient sources and of the bioavailability of the nutrients from the sources proposed to be added to food, food supplements and foods for specific groups, such as those falling under Regulation (EC) No

¹ This document replaces the previous version "Mandate of the Standing Working Group on Applications of the ANS Panel" dated of 25 September 2014, which was updated to reflect the renewal of the relevant Panel mandate (2017-2018).

² Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (OJ, L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1-24).

³ Commission Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 establishing a common authorisation procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavourings. OJ L354, 31.12.2008.

⁴ "Guidance for submission for food additive evaluations", Scientific Opinion of the EFSA Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources added to Food (ANS) published on 16 August 2012. EFSA Journal 2012; 10(7):2760. doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2012.2760.

1925/2006⁵, Directive 2002/46/EC⁶ and Regulation (EU) no 609/2013⁷. Occasionally, evaluations of nutrient sources falling under Regulation (EC) No 258/97⁸ on novel foods might also be undertaken by this Standing Working Group.

Terms of reference:

The objective of the Standing Working Group on Applications is to perform the following preparatory work for consideration by the ANS Panel:

- To carry out risk assessments and conclude on the safety of the proposed use of a new food additive or a modification of use of a food additive already permitted for use in the EU;
- To carry out risk assessments and conclude on the safety of nutrient sources and the bioavailability of the nutrient from the proposed source;
- To deliver a draft scientific opinion on the food additives and nutrient sources examined,

In order to fulfil its objective, the above-mentioned Standing Working Group shall consist of members with expertise in the following scientific areas: chemistry and food technology, ADME, genotoxicity, general toxicology, reproductive toxicology, exposure assessment and risk assessment, GMO assessment, novel foods and nutrition.

Members:

Further to the amendment to Art. 28 of EFSA's Founding Regulation introduced by Commission Regulation (EU) No 2017/228⁹, in July 2017 the Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources Added to Food (ANS) was renewed in its composition for one year only (2017- 2018). In order to minimise disruption of the work of the Panel, an ex-ante deviation was proposed by the Head of the FIP Unit and agreed by the EFSA Executive Director, allowing continuation of the already established Standing Working Groups of the ANS and CEF Panels for their one-year mandate 2017-2018. During the 75th Plenary Meeting of the Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources Added to Food (ANS) the Standing Working Group on Applications was therefore reconfirmed as

⁵ Regulation (EC) No 1925/2006 on the addition of vitamins and minerals and of certain other substances to foods. OJ L 404, 30.12.2006, p. 26.

⁶ Directive 2002/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to food supplements. OJ L 183, 12.7.2002, p. 51.

⁷ Regulation (EU) No 609/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 June 2013 on food intended for infants and young children, food for special medical purposes, and total diet replacement for weight control and repealing Council Directive 92/52/EEC, Commission Directives 96/8/EC, 1999/21/EC, 2006/125/EC and 2006/141/EC, Directive 2009/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Commission Regulations (EC) No 41/2009 and (EC) No 953/2009. OJ L 181, 29.6.2013, p. 35-56

⁸ Regulation (EC) No 258/97 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 January 1997 concerning novel foods and novel foods ingredients

⁹ Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/228 of 9 February 2017 amending Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the names and the areas of competence of the scientific panels of the European Food Safety Authority. OJ L 35, 10.2.2017, p. 10-11.

established in terms of chairmanship and composition. The composition of the Standing Working Group on Application is available on the EFSA website¹⁰.

Scope in EFSA's work and outsourcing programme:

The Standing Working Group will assess the available and relevant scientific information and data provided to EFSA by Member States and stakeholders, those submitted through the applicants' dossiers, those collected through public calls for data, as well as those collected by EFSA itself (as applicable). As appropriate, EFSA may outsource the collection, collation or analysis of scientific information, through its grant and procurement schemes, in order to support the scientific assessment of the Standing Working Group.

Timelines:

Provided the Standing Working Group on Applications is not closed earlier, (e.g. as a result of a period of inactivity), then its mandate will terminate 4 months after the inaugural meeting of the subsequent Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavourings (FAF) (2018-2021).

Moreover, as of 1st July 2018, the assessment of nutrient sources carried out by this Working Group will be handed over to the NDA Panel.

Expected deliverables:

Draft EFSA scientific outputs, which will be submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources Added to Food.

[SIGNED]

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¹⁰ <https://ess.efsa.europa.eu/doi/doiweb/doisearch>