

**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Monica Andreassen, Monika Batke, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Antonio Douros, Rex FitzGerald, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Halldorson, Alicja Mortensen, Matthew Wright.
- EFSA:  
FIP: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Josef Rasinger, Ana Maria Rincon and Camilla Smeraldi.
- Others: Gabriele Gagliardi participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractor (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01 - CT 22 FIP) for agenda item "V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion" via web conference

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Riccardo Crebelli.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s with Risk Assessment". No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of these meetings.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 74<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 6 and 7 November 2025, via web-conference**

The minutes of the 74<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 17 November 2025.

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

- a. Draft opinion on sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#), [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#))**

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf)



The WG discussed the draft opinion, and in particular the sections on hazard characterisation and identification of a reference point, discussion, uncertainties, conclusions and recommendations were finalised.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

After amendments, the draft opinion will be presented at the next 63<sup>rd</sup> plenary meeting on 10-11 December 2025 for further discussion and possible adoption.

## **VI. Preparatory Meetings**

Since the last 74<sup>th</sup> WG meeting, 1 preparatory meeting chaired by EFSA staff was held as follows:

### **VI.1 Preparatory meeting on the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)), 25/11/2025**

#### **VI.1a Working Group Members**

Ellen Bruzell, Rex FitzGerald, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp and Matthew Wright.

#### **VI.1b Others**

Gabriele Gagliardi participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractor (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01 - CT 22 FIP).

#### **VI.1c Discussion points**

The animal data available on the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) were discussed. The first draft of the weight of evidence (WoE) of these data was discussed.

## **VII. Next meeting**

Dates to be confirmed.

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6 & 7 November 2025

09:00-12:00 / 09:00-17:00

MINUTES – Agreed on 17/11/2025 by written agreement

**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Monika Batke, Laurence Castle, James Chipman (07/11 AM), Peter Furst (on 06/11), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Halldorson (on 07/11), Oliver Lindter (on 07/11 AM), Alicja Mortensen, Matthew Wright (on 07/11)
- Hearing experts: Andrea Terron (on 07/11 AM)
- European Commission: Heidi Moens
- EFSA:
  - FIP: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Valeriu Curtui, Ana Criado, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Camilla Smeraldi, Josef Rasinger and Laura Ruggeri.

### I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Riccardo Crebelli and Antonios Douros.

### II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### III. 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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s with Risk Assessment". No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of these meetings.

### IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 14 and 15 October 2025, via written procedure

The minutes of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 24 October 2025.

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

#### a. Toxicology of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#))

Technical part: a discussion on the impurities and degradation product as well as on some other pending aspect of the technical part took place. The section was further revised.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf)



Biological and toxicological part: A presentation by the hearing expert Andrea Terron was given, followed by a discussion on the selection of a reference point to derive the ADI.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions this section will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## **VI. Preparatory Meetings**

Since the last 73<sup>rd</sup> WG meeting, 4 preparatory meetings chaired by EFSA staff were held as follows:

### **VI.1 Preparatory meeting on the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)), 17/10/25**

#### **VI.1a Working Group Members**

Cristina Fortes, Evangelia Ntzani

#### **VI.1b Discussion points**

The human data available on the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) was discussed.

### **VI.2 Preparatory meeting on the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)), 23/10/25**

#### **VI.2a Working Group Members**

Ellen Bruzell, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp

#### **VI.1b Discussion points**

The animal data available on the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) was discussed

### **VI.3 Preparatory meeting on the exposure to the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)), 31/10/25**

#### **VI.3a Working Group Members**

Polly Boon, Jean-Charles Leblanc

#### **VI.3b Discussion points**

As part of the re-evaluation of the salt of aspartame-acesulfame, the draft section on the exposure to aspartame was discussed.

### **VI.4 Preparatory meeting on the exposure to the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)), 05/11/25**

#### **VI.4a Working Group Members**

Polly Boon, Jean-Charles Leblanc

#### **VI.4b Discussion points**

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As part of the re-evaluation of the salt of aspartame-acesulfame, the draft section on the exposure to aspartame was discussed and finalised to be presented to a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

## **VII. Next meeting**

28 November 2025 (Web-conference).

**Location:** EFSA – Parma/Web conference

**Attendees:**

o Working Group Members: Monika Batke, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Antonios Douros, Peter Furst (on 14/10), Bettina Grasl-Kraupp (on 14/10), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Halldorson, Alicja Mortensen, Matthew Wright

o EFSA:

FIP: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Camilla Smeraldi, Josef Rasinger and Ana Maria Rincon

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s with Risk Assessment". No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of these meetings.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 4 and 9 September 2025, via web-conference**

The minutes of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 19 September 2025.

## **V. Scientific topic for discussion**

### **a. Toxicology of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/efsa-q-2011-00724))**

Biological and toxicological part: Sections on ADME, genotoxicity, animal data, human data, weight of evidence, integration and hazard characterization were reviewed.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf)



Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions this section will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## VI. Preparatory Meetings

Since the last 72<sup>nd</sup> WG meeting, 4 preparatory meetings chaired by EFSA staff were held as follows:

### **VI.1 Preparatory meeting on the genotoxicity assessment of the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)), 26/09/25**

#### **VI.1a** Working Group Members

Riccardo Crebelli, Kevin Chipman

#### **VI.1b** Discussion points

As part of the re-evaluation of the salt of aspartame-acesulfame, the draft section on the genotoxicity assessment of aspartame was discussed.

### **VI.2 Preparatory meeting on the ADME of the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)), 29/09/25**

#### **VI.2a** Working Group Members

Ursula Gundert-Remy, Matthew Wright

#### **VI.1b** Discussion points

As part of the re-evaluation of the salt of aspartame-acesulfame, the draft section on the ADME of aspartame was discussed.

### **VI.3 Preparatory meeting on the genotoxicity assessment of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)), 30/09/25**

#### **VI.3a** Working Group Members

James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Ursula Gundert-Remy

Hearing experts: Gabriele Aquilina, Henriqueta Louro

#### **VI.3b** Discussion points

The draft section on the genotoxicity assessment of sucralose was discussed.

### **VI.4 Preparatory meeting on the exposure to the salt of aspartame - acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)), 03/10/25**

#### **VI.4a** Working Group Members

Polly Boon, Jean-Charles Leblanc

#### **VI.4b** Discussion points

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As part of the re-evaluation of the salt of aspartame-acesulfame, the draft section on the exposure to aspartame was discussed.

## **VII. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 6 and 7 November (AM), online.



**Location:** EFSA – Web conference

**Attendees:**

o Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Laurence Castle (on 4 September), Antonios Douros, Peter Furst (on 9 September), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Halldorsson, Oliver Lindtner (on 9 September), Alicja Mortensen

o Hearing expert: Andrea Terron (on 9 September)

o EFSA:

FIP: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Camilla Smeraldi, Josef Rasinger and Ana Maria Rincon.

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received for James Chipman and Riccardo Crebelli.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s with Risk Assessment". No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of these meetings.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 71<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting held on 25 July 2025, via web-conference**

The minutes of the 71<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 25 July 2025.

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

### **a. Toxicology of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/EFSA-Q-2011-00724))**

A discussion on the toxicity of the impurities and degradation products of sucralose took place. The weight of evidence and integration of animal and human data on sucralose were discussed.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf)



A presentation was given by hearing expert Andrea Terron on 9 September related to the integration of data and a discussion took place.

Finally, a discussion on the hazard identification and characterization took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions this section will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 14 and 15 October 2025, in Parma.

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**Location:** EFSA – Web conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Monika Batke, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Antonios Douros, Thorhallur Halldorson, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Alicja Mortensen
- EFSA:  
FIP: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Josef Rasinger, Ana Maria Rincon

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s with Risk Assessment". No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of these meetings.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 70<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 16 July 2025 via web-conference**

The minutes of the 70<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 16 July 2025.

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

### **a. Toxicology of sucralose (E 955) (EFSA-Q-2011-00724)**

A discussion on the approach to be followed to assess the impurities and degradation products of sucralose took place.

The weight of evidence and integration of animal and human data were discussed.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf)



Subject to these revisions this section will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming WG meeting.

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 4 and 9 September 2025, via web conference.

**Location:** EFSA - Webconference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Laurence Castle, Peter Furst
- EFSA:  
FIP: Stefania Barmaz (Chair), Consuelo Civitella, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi, Elena Mazzoli, Ana Rincon

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s with Risk Assessment". No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of these meetings.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 69<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 27 and 30 June 2025 via web-conference**

The minutes of the 69<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 4 July 2025.

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

### **a. Sucralose (E 955) (EFSA-Q-2011-00724)**

The WG discussed the technical part of the sucralose draft opinion.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions this section will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming FAF Panel meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf)



**b. Salt of aspartame acesulfame (E 962) (EFSA-Q-2011-00727)**

The WG discussed the technical part of the salt of aspartame acesulfame draft opinion.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions this section will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming FAF Panel meeting.

## **VI. Preparatory Meeting/s**

Since the last 69<sup>th</sup> WG meeting, 2 preparatory meetings chaired by EFSA staff were held as follows:

**VI.1 Preparatory meeting on the exposure to sucralose (E 955) (EFSA-Q-2011-00724), 30 June 2025**

**VI.1a** Working Group Members  
Laurence Castle and Oliver Lindtner

**VI.1b** Discussion points

The draft section on exposure to sucralose was discussed.

**VI.1 Preparatory meeting on the exposure to salt of aspartame-acesulfame (EFSA-Q-2011-00724), 2 July 2025**

**VI.1a** Attendees  
Polly Boon and Jean-Charles Leblanc

**VI.1b** Discussion points

The exposure to the salt of aspartame-acesulfame was discussed.

## **VII. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 25 July 2025, via web conference.

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# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS

## 69<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

27 and 30 June 2025

09:00-17:00 and 09:00-13:00

MINUTES – Agreed on 4 July 2025



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Monika Batke (on 30 June), Riccardo Crebelli (on 27 June), James Chipman, Antonios Douros (on 27 June), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Halldorsson, Alicja Mortensen (on 30 June)
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuello Civitella, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi, Elena Mazzoli, Josef Rasinger, Ana Rincon  
MESE: Sara Levorato (on 27 June)

### I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received for Monika Batke and Alicja Mortensen for June 27, and for Riccardo Crebelli and Antonios Douros for 30 June.

### II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### III. 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.

### IV. Scientific topic for discussion

#### a. Sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#))

An update was provided to the WG on the outcomes of the following preparatory meetings:

- Two meetings on the weight of evidence of animal studies on sucralose, held on 23 May and 13 June;
- Two meetings on the weight of evidence of human studies on sucralose, held on 19 May and 18 June;
- One meeting on the ADME of sucralose, held on 19 May.

#### Biological and toxicological part:

A general discussion on the available data on the ADME section was held.

A discussion on the available dataset on genotoxicity and the way to move forward took place.

A discussion on the weight of evidence of animal and human studies took place.

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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)



Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting on sucralose.

## **V. Agreement of the minutes of the 68<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 25 June 2025**

The minutes of the 68<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 25 June 2025.

## **VI. Next meeting**

16 July (Web-conference)

25 July (Web-conference).



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS

## 68<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

25 June 2025

14:00-17:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 25 June 2025



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

### **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Cristina Fortes, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Evangelia Ntzani, Matthew Wright
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuello Civitella, Federica Lodi (Chair), Pauline Le Gall, Elena Mazzoli, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Ana Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Ursula Gundert-Remy.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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.

## **IV. Scientific topic for discussion**

### **a. Salt of aspartame-acesulfame (E 962) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#))**

A discussion on the approach of the assessment of the salt of aspartame-acesulfame (E 962) took place.

## **V. Agreement of the minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 2 May 2025**

The minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

## **VI. Preparatory meetings**

### **VI.1. Preparatory meeting on the exposure to sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)), 16 May 2025**

#### **VI.1a Attendees**

Laurence Castle and Oliver Lindtner

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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)



#### **VI.1b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

#### **VI.1c Discussion points**

The exposure to sucralose (E 955) was discussed.

#### **VI.2. Preparatory meeting on sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)), 19 May 2025**

##### **VI.2a Attendees**

Antonios Douros and Thorhallur Halldorsson

##### **VI.2b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

##### **VI.2c Discussion points**

The human data available on sucralose (E 955) was discussed.

#### **VI.3. Preparatory meeting on the ADME of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)), 19 May 2025**

##### **VI.3a Attendees**

Ursula Gundert-Remy and Matthew Wright

##### **VI.3b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

##### **VI.3c Discussion points**

The ADME of sucralose (E 955) was discussed.

#### **VI.4. Preparatory meeting on the toxicology of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)), 23 May 2025**

##### **VI.4a Attendees**

Monika Batke, Ursula Gundert-Remy and Alicja Mortensen

##### **VI.4b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

##### **VI.4c Discussion points**

The animal data on sucralose (E 955) was discussed.

#### **VI.5. Preparatory meeting on the toxicology of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)), 13 June 2025**

##### **VI.5a Attendees**

Monika Batke, Ursula Gundert-Remy and Alicja Mortensen

##### **VI.5b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**



In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

#### **VI.5c Discussion points**

The weight of evidence of animal data on sucralose (E 955) was discussed.

#### **VI.6. Preparatory meeting on sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)), 18 June 2025**

##### **VI.6a Attendees**

Antonios Douros and Thorhallur Halldorsson

##### **VI.6b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

##### **VI.6c Discussion points**

The weight of evidence of human data on sucralose (E 955) was discussed.

### **VII. Next meeting**

The next meeting on sucralose will be held on 27th and 30th June (Web-conference).

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS

## 67<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

2 May 2025

09:00-13:00

MINUTES – Agreed on 12 May 2025



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, James Chipman, Rex FitzGerald, Ursula Gundert-Remy
- FAF Panel members (attending as Hearing Experts): Rainer Gurtler and Henriqueta Louro
- European Commission: Heidi Moens
- EFSA:
  - FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Josef Rasinger, Camilla Smeraldi, Panagiota Zakidou
  - MESE: Jose Abrahantes Cortiñas and Efisio Solazzo

### I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### III. 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.

### IV. Scientific topic for discussion

#### a. Neotame (E 961) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#))

The revised part of the Genotoxicity section of the draft opinion on neotame (E 961) was discussed.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted and the document will be revised accordingly. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented to the FAF panel for discussion in May 2025.

### V. Agreement of the minutes of the 66<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 28 March 2025

The minutes of the 66<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 28 March 2025.

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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)



## **VI. Preparatory meetings**

### **VI.1 Preparatory meeting on the exposure to sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)), 16 April 2025**

#### **VI.1a Attendees**

Laurence Castle and Oliver Lindtner

#### **VI.1b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

#### **VI.1c Discussion points**

The estimation of exposure to sucralose was discussed.

## **VII. Next meeting**

27-30 June (Web-conference).

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS

## 66<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

28 March 2025

09:00-13:00

MINUTES - Agreed by written procedure on 28 March 2025



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Monika Batke, Riccardo Crebelli, Antonios Douros, Thorhallur Halldorson, Alicja Mortensen
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Federica Lodi, Elena Mazzoli, Josef Daniel Rasinger and Camilla Smeraldi

### I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### III. 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.

### IV. Scientific topic for discussion

**a. Sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#))**

A discussion on the approach of the assessment of sucralose (E 955) took place.

### V. Agreement of the minutes of the 65<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 17 March 2025

The minutes of the 65<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

### VI. Next meeting

Dates to be confirmed (Web-conference).

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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)

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS

## 65<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

17 March 2025

09:00-13:00

MINUTES - Agreed by written procedure on 19 March 2025



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

### **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald and Ursula Gundert-Remy
- Hearing experts<sup>1</sup>: Gabriele Aquilina and Romualdo Benigni
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi, Elena Mazzoli, Josef Rasinger, Camilla Smeraldi

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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 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.

## **IV. Scientific topic for discussion**

### **a. Neotame (E 961) (EFSA-Q-2011-00740)**

Biological and Toxicological part: The genotoxicity, discussion, uncertainty and conclusions sections of the draft opinion on neotame were reviewed.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted and the document will be revised accordingly. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented to the FAF panel in April 2025.

## **V. Agreement of the minutes of the 64<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held from 12 to 14 February 2025, in Parma**

The minutes of the 64<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>

<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)



## **VI. Next meeting**

28 March 2025 (Toxicology, Web-conference).



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Monica Andreassen (online, only at 13 and 14), Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Antonios Douros, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria Jose Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst (online), Bettina Grasl-Kraupp (online), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Halldorson, Jean-Charles Leblanc (online), Oliver Lindtner, Patricia Morales, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani (online), Matthew Wright.
- EFSA:
  - FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Panagiota Zakidou.
  - MESE Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Marios Georgiadis, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from James Kevin Chipman, Lieve Herman and Heather Wallace.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. Declarations of Interest of Working Group 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.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 64<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 12 to 14 February 2025, via web-conference**

The minutes of the 64<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 25 February 2025.

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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)



## V. Welcoming of the new experts. *Tour de Table*

A *tour de table* took place to introduce the new members of the Working Group and a general presentation on the Re-evaluation of Sweeteners and new way of working in the Working Group was presented.

## VI. Scientific topics for discussion

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting on the morning of February 13 and February 14.

### a. Re-evaluation of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))

Biological and toxicological part: The toxicological part (i.e. animal data, human data, weight of evidence, integration and hazard characterization) as well as the discussion, uncertainty, conclusion and recommendation sections were reviewed.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented to the FAF panel in March 2025.

Exposure part: The exposure part was finalised and will be presented to the FAF panel in March.

### b. Re-evaluation of neotame (E 961) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#))

Biological and toxicological part: The genotoxicity section was reviewed and a discussion on the general approach took place.

Exposure part: The exposure part was finalised.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented to a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

### c. General discussion and approach on the weight of evidence

A general discussion on the weight of evidence approach of animal and human studies took place, mainly concerning the presentation of a revised approach to report the data but the methodology and the way in which the different elements are assessed will not change. This revised approach will be implemented in the forthcoming re-evaluations of sweeteners.

### d. Re-evaluation of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#))

Exposure part: an update on the available data for sucralose was presented and discussed.

## VII. Preparatory meetings

### a.1 Preparatory meeting on the toxicology of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)), 21 January 2025

#### a.1.a Attendees

Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Cristina Fortes, Thorhallur Halldorsson, Alicja Mortensen

#### a.1.b Declaration of Interest of the attendees

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of the meeting.



#### **a.1.c Discussion points**

The toxicological part of the draft scientific opinion was reviewed: animal and human studies, the weight of evidence and the integration of the evidence. A discussion on hazard characterization took place.

#### **b.1. Preparatory meeting on the exposure to acesulfame K ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)), 21 January 2025**

##### **b.1.a Attendees**

Polly Boon, Laurence Castle, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner

##### **b.1.b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of the meeting.

##### **b.1.c Discussion points**

The exposure part of acesulfame K was finalised. The parts on the uncertainties and the literature review were discussed.

#### **b.2 Preparatory meeting neotame (E 961) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)), 6 February 2025**

##### **b.2.a Attendees**

Gabriele Aquilina, James Chipman, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Rainer Gurtler, Henriqueta Louro

##### **b.2.b Declaration of Interest of the attendees**

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of the meeting.

##### **b.2.c Discussion points**

The overall approach on neotame was discussed and parts of the draft scientific opinion were reviewed to prepare the opinion for discussion at the 64th meeting of the Working Group on Sweeteners.

## **VIII. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 17 March 2025 AM, via web conference.

**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Polly Boon, Laurence Castle, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Pauline Le Gall, Josef Rasinger, Alexandra Tard (chair)

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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.

## **IV. Scientific topic for discussion**

### **a. Exposure to acesulfame K (E 950) (EFSA-Q-2011-00721)**

A discussion on the exposure assessment part of the draft opinion took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted and the document will be revised accordingly.

The exposure assessment as part of the draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## **V. Next meeting**

12-14 February 2025 (Parma, WEB)

## **VI. Agreement of the minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Working group meeting held on 11 December 2024**

The minutes were agreed.

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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)



**SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON  
Food Additives and Flavourings**  
**62<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of  
Sweeteners**

11 December 2024  
09:00-16:00 (Toxicology)  
MINUTES - Agreed on 11 December 2024



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Ellen Bruzell, Cristina Fortes, Thorhallur Halldorsson, Alicja Mortensen
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi, Josef Daniel Rasinger

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. Agreement of the minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Working group meeting held on 05 December 2024**

The minutes were agreed.

## **IV. 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.

## **V. Scientific topic for discussion**

### **a. Toxicology of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))**

A discussion on the toxicological part of the draft opinion took place. The weight of evidence and integration of animal and human data were discussed. A preliminary discussion on the reference point took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted and the documents will be revised accordingly.

The draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

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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)



## **VI. Next meeting**

10 January 2025 (subgroup exposure, Web-conference).

12-14 February 2025 (Parma, WEB)

5 December 2024

09:00-13:00 (subgroup chemistry)

MINUTES - Agreed on 5 December 2024

**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Laurence Castle, Peter Fürst
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi (Chair), Panagiota Zakidou, Pauline Le Gall

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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.

## **IV. Scientific topic for discussion**

### **a. Re-evaluation of Neotame (E961) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#))**

The Working Group discussed the technical part of the draft opinion. Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## **V. Next meeting**

Next meeting is scheduled on 11 December 2024.

## **VI. Agreement of the minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting held on 5 December 2024**

The minutes were agreed.

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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)

**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members: Maria Jose Frutos Fernandez, Patricia Morales
- EFSA: Federica Lodi (Chair), Josef Rasinger, Ana Maria Rincon, Pauline Le Gall

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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.

## **IV. Scientific topic for discussion**

### **1.1. Re-evaluation of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))**

The Working Group discussed the technical part of the draft opinion. Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## **V. Preparatory meetings**

Since the last Working Group meeting, the following preparatory meeting was held:

### **V.1 Preparatory meeting on Re-evaluation of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)), 20 November 2024**

#### **V.1a Attendees**

Ursula Gundert-Remy and Matthew Wright

#### **V.1b Declarations of Interest of the attendees**

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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)





In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of the meeting.

**V.1c Discussion points**

The discussion was focused on the ADME section of the draft opinion.

**VI. Next meeting**

Next meeting is scheduled on 11 December 2024 for the re-evaluation of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)).

**VII. Agreement of the minutes of the 60<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 22 of November 2024**

The minutes were agreed.

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavourings

59<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

12 and 15 November 2024 (subgroup exposure)

09:00-16:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 26 November 2024



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

## **Attendees:**

- **Working Group members:** Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Cristina Fortes, Thorhallur Halldorsson, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen
- **EFSA:**  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Pauline Le Gall, Federica Lodi, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Alexandra Tard  
MESE Unit: RIOLO Francesca, Petra Gergelová, Zsuzsanna Horvath

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. 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.

## **IV. Scientific topics for discussion**

### **b. Toxicology of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))**

A discussion on the weight of evidence and integration of animal and human data took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted and the documents will be revised accordingly.

### **c. Exposure assessment of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))**

The table of authorised uses reported use levels and analytical results were discussed together with the preliminary exposure calculations.

### **d. Exposure assessment of neotame (E 961) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#))**

The data update was presented, and the draft opinion was updated accordingly.

### **e. Exposure assessment of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#))**

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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)



The available concentration data for sucralose was presented and discussed.

## V. Preparatory meetings

Since the last Working Group meeting, the following preparatory meeting was held:

### V.1 Preparatory meeting on Re-evaluation of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)), 29 October 2024

#### V.1a Attendees

Cristina Fortes and Thorhallur Halldorsson

#### V.1b Declaration of Interest of the attendees

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

#### V.1c Discussion points

The discussion was focused on weight of evidence of human studies.

### V.2 Preparatory meeting on Re-evaluation of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)) and Re-evaluation of neotame ([EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)), 8 November 2024

#### V.2a Attendees

Kevin Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli and Ursula Gundert-Remy

#### V.2b Declaration of Interest of the attendees

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

#### V.2c Discussion points

The discussion was focused on considerations of genotoxicity.

## VI. Next meeting

Sub-group exposure: **10 January 2025 (9-13h)**

Sub-group toxicology: **11 December 2024**



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavourings

## 58<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners



25 October 2024

09:00-13:00 (subgroup exposure)

MINUTES - Agreed on 28 October 2024

**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Polly Boon, Laurence Castle, Jean-Charles Leblanc.
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Josef Daniel Rasinger, Alexandra Tard and Sam Vermeiren.  
MESE Unit: Petra Gergelová, Zsuzsanna Horvath.

### I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies from Oliver Lindtner were received.

### II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

### IV. Scientific topic for discussion

#### a. Exposure assessment of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))

The sections on the authorised uses and exposure data of acesulfame K (E 950) were discussed and amended by the working group.

### V. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Working Group on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners, subgroup exposure will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> November (Web-conference).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavourings

### 57<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

5 and 13 September 2024

09:00-18:00, 09:00-13:00 and 14:00-18:00 (subgroup exposure)

MINUTES - Agreed on 27.09.2024



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

○ Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Polly Boon (13<sup>th</sup> September), Laurence Castle (13<sup>th</sup> September), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Jean-Charles Leblanc (13<sup>th</sup> September), Oliver Lindtner (13<sup>th</sup> September), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani and Matthew Wright.

○ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Alexandra Tard, Camilla Smeraldi and Sam Vermeiren.

MESE Unit: Petra Gergelová

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

Working Group  
Re-evaluation of  
Sweeteners\_web  
minutes

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topics for discussion

### a. Re-evaluation of saccharin (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#))

Exposure part: the exposure assessment of saccharin (E 950) was finalised following the completion of the biological and toxicological part of the opinion.

Biological and toxicological part: final adjustments were made to the draft opinion. A discussion on the hazard identification, integration of animal and human data, hazard characterisation, uncertainties, discussion and conclusions took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Panel meeting.



**b. Exposure assessment of acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))**

A discussion on the exposure data available on acesulfame K (E 950) was held.

**c. Exposure assessment of maltitols (E 965) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#) ; [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#))**

This item was not discussed due to lack of time.

## **V. Next meeting**

Date to be confirmed (Web-conference).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavourings

### 56<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024

09:30-13:30, 09:30-13:30 and 14:00-18:00, 09:30-16:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 18.06.2024



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

○ Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Polly Boon (28<sup>th</sup> May), Laurence Castle (28<sup>th</sup> May), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez (28<sup>th</sup> May), Peter Fürst (28<sup>th</sup> May), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson (27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May), Trine Husøy (28<sup>th</sup> May), Jean-Charles Leblanc (28<sup>th</sup> May), Oliver Lindtner (28<sup>th</sup> May), Alicja Mortensen (28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May), Evangelia Ntzani, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair) (27<sup>th</sup> May).

○ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Elena Mazzoli, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Alexandra Tard, Sam Vermeiren and Panagiota Zakidou.

MESE Unit: Petra Gergelová

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Romina Shah and Heather Wallace.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Two break-out groups, subgroup exposure and subgroup chemistry, were held in parallel to the rest of the meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> AM and 28<sup>th</sup> PM, respectively.

### a. Re-evaluation of saccharin (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#))

An update on the outcome of the two preparatory meetings held on 2 and 24 May to discuss the weight of evidence of animal and human studies was given to the WG.

Biological and toxicological part: a discussion on the weight of evidence of animal and human studies and on the integration of the evidence from animal and human studies took place.

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Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

**b. Exposure assessment on acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))**

The available data of acesulfame K (E 950) were presented and discussed (subgroup exposure).

**c. Exposure assessment on maltitols (E 965) ([EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#))**

The available data of maltitol (E 965(i)) and maltitol syrup (E 965(ii)) were presented and discussed (subgroup exposure).

**d. Re-evaluation on xylitol (E 964) and safety of a proposed amendment of the specifications of the food additive xylitol (E 967) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#); [EFSA-Q-2021-00078](#))**

A discussion on the technical assessment of the re-evaluation of xylitol (E 967) and on the new application for the proposed amendment of the specifications of xylitol took place (subgroup chemistry).

## V. Next meeting

Date to be confirmed (Web-conference).





## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavourings

### 55<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

14:00-18:00 & 09:30-16:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 29.04.2024



**Location:** EFSA – Parma/Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Polly Boon, Laurence Castle, Kevin Chipman (1<sup>st</sup> day), Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst (1<sup>st</sup> day), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace (2<sup>nd</sup> day), Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

- EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Elena Mazzoli, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Sam Vermeiren and Panagiota Zakidou.

MESE Unit: Petra Gergelová, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No full apologies were received.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

One break-out group, subgroup exposure, was held in parallel to the rest of the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April.

**a. Re-evaluation of saccharin (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#))**

Biological and toxicological part:

The section on genotoxicity was reviewed. Furthermore, the WG discussed some parts of the weight of evidence (WoE) and both tables and text were revised accordingly. In this respect, to advance on this task, two preparatory meetings were held on 8 and 9 April with the experts involved to discuss the WoE of both animal and human studies.

A discussion on the evidence available on the mode of action was also held.

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Exposure part:

A discussion on the papers on saccharin retrieved from the literature was held and the text was revised accordingly. Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions, a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting (some sections) and Plenary meeting (some other sections).

**b. Re-evaluation on acesulfame K (E 950) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#))**

A discussion on the approach to perform the re-evaluation on acesulfame K took place.

Exposure part: not discussed due to lack of time.

**c. Exposure assessment on maltitols (E 965) ([EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#) [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#))**

Not discussed due to lack of time.

**d. Revision of the protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners**

The Working Group finalised the draft protocol on the exposure assessment of sweeteners.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented at a forthcoming Plenary meeting for endorsement.

## **V. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May (Web-conference).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

### 54<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

4 and 6 March 2024

09:30-16:30 & 14:00-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 25 03 2024



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

○ Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Polly Boon, Laurence Castle, Kevin Chipman, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace and Matthew Wright.

○ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi (Chair), Elena Mazzoli, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Sam Vermeiren and Panagiota Zakidou.

MESE Unit: Petra Gergelova and Francesca Riolo

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Riccardo Crebelli, Heather Wallace, Maged Younes.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

One break-out session, subgroup exposure, was held in parallel to the rest of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> March.

### a. Re-evaluation of Saccharin (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#))

Biological and toxicological part: the WG discussed some parts of the draft opinion, specifically the introduction, information on existing evaluations, ADME and genotoxicity.

Exposure part: The pending comments in the exposure part of the draft opinion were discussed and agreed (subgroup exposure). In addition, the sections on the uncertainties and concentrations and dietary exposure to saccharin from literature were discussed and revised

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(subgroup exposure). The exposure assessment of saccharin was also presented to the rest of the WG.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

**b. General issues**

The WG discussed some general points on the weight of evidence for saccharin (E 954) and on some studies on glucose homeostasis and on neurobehavioral disorders.

**c. Update on the technical hearings on sucralose (E955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#); [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#))**

Feedback on the outcome of the technical hearings on sucralose (E 955) held on 22 February 2024 was given to the WG members.

**d. Revision of the protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners**

The protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners was further discussed and revised accordingly.

**V. AOB**

None.

**VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April (Parma/Web-conference).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

### 53<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

14:00-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 28 February 2024



**Location:** Webconference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Laurence Castle, Kevin Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Peter Fürst and Maged Younes (Chair).
- Hearing experts representing interested business operators<sup>1,2</sup>:

Robert Rankin, Yang Yang, Shuzhi Ren, Linda Lu, Yi Gao and Aleena Sheikh from Calorie Control Council (CCC) were invited to present their views regarding the item IV "Applicant's Technical hearing on sucralose (E 955) (EFSA-Q-2011-00724) of the present meeting. They attended the meeting from 14:00 to 16:00 (CET time).

Chris Darwen, Rhodri Evans, Jaspreet Gujral, Kavita Karnik, Joanna Jaskólska and Sean Taylor from International Sweeteners Association (ISA) were invited to present their views regarding the item IV "Applicant's Technical hearing on sucralose (E 955) (EFSA-Q-2011-00724)" of the present meeting. They attended the meeting from 16:00 to 18:00 (CET time).

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

EC: Katleen Baert

- EFSA:

FIP Unit: Federica Lodi, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi.

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.  
No apologies were received.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agendas were adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, EFSA invited hearing experts (for agenda item IV) to submit an ADoI. Their participation was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group, in accordance with the applicable legal framework.



related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process.

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

##### **a. Technical hearing on sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#))**

Upon request from EFSA, the representatives of the interested business operators were given the opportunity to clarify the data submitted previously to EFSA on sucralose (E 955). Outstanding issues on these data were discussed separately with the different interested business operators. After the technical hearings were finished, and the hearing experts left the teleconference, the Working Group discussed the clarifications provided during the meeting. EFSA will follow up by providing the interested business operators with a written summary of the points discussed.

#### **V. Any Other Business**

None

#### **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 4 and 6 March via web conference.

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## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

### 52<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

22 and 26 January 2024

09:30-16:30 & 9:30-13:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 12 February 2024



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

○ Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Kevin Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria Jose Frutos, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husoy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

○ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Elena Mazzoli, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Sam Vermeiren, and Panagiota Zakidou.

MESE Unit: Petra Gergelova, Francesca Riolo.

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

One break-out session, subgroup exposure, was held in parallel to the rest of the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January.

Another break-out session (i.e. Discussion on sucralose (E 955) and 1,6-DCF) was held in parallel to the rest of the meeting on 26 January.

### a. Re-evaluation of saccharin (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#))

Exposure part: a discussion on the exposure part of the draft opinion was held. The sections on the authorised uses and use levels, the data used for the exposure assessment and the different scenarios used to assess exposure were discussed and revised.

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Technical Part: a discussion on the technical part of the draft opinion, including the impurities of the additive, and on the decisions and observations made by the Working Group (WG) Specifications, took place.

Toxicological part: the genotoxicity section of the draft opinion was discussed, with focus on the potential genotoxicity of the impurities discussed in the technical part. A discussion on the weight of evidence analysis of both animal and human studies took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming WG meeting.

**b. Feedback from the preparatory meeting of the WG Sweeteners: discussion on the impurities of saccharin (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#))**

The WG received an update from a preparatory meeting held on 19 December 2023 to discuss the ongoing assessment of the technical data and genotoxicity data on saccharin (E 954) in respect to the impurities identified for both manufacturing processes. The way forward was discussed and agreed.

**c. Feedback from the preparatory meeting of the FAF Panel on genotoxicity of sucralose (E 955) and neotame (E 961) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#); [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#))**

An update on the main outcome of the discussion held at the preparatory meeting on genotoxicity on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 was provided to the WG.

Considerations on sucralose (E 955) and its hydrolysis product 1,6-dichloro-1,6-dideoxyfructose (1,6 DCF) as well as on neotame (E 961) were presented and discussed. The content of a request for additional data on neotame (E 961) was discussed and agreed.

**d. Re-evaluation of sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#); [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#))**

A discussion on sucralose (E 955) and 1,6-DCF, mainly focused on its formation and kinetics, took place. The WG agreed to host a technical hearing with the interested business operators to clarify some aspects on this matter and the need to ask for further data. Evidence on the kinetics based on the data available will be also further assessed.

**e. Revision of the protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners**

A discussion was held on the application of facets in the exposure scenarios performed for the sweeteners. The protocol will be revised accordingly and discussed in the next WG.

## V. AOB

None.

## VI. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (Web-conference).





## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

### 51<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

20 and 24 November 2023

09:30-16:30 & 9:30-13:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 24 November 2023



**Location:** EFSA – Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Polly Boon, Laurence Castle, Kevin Chipman (20<sup>th</sup> November), Riccardo Crebelli (20<sup>th</sup> November), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (20<sup>th</sup> November), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah (20<sup>th</sup> November), Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

EC: Kathleen Baert (20<sup>th</sup> November)

- EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Valeriu-Georghe Curtui, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Josef Daniel Rasinger, Elena Mazzoli and Sam Vermeiren.

MESE Unit: Petra Gergelova, Francesca Riolo.

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Trine Husøy.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

One break-out session, subgroup exposure, was held in parallel to the rest of the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November.

### a. Re-evaluation of Saccharin (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#))

Exposure part: the occurrence data were discussed and the first sections of the draft opinion were reviewed.

Biological and Toxicological part: a discussion on the approach to be followed and on the biological and toxicological section, in particular the sections on ADME, other toxicity studies and weight of evidence, took place.

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Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

**b. Re-evaluation on Sucralose (E 955) and Cyclamates (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)):**

A discussion on the genotoxicity data received following the call for data and the technical hearing (held in March 2023 with the respective interested business operators) took place.

Next steps on how to move forward with these assessments were discussed.

**c. Discussion on the recommendation following the adoption of the opinion on erythritol (E 968).**

A general discussion took place concerning the recommendations following the adoption of the opinion on erythritol (E 968).

Next steps on how to move forward with these recommendations were discussed.

**d. Revision of the protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners:**

The protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners was revised to include acute exposure scenarios.

## **V. AOB**

Minutes of the 51<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 20 and 24 November 2023 were agreed on 24 November 2023.

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 22 and 26 January 2024 (Web-conference).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

### 50<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

11 and 13 October 2023

09:30-13:30 & 9:30-16:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 19 October 2023



**Location:** Parma/Webconference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Polly Boon (2<sup>nd</sup> day), Laurence Castle, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc (2<sup>nd</sup> day), Oliver Lindtner (2<sup>nd</sup> day), Alicja Mortensen (2<sup>nd</sup> day), Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah (2<sup>nd</sup> day), Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Katleen Baert and Olga Goulaki
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### a. Re-evaluation of Erythritol (E 968) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#); [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#))

Exposure part: a discussion on the uncertainties and the discussion section took place.

Biological and Toxicological part: the biological and toxicological section of the draft opinion as well as the discussion, uncertainty, conclusion and recommendations sections were discussed and finalised.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

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**b) Revision of the protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners:** this item was not discussed due to lack of time.

## **V. Any Other Business**

None

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 20 and 24 November (Web).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

### 49<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

14 and 15 September 2023

14:00-18:00 & 9:30-16:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 15 September 2023



**Location:** Parma/Webconference

#### **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Polly Boon, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli (1<sup>st</sup> day), Maria Jose Frutos, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen (1<sup>st</sup> day), Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace (2<sup>nd</sup> day), Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

EC: Katleen Baert

- EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

MESE Unit: Petra Gergelova

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Peter Furst, Kevin Chipman and Trine Husøy.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members**

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

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

### **a. Re-evaluation of Erythritol (E 968) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#); [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#))**

Exposure part: a discussion on the natural occurrence and on the acute exposure per person took place.

Biological and Toxicological part: a discussion on the further answers received from the authors of the Witkowski et al. (2023) paper and on the consideration of this paper in the overall weight of evidence took place. A discussion on how to conclude the assessment took place. The Biological and Toxicological section of the draft opinion was discussed as well as the discussion section.

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Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

**b) Re-evaluation of Saccharin (E 954)** [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#) [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#) [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#) [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)

Exposure part: An update of the analytical data was presented.

**c) Revision of the protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners:** a discussion on some revisions/updates of the protocol on exposure assessment of sweeteners to include the acute exposure took place.

## V. Any Other Business

None

## VI. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 11 and 13 October (Web).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

### 48<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

3<sup>rd</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

9:30-16:30 & 9:30-13:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023



**Location:** Webconference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle (on 3<sup>rd</sup> July), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Katleen Baert (on 7<sup>th</sup> July)
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi.

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### a. Re-evaluation of Erythritol (E 968) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#); [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#))

Toxicological part: a discussion on the questions received from the authors of the Witkowski et al. (2023) paper and on the consideration of this paper in the overall weight of evidence took place. A discussion on how to conclude took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## V. Any Other Business

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None

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 14 and 15 September.





# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

## 47<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

7<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023

9:30-13:00 & 9:30-13:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023



**Location:** Webconference

### **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Polly Boon (on 7<sup>th</sup> June), Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle (on 7<sup>th</sup> June), Cristina Fortes, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc (on 7<sup>th</sup> June), Oliver Lindtner (on 7<sup>th</sup> June), Evangelia Ntzani (on 9<sup>th</sup> June), Romina Shah (on 7<sup>th</sup> June) and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: None
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Lorenzo D'Angelo (on 9<sup>th</sup> June), Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard.  
MESE Unit: Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath.

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants.  
Apologies were received from Evangelia Ntzani for the 7<sup>th</sup> of June.

## **II. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members**

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

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

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

### **a. Re-evaluation of Erythritol (E 968) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#); [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#))**

Exposure part: the exposure assessment, including acute exposure, was discussed and finalised.

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Toxicological part: a discussion on the biological and toxicological section of the draft opinion took place and human data were discussed for identification of a reference point from NOAELs for laxative effect.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted.

Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

**b. Re-evaluation of Saccharins (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#))**

Exposure part: an overview of the data was presented.

## **V. Any Other Business**

None

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 3 and 7 July via web conference.



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Food Additives and Flavorings

### 46<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of Sweeteners

26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023

9:30-16:30 & 14:00-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 27 April 2023



**Location:** Webconference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Polly Boon (on the 26 April), Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, , Riccardo Crebelli, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst (on 27 April) Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (on 26 April), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace (on the 26 April), Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: None

- EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Lorenzo D'Angelo, Christina Kyrkou, Federica Lodi, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard.

MESE Unit: Francesca Riolo, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova.

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Kevin Chipman and Rex FitzGerald.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

### a. Re-evaluation of Erythritol (E 968) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#) [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#))

Technical part: the technical part of the draft opinion was presented and a discussion took place.

Exposure: the exposure assessment, including acute exposure, was presented and a discussion took place.

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Toxicological part: a discussion on the biological and toxicological section of the draft opinion (i.e. ADME, animal data, genotoxicity, human data, Weight of Evidence) took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

**b. Re-evaluation of Maltitols (E 965 ii, ii) ([EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#))**

Exposure: The data available were discussed.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## **V. Any Other Business**

None

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 7 and 9 June via web conference.



**SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON**  
**Food Additives and Flavorings**  
**45<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Re-evaluation of**  
**Sweeteners**

6<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

11:00-18:00 & 9:30-16:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023



**Location:** Webconference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Kevin Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Gabriele Aquilina and Rainer Gürtler were invited to present their views for agenda item IV a) and b) of the present meeting; Lieve Herman was invited to present her views for agenda item IV c) of the present meeting.

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, EFSA invited Gabriele Aquilina, Rainer Gürtler and Lieve Herman to submit an Annual Declaration of Interest. Their participation in the present meeting was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group (i.e. not possible to draft or be involved in the discussion or the adoption of a scientific output), in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

- Hearing experts representing interested business operators:

Tomàs Bernat, Laia Girós, Sean Taylor and AtLee Watson from Productos Aditivos S.A. were invited to present their views regarding the item IV a) "Applicants' Technical hearing on cyclamates (E 954) (EFSA-Q-2011-00733 EFSA-Q-2011-00734 EFSA-Q-2011-00735)" of the present meeting. They attended the meeting from 11:00 to 13:00 (CET time) on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

William Barfield, Thomas Herring, Chris Darwen, Jaspreet Gujral, Kavita Karnik, Sally-Ann Krzyzaniak, Joanna Jaskólska and Sean Taylor from International Sweeteners Association (ISA) were invited to present their views regarding the item IV b) "Applicants' Technical hearing on sucralose (E 955) (EFSA-Q-2011-00724)" of the present meeting. They attended the meeting from 14:00 to 16:00 (CET time) on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, EFSA invited Tomàs Bernat, Laia Girós, Sean Taylor and AtLee Watson (for agenda item IV a) and William Barfield, Thomas Herring, Chris Darwen, Jaspreet Gujral, Kavita Karnik, Sally-Ann Krzyzaniak, Joanna Jaskólska and Sean Taylor (for agenda item IV b) to submit an ADoI. Their participation was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group, in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

EC: Katleen Baert

- EMA representatives (observers):

Susanne Brendler-Schwaab, Karen van Malderen

- EFSA:

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>



FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Valeriu Curtui, Lorenzo D'Angelo, Christina Kyrkou, Federica Lodi, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard.

MESE Unit: Francesca Riolo, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova and Zsuzsanna Horvath

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.  
Apologies were received from Peter Fürst.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, 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.

Certain interests were declared orally by some 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.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Two break-out sessions, sub-group exposure and sub-group epidemiologists, were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting on 6 March.

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting on 10 March.

### a. Applicants' Technical hearing on cyclamates (E 954) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#) [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#) [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#))

Upon request from EFSA, the interested parties were given the opportunity to clarify the data submitted previously to EFSA. Outstanding issues on the data submitted through the call for data on genotoxicity of cyclamates (E 952) were discussed. After the hearing was finished, and the hearing experts left the teleconference, the Working Group discussed the clarifications provided by the industry with the EMA representatives who attended as observers. EFSA will follow up by providing the interested parties with a written summary of the points discussed and a request for additional data.

### b. Applicants' Technical hearing on sucralose (E 955) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#))

Upon request from EFSA, the interested parties were given the opportunity to clarify the data submitted previously to EFSA. Outstanding issues on the data submitted through the call for data on genotoxicity of sucralose (E 955) were discussed. After the hearing was finished, and the

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hearing experts left the teleconference, the Working Group discussed the clarifications provided by the industry with the EMA representatives who attended as observers. EFSA will follow up by providing the interested parties with a written summary of the points discussed and a request for additional data.

**c. Re-evaluation of Erythritol (E 968) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#) [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#))**

Technical part: a general presentation on the technical part related with the microorganism used in the production process was given and a discussion took place.

Exposure: the approach and the methodology of the exposure assessment, including acute exposure, was discussed.

Toxicological part: a discussion on the biological and toxicological section of the draft opinion (i.e. ADME, animal data, human data, Weight of Evidence) took place.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

**d. Re-evaluation of Maltitols (E 965 ii, ii) ([EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#))**

Exposure: A 1<sup>st</sup> draft opinion was discussed regarding the data available.

Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Subject to these revisions a new document will be presented for discussion at a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

## **V. Any Other Business**

None

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 26 and 27 April via web conference.

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## **Annex**

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

With regard to this meeting, Mr Maged Younes declared the following new interest: Co-Editor for the Elsevier publication "Food and Chemical Toxicology". 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>, 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>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)





FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 44<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 14-15 December 2022, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 15 December 2022)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle (14 December), Kevin Chipman (15 December), Riccardo Crebelli (15 December), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Peter Fürst (14 December), Maria José Frutos Fernandez (14 December), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen (15 December), Romina Shah, Heather Wallace (14 December), Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Katleen Baert

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Lorenzo D'Angelo, Christina Kyrkou, Federica Lodi, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard.

MESE Unit: Francesca Riolo, Claudia Cascio, Bruno Dujardin, Petra Gergelova and Zsuzsana Horvath.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Evangelia Ntzani.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 Erythritol (E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#) [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#)

The WG was informed on the outcome of the applicant's hearing held on 10 November 2022 to clarify some questions on the new mandate received on Erythritol.

Exposure: the approach and the methodology of the exposure assessment, including acute exposure, was discussed.

Technical part: a general presentation on the technical part was given and a discussion took place.

Toxicological part: a general presentation on the approach taken was given. Some sections of the biological and toxicological part of the draft opinion were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.2 Maltitols (E 965) [EFSA-Q-2011-00490](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)

Exposure: an overview of the data (including 2022 data collection) was presented.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3 General issues

A discussion on some genotoxicity issues on maltitols (E 965 i, ii), cyclamates (E 952), sucralose (E 955) and saccharin (E 954) took place and the way forward was discussed.

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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)



## 6. Any other Business

6.1 Minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 14 and 15 December 2022 were agreed on 15 December 2022.

6.2 Next meeting: 19-20 January 2023 (web).

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 43rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

### Subgroup chemistry

**Held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Peter Furst and Maria José Frutos Fernandez.
- Hearing Expert<sup>1</sup>: Lieve Herman
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
None
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Jaime Aguilera, Consuelo Civitella, Lorenzo D'Angelo, Federica Lodi and Ana Rincon.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work:  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)



### 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 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Hearing Expert

Lieve Herman was invited to present her views.

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>4</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>5</sup>, EFSA invited Lieve Herman to submit an Annual Declaration of Interest. Her participation in the present meeting was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group (i.e. not possible to draft or be involved in the discussion or the adoption of a scientific output), in accordance with the applicable legal framework<sup>6</sup>.

### 6. Scientific outputs for discussion

#### 6.1 Erythritol (E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#) [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#)

Technical data: some data of the technical part were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

### 7. Any other Business

7.1 Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were agreed on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

7.2 Next meeting: 14-15 December (web).

<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)

<sup>4</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>5</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>6</sup> Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, Article 9:  
[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 FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 42<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Jean-Charles Leblanc

■ Hearing experts representing the interested party:

Marta Baffigo: Director – R&D Scientific and Regulatory Affairs and FSQR Regional Regulatory Lead EMEA

Alex Eapen: Director R&D Scientific and Regulatory Affairs NA, Cargill Inc

Peter Decock: Consultant, DGH-Consulting

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, EFSA invited Marta Baffigo, Alex Eapen, Peter Decock to submit an ADoI. Their participation was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group, in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Jiri Sochor and Olga Goulaki

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

### 1. Welcome and tour de table

The Chair welcomed the participants and the participants introduced themselves.



## **2. Scope of the applicant's hearing**

The applicant has been explained the scope of the meeting.

## **3. Outstanding issues on the new application of erythritol (EFSA-Q-2022-00219) and on the re-evaluation of erythritol (EFSA-Q-2011-00730)**

A presentation to the applicant was given in order to present the outstanding issues on the new application for requesting scientific advice on laxative effects of erythritol under the currently authorised conditions of use for erythritol in food in the EU, in order to assess the need for an exemption of erythritol from the current laxative warning requirement for added polyols under Regulation (EU) 1169/2011.

## **4. Wrap up and closing of the applicant's hearing**

After the meeting, EFSA staff will send a follow up communication to the applicant clarifying the main points discussed and the outcome of the discussion to ensure mutual understanding.



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 41<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle (17<sup>th</sup> October), Riccardo Crebelli (17<sup>th</sup> October), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah (18<sup>th</sup> October), Heather Wallace (17<sup>th</sup> October) and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Sochor Jiri
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard.  
MESE Unit: Petra Gergelova and Zsuzsana Horvath.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from James Chipman, Peter Fürst, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Oliver Lindtner and Matthew Wright.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

##### 5.1 Neotame (E 961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740

Following up on the discussion held at the previous meeting, the Working Group was informed about a further delay in the submission by the interested business operators of the requested data on genotoxicity. The reasons for this delay, as reported by the interested business operators that have commissioned the work to generate the data requested, are mainly the need to validate a new bioanalytical method to perform the requested study and other technical issues related to the study design, which have impacted the planned duration of the study. According to the information provided, the new timeline for the submission of these data needed to complete the assessment is the end of June 2023. The drafting of the opinion will be put on hold awaiting the requested data.

##### 5.2 Erythritol (E 968) EFSA-Q-2011-00730 EFSA-Q-2022-00219

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

A discussion on how to address the new mandate received took place.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

##### 5.3 General issues

A discussion on the approach for inclusion of studies on maltitols took place.

The amendment of the protocol on hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners was presented to the WG and discussed. The revised protocol will be discussed in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

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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)



## 6. Any other Business

6.1 Minutes of the 41<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were agreed on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

6.2 Next meeting: 29 November 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> December (tbc, web).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 40<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022, Parma/web-conference**

**(Agreed on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle (only 16<sup>th</sup> September), Riccardo Crebelli (only 16<sup>th</sup> September), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst (only 16<sup>th</sup> September), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen (only 16<sup>th</sup> September), Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Matthew Wright, Heather Wallace (only 15<sup>th</sup> September) and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Jiri Sochor and Katleen Baert

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Agnieszka Mech (only 16<sup>th</sup> September), Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Ana Rincon (only 16<sup>th</sup> September).

MESE Unit: Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova and Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from James Chipman.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)

Technical data: one pending part of the technical section was discussed and finalised pending inclusion of the text that is being prepared by the WG Specifications.

Exposure: the pending parts on the exposure section were discussed and finalised.

Toxicological data: the toxicological data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine (E 959) were discussed and the draft opinion was finalised, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

#### 5.2 Neotame (E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)

Toxicological data: the toxicological part of the draft opinion on neotame (E 961) was discussed but could not be finalised pending the submission of the requested data.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3 Erythritol (E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#) [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#)

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

Toxicological data: this section was not discussed due to lack of time.

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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)



Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.4 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#) [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#)**

Exposure: occurrence data were discussed and the approach on how to use them was agreed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.5 Maltitols (E 965) [EFSA-Q-2011-00490](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)**

Exposure: the approach for handling concentration data was discussed and agreed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.6 General issues**

Two general issues on rating reliability for ADME studies and on the relevance of gut microbiota studies in animals were discussed.

### **6. Any other Business**

6.1 Minutes of the 40<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were agreed on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

6.2 Next meeting: 17 October 2022 and 18<sup>th</sup> October (Web).



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 39<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman (16<sup>th</sup> June), Riccardo Crebelli (16<sup>th</sup> June), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy (17<sup>th</sup> June), Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Consuelo Civitella, Christina Kyrkou, Federica Lodi, Antonio Rivas Cornejo (17<sup>th</sup> June), Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

MESE Unit: Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Polly Boon, Peter Fürst and Heather Wallace.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)

Exposure: the pending parts on the exposure section were discussed and revised.

Toxicological data: the toxicological data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine (E 959) were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.2 Erythritol (E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#) [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#)

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

An update on the new mandate under Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 was given.

Toxicological data: this section was not discussed due to lack of time.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#) [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#)

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

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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)



#### **5.4 Maltitols (E 965) [EFSA-Q-2011-00490](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)**

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

#### **5.5 General issues**

- a) General approach of the weight of evidence was discussed.
- b) A presentation on the implementation of the protocol and approaches on some of the sweeteners opinions was given and a way forward was agreed.

### **6. Any other Business**

6.1 Minutes of the 39<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were agreed on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

6.2 Next meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022 (Parma/Web).





## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 38<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman (5<sup>th</sup> May), Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez (5<sup>th</sup> May), Peter Fürst (5<sup>th</sup> May), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy (6<sup>th</sup> May), Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ Hearing experts representing interested parties:

Jaspreet Gujral, Jim Carr, Chris Darwen, Sally-Ann Krzyzaniak, Kavita Karnik, Joanna Jaskólska and Niko Renmans were invited to present their views regarding the item 6.1 "Sucralose (E 955) (EFSA-Q-2011-00724)" of the present meeting. They attended the meeting from 15:00 to 17:00 (CET time).

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, EFSA invited Jaspreet Gujral, Jim Carr, Chris Darwen, Sally-Ann Krzyzaniak, Kavita Karnik, Joanna Jaskólska and Niko Renmans to submit an ADoI. Their participation was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group, in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

■ Hearing Expert<sup>1</sup>: Alexander Schaechtele for item 6.1

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Jiri Sochor and Katleen Baert (item 6.1)

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work:  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)



■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Consuelo Civitella, Valeriu-Gheorghe Curtui, Christina Kyrkou, Federica Lodi, Agnieszka Mech, Ana Maria Rincon, Antonio Rivas Cornejo, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

MESE Unit: Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

FEEDCO Unit: Luisa Ramos Bordajandi (item 6.1).

PREV Unit: Giorgia Vianello (item 6.1).

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## 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 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

## 5. Hearing Expert

Dr Alexander Schaechtele was invited to present his views for item 6.1 of the present meeting.

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>4</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>5</sup>, EFSA invited Dr Alexander Schaechtele to submit an Annual Declaration of Interest. His participation in the present meeting was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group (i.e. not possible to draft or be involved in the discussion or the adoption of a scientific output), in accordance with the applicable legal framework<sup>6</sup>.

<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)

<sup>4</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>5</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>6</sup> Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, Article 9:  
[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)



## 6. Scientific outputs for discussion

Two break-out sessions, sub-group chemistry and sub-group exposure, were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

### 6.1 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#) [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#)

Upon request from EFSA, the interested parties were given the opportunity to clarify the data submitted previously to EFSA. Outstanding issues on the new application for authorisation of extension of use for sucralose (E 955) in energy-reduced or without added sugar fine bakery wares under Regulation (EC) No. 1333/2008 and on the re-evaluation of sucralose were discussed. After the hearing was finished, and the hearing experts left the teleconference, the Working Group discussed the clarifications provided by the industry. EFSA will follow up by providing the interested parties with a written summary of the points discussed and a request for additional data.

### 6.2 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

Technical data: the WG discussed the information provided by the interested parties and the need to ask for further data was identified.

Toxicological data: the toxicological data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine (E 959) were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

### 6.3 General issues

- a) Genotoxicity approach and the genotoxicity tables on sucralose (E 955) were discussed and agreed.
- b) General approach of the weight of evidence was discussed.
- c) The way to assess Tier 3 studies was discussed and agreed.
- d) Next steps to move forward on the screening of sorbitols were discussed and agreed.
- e) Exposure scenario was discussed.

### 6.4 Erythritol (E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#) [EFSA-Q-2022-00219](#)

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.



### **6.5 Neotame (E 961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740**

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

### **6.6 Maltitols (E 965) EFSA-Q-2011-00490, EFSA-Q-2011-00755**

Exposure: general presentation was given and discussed.

## **7. Any other Business**

7.1 Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were agreed on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

7.2 Next meeting: 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022.



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 37<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 8<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March 2022, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman (14 March), Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst (8<sup>th</sup> March), Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>: Alexander Schaechtele (8<sup>th</sup> March) for item 6.1
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Consuelo Civitella, Christina Kyrkou, Federica Lodi, Agnieszka Mech, Salvatore Multari, Antonio Rivas Cornejo, Laura Ruggeri, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.  
MESE Unit: Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova and Francesca Riolo.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Oliver Lindtner.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work:  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)



### 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 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Hearing Expert

Dr Alexander Schaechtele was invited to present his views for item 6.1 (technical data) of the present meeting.

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>4</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>5</sup>, EFSA invited Dr Alexander Schaechtele to submit an Annual Declaration of Interest. His participation in the present meeting was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group (i.e. not possible to draft or be involved in the discussion or the adoption of a scientific output), in accordance with the applicable legal framework<sup>6</sup>.

### 6. Scientific outputs for discussion

One break-out session, sub-group exposure, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 6.1 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#) [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#)

Technical data: the stability data of the draft opinion on sucralose (E 955) were discussed.

The WG acknowledged the technical data received by one interested business operator in response to EFSA call for technical data for sucralose.<sup>7</sup>

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

<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)

<sup>4</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>5</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>6</sup> Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, Article 9:

[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>7</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/call/call-technical-data-sucralose-e-955#:~:text=The%20purpose%20of%20this%20call,of%20sucralose%20\(E%20955\).](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/call/call-technical-data-sucralose-e-955#:~:text=The%20purpose%20of%20this%20call,of%20sucralose%20(E%20955).)



## **6.2 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)**

Technical data: the technical data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

Toxicological data: the toxicological data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine (E 959) were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

## **6.3 Neotame (E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)**

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

## **6.4 General issues**

- a) Genotoxicity approach and the genotoxicity tables on sucralose (E 955) were discussed and agreed.

## **7. Any other Business**

7.1 Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 8<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were agreed on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

7.2 Next meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022.



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 36<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:
  - FIP Unit: Consuelo Civitella, Christina Kyrkou, Federica Lodi, Agnieszka Mech, Antonio Rivas Cornejo, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.
  - MESE Unit: Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova and Francesca Riolo.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Two break-out sessions, sub-group chemistry and exposure, were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

##### 5.1 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)

Technical data: the technical data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Toxicological data: the toxicological data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

##### 5.2 Erythritol (E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)

Toxicological data: the toxicological data of the draft opinion on erythritol (E 968) were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

##### 5.3 Neotame (E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)

Genotoxicity: the general approach was discussed.

##### 5.4 Saccharin (E 954) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#)

Exposure: a presentation on the available data was given.

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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)



Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.5 Cyclamates (E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)**

The technical data of the draft opinion on cyclamates (E 952) were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.6 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)**

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.7 General issues**

RoB Human studies: some clarifications on the risk of bias evaluation for human studies were given.

#### **5.8 General feedback from subgroup chemistry and subgroup exposure**

General feedback from the discussion held at the subgroups chemistry and exposure were given.

### **6. Any other Business**

6.1 Minutes of the 36<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 were agreed on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022.

6.2 Next meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022.



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 35<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> December 2021, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle James Chipman, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
  - Hearing experts: Alexander Schaechtele and Ron Hoogenboom.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:
  - FIP Unit: Consuelo Civitella, Kyrkou Christina, Federica Lodi, Antonio Rivas Cornejo, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.
  - DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Cascio Claudia, Gergelova Petra, Horvath Zsuzsanna and Francesca Riolo.
  - BIOCONTAM: Luisa Ramos

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Two break-out sessions, sub-group chemistry and exposure, were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726

Technical data: the technical data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed. The WG identified the need for collecting additional information on this part of the assessment.

Toxicological data: the toxicological data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Next steps to move forward for the technical and toxicological part were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

Exposure: this item was not done due to lack of time.

#### 5.2 Erythritol (E 968) EFSA-Q-2011-00730

A preliminary overview on the biological and toxicological data available for this substance was given to the WG.

Next steps to move forward for the toxicological part were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

Exposure: this item was not done due to lack of time.

#### 5.3 Sucralose (E 955) EFSA-Q-2011-00724 EFSA-Q-2021-00375

Technical data (subgroup chemistry): the data related to stability of E 955 were discussed.

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

<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)



Next steps to move forward for the technical and exposure parts were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.4 Neotame (E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)**

Exposure: the exposure section was discussed and revised.

#### **5.5 Saccharin (E 954) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#)**

Exposure: this item was not done due to lack of time.

#### **5.6 Cyclamates (E 952 i, ii,iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)**

Exposure: this item was not done due to lack of time.

#### **5.7 General issues**

- a) Risk of bias: some general points on the risk of bias were discussed and some adjustments on the risk of bias appraisal were proposed.
- b) Genotoxicity approach: some further developments on the approach taken for the assessment of genotoxicity studies were presented.
- c) Mixtures studies: the way to cover this kind of studies was discussed.

#### **5.8 General feedback from subgroup exposure and subgroup chemistry**

General feedback from the discussion held at the subgroup chemistry and exposure were given.

### **6. Any other Business**

6.1 An overview on the progress made so far on the sweeteners under consideration was given.

6.2 Minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 were agreed.

6.3 Next meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022.

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 34<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> November 2021, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> November 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, James Chipman, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Evangelia Ntzani, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
  - Hearing expert<sup>1</sup>: Lieve Herman.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Aguilera Entrena Jaime, Consuelo Civitella, Kyrkou Christina, Federica Lodi, Antonio Rivas Cornejo, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Giorgia Vianello.  
DATA Unit: Gergelova Petra.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Alicja Mortensen.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>.



### 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 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Two break-out sessions, sub-group chemistry and epidemiology, were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 **Neohesperidine DC (E 959)** [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)

Technical data (subgroup chemistry): the technical data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Toxicological data: a presentation on the biological and toxicological approach of the draft opinion on neohesperidine DC (E 959) was given.

Next steps to move forward for the technical and toxicological part were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.2 **Sucralose (E 955)** [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#) [EFSA-Q-2021-00375](#)

Technical data (subgroup chemistry): the data related to stability of E 955 were discussed.

Toxicological data (subgroup epidemiology): a discussion on the way forward about how to consider some of the human data took place.

Next steps to move forward for the technical and toxicological part were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3 **Erythritol (E 968)** [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)

The WG (subgroup chemistry) discussed the available technical data and identified the need for collecting additional information on this part of the assessment.

#### 5.4 **Maltitol (E 965 i, ii)** [\(EFSA-Q-2011-00755; EFSA-Q2017-00490\)](#)

<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)



The WG (subgroup chemistry) discussed the available technical data and identified the need for collecting additional information on this part of the assessment.

## 5.5 General issues

- a) A training session on Distiller RoB was given.
- b) Risk of bias: some general points on the risk of bias were discussed and some adjustments on the risk of bias appraisal were proposed.
- c) Genotoxicity approach: some further developments on the approach taken for the assessment of genotoxicity studies was presented.

## 7. Any other Business

- 7.1. Minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were agreed.
- 7.2. Next meeting: 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> December 2021.



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 33<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 6 September-10 September 2021, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, James Chipman (2<sup>nd</sup> day), Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Antonio Rivas Cornejo, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Giorgia Vianello and Riccardo Vriz.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 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

<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)



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

One break-out session, sub-group chemistry, was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

##### 5.1 Thaumatin (E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)

Toxicological data: the biological and toxicological section of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) was finalised.

This draft opinion will be discussed at the forthcoming FAF Panel meeting.

##### 5.2 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)

Technical data: the technical data of the draft opinion on sucralose (E 955) were discussed. A preliminary assessment of the available information on E 955 manufacturing process was conducted. The assessment has highlighted the need for collecting additional data and information on manufacturing process(es) to produce E 955 used as a food additive in the EU. Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

##### 5.3 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)

Technical data: the technical data of the draft opinion on neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

##### 5.4 Saccharin (E 954) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#)

Technical data: the technical data of the draft opinion on saccharin (E 954) were discussed. A preliminary assessment of the available information on E 954 manufacturing process was conducted. The assessment has highlighted the need for collecting additional data and information on manufacturing process to produce E 954 used as a food additive in the EU.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

##### 5.5 General issues

- a) Microbiota: the relevance of the animal studies on changes in microbiota was discussed.
- b) Risk of bias: some general points on the risk of bias of sucralose were discussed.



- c) Mixtures: the relevance of the studies performed with mixtures (e.g. Splenda) was discussed.

## **7. Any other Business**

- 7.1. Minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 6<sup>th</sup> September and 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were agreed.



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 32<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 1 June-4 June 2021, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Polly Boon (1<sup>st</sup> day), Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman (1<sup>st</sup> day), Riccardo Crebelli (1<sup>st</sup> day), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (1<sup>st</sup> day), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Antonio Rivas Cornejo, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Giorgia Vianello and Riccardo Vriz.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies from Romina Shah were received.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

The Working Group was informed about the outcome of the discussion held at the last FAF plenary meeting (on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021) on the genotoxicity data available for sweeteners and the need to ask for further data for some of the substances through an open call for data (deadline of 6 months).

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Two break-out sessions, one of the sub-group exposure and one of the sub-group chemistry, were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 Thaumatin (E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)

Technical data: the technical section of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) was finalised.

Toxicological data: the biological and toxicological section of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) was finalised.

This draft opinion will be discussed for possible adoption at the forthcoming FAF Panel meeting.

#### 5.2 Cyclamates (E 952 i, ii,iii) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#))

Technical data: the technical data of the draft opinion on cyclamates (E 952) were discussed.

Toxicological data: a discussion took place on the impurity/metabolite cyclohexylamine and the approach to consider the toxicological studies available. An update on the ongoing assessment of the genotoxicity data was also given.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3 Neotame (E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)

Sections on the exposure assessment of neotame (E 961) were discussed.

<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)



Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.4 Saccharin (E 954) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#)**

An update on the data available for the exposure assessment of saccharin (E 954) was given.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

### **6. Any other Business**

- 6.1. Minutes of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 1<sup>st</sup> June and 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were agreed.



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 31<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 26 April-30 April 2021, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 30 April 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Polly Boon, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (1<sup>st</sup> day), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Two break-out sessions, one of the sub-group exposure and one of the sub-group epidemiology, were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 Thaumatin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725

The final results on the exposure assessment of thaumatin (E 957) were discussed. The text of the opinion was reviewed.

Technical data: the technical section (except stability) of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) was discussed.

Toxicological data: a discussion on the biological and toxicological section of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) took place, including the approach for the weight of evidence for both human and animal studies, according to the protocol on hazard identification and characterisation.

This draft opinion will be distributed to the FAF Panel for discussion at its coming plenary meeting to receive steer ahead of its finalisation.

#### 5.2 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726

Sections and results on the exposure assessment of neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3 Sucralose (E 955) EFSA-Q-2011-00724

Sections and results on the exposure assessment of sucralose (E 955) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

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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)





## 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 31<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 26 April and 30 April 2021 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 1st June (AM/PM) and 4 June AM (web-conference)



FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 30<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 25-26 March 2021, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 26 March 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli (1<sup>st</sup> day), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Jiri Sochor

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

A break-out session of the sub-group exposure was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 Neotame (E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)

The full draft opinion was discussed and revised: technical part, exposure assessment, toxicological part, discussion and uncertainties, including the latest set of data submitted by interested parties (technical and toxicological data).

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.2 Thaumatin (E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)

The results on the exposure assessment of thaumatin (E 957) were discussed.

Technical data: a discussion on some part of the technical section of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) took place.

Toxicological data: the approach for the weight of evidence and data extraction, according to the protocol on hazard identification and characterisation, was discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3 Steering on genotoxicity (neotame, neohesperidine DC, sucralose)

Following the assessment of the data available on genotoxicity for the three opinions on neotame, neohesperidine DC and sucralose, a discussion took place to decide on the way to move forward.

#### 5.4 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)

The results on the exposure assessment of sucralose (E 955) were discussed.

<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)



Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.5 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)**

The results on the exposure assessment of neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.6 Saccharin (E 954) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#)**

An update on the exposure assessment of saccharin (E 954) was presented. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

### **6. Any other Business**

- 6.1. Minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 25-26 March 2021 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 26 April (PM) and 30 April (AM;PM) (web-conference)



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 29<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 28-29 January 2021, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 29 January 2021)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (1<sup>st</sup> day only), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace (1<sup>st</sup> day only), Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Peter Fürst.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Break-out sessions of the sub-groups on chemistry and exposure were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

#### 5.1 Implementation of the protocol

A discussion on how to perform the next steps on data extraction and weight of evidence, according to the protocol on hazard identification and characterisation, took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

The main points of discussion will be implemented on the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) as a pilot.

#### 5.2 Thaumatin (E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)

The results on the exposure assessment of thaumatin (E 957) were discussed.

Technical data: a discussion on some aspects of the technical part of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957), following the information received by interested business operators, took place.

Toxicological data: some clarifications on the risk of bias tables for both animals and human studies on thaumatin (E 957) were discussed. The genotoxicity section of the draft opinion on thaumatin was also discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3. Neotame (E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)

The results of the exposure assessment of neotame (E 961) were discussed.

Technical data: a discussion on some aspects of the technical part of the draft opinion on neotame (E 961), following the information received by the interested business operator, took place.

<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)



Other parts of the draft opinion (e.g. Discussion) were also discussed as well as the outcome of the updated literature search.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.4 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)**

The results on the exposure assessment of sucralose (E 955) were discussed.

Toxicological data: the relevance of some of the toxicity studies, included after the screening for relevance step of the protocol, was discussed.

An update on some changes applied in the Distiller tools were also presented.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.5 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)**

The results on the exposure assessment of neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Some issues on the data available were presented to the WG and the steering on the next steps to move forward were noted.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

### **6. Any other Business**

6.1. Minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 28-29 January 2021 were agreed.

6.2. Next meeting: 25-26 March 2021 (web-conference)



FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 28<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 27 November 2020, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 27 November 2020)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Break-out sessions of the sub-groups on chemistry, exposure and epidemiology were held in parallel with the morning session.

#### 5.1 Neotame (E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)

The results of the exposure assessment of neotame (E 961) were discussed.

Toxicological data/Implementation of the protocol: a discussion on the risk assessment approach for the safety evaluation of neotame (E 961) took place.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.2 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)

The preliminary results on the exposure assessment of sucralose (E 955) were discussed.

A discussion took place on the technical data (i.e. stability and impurities) of sucralose (E 955) submitted by interested business operator.

Toxicological data: the outcome of the categorisation step (in Distiller) was presented.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 5.3 Thaumatin (E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)

The results on the exposure assessment of thaumatin (E 957) were discussed.

A discussion took place on the risk of bias table for human studies as well as on the risk of bias evaluation of human studies on thaumatin (E 957).

Toxicological data: a general discussion took place on the data extraction for human and animal studies.

<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)



Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.4 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726**

The preliminary results on the exposure assessment of neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

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## **6. Any other Business**

- 6.1. Minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 27 November 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 28-29 January 2021 (web-conference)



FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 27<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 22-23 October 2020, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 23 October 2020)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani (23 October only), Romina Shah (22 October only), Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:
  - FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.
  - DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Oliver Lindtner.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

#### **5.1 Saccharin Na, Ca, K (E 954) EFSA-Q-2011-00736, EFSA-Q-2011-00737, EFSA-Q-2011-00738, EFSA-Q-2011-00739 (Exposure)**

A presentation on the data available on saccharin (E 954) was given, and a discussion took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

#### **5.2 Cyclamates (E 952) EFSA-Q-2011-00733, EFSA-Q-2011-00734, EFSA-Q-2011-00735 (Exposure)**

A presentation on the data available on cyclamates (E 952) was given, and a discussion took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

#### **5.3 Outcome WG Specifications on data on solubility and particle size (Neohesperidine DC (E959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726; Sucralose (E 955) EFSA-Q-2011-00724; Cyclamates (E 952) EFSA-Q-2011-00733, EFSA-Q-2011-00734, EFSA-Q-2011-00735)**

An update on the outcome of the discussion on data on solubility and particle size held on 14 October 2020 under the WG Specifications was given, and the steps to move forwards were noted.

#### **5.4 Thaumatin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725**

Toxicological data: some sections of the biological and toxicological data were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG 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)



### **5.5 Neotame (E961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)**

Toxicological data/Implementation of the protocol: the revisions of the text based on the comments received during the previous Working Group meeting were discussed.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

### **5.6 Sucralose (E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)**

Some parts of the technical section of the draft opinion (i.e. identity of the substance, specifications, manufacturing process, stability) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

Toxicological data: an update on the results of the screening process (papers retrieved from the call for data and literature search) was given.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

### **5.7 General issues**

Some general issues raised since the previous Working Group meeting in September were discussed.

## **6. Any other Business**

- 6.1. Minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 22-23 October 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 26-27 November 2020 (web-conference)



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 26<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 24-25 September 2020, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 25 September 2020)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy (24<sup>th</sup> September only), Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (24<sup>th</sup> September only), Alicja Mortensen (25<sup>th</sup> September only), Evangelia Ntzani (25<sup>th</sup> September only), Romina Shah (24<sup>th</sup> September only), Heather Wallace (25<sup>th</sup> September only), Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

The Working Group Chair informed the Working Group about the outcome of the 16<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of the FAF Panel, which was held on 21-23 September 2020 (Open to Observers).

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

#### 5.1 Neohesperidine DC (E959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)

A discussion on some technical data took place within the subgroup Chemistry. Next steps to move forward were noted.

#### 5.2 Neohesperidine DC (E959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#) (Exposure)

A presentation on the data available (i.e. Mintel, use levels) on neohesperidine DC (E 959) was given, and a discussion took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

#### 5.3 Thaumatin (E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)

Some part of the technical section of the draft opinion (i.e. manufacturing process, method of analysis and stability and reaction/fate in food) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

Toxicological data: an update on the appraisal of the toxicological studies of Thaumatin using the DistillerSR tool took place; a presentation on the appraisal process using the DistillerSR tool was given to the Working Group. Genotoxicity studies and other toxicity studies were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

<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)



This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.4 General issues**

Some general issues raised since the previous Working Group meeting in July were discussed.

#### **5.5 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726 (Technical and toxicological data)**

An update on the outcome of the discussion held on 24th September (AM) within the subgroup chemistry was given.

Some parts of the technical section of the draft opinion (i.e. identity of the substance and specifications) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

Toxicological data: an update on the results of the screening process (papers retrieved from the call for data and literature search) was given.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### **5.6 Neotame (E961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740**

Toxicological data/Implementation of the protocol: the revisions of the text based on the comments received during the previous Working Group meeting were discussed.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

## **6. Any other Business**

- 6.1. Minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 24-25 September 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meetings: 22-23 October 2020 (web-conference)  
26-27 November 2020 (web-conference)  
17-18 December 2020 (web-conference)





## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 25<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 2-3 July 2020, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 3 July 2020)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (2<sup>nd</sup> July only), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah (2<sup>nd</sup> July only), Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Eyong Ndip Galvin, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

##### 5.1 Neotame (E 961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740:

Some feedback on the clarification teleconference held on 4 June 2020 with one of the interested parties was given.

The exposure assessment of neotame was discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

The sections of the draft opinion on toxicological data and on the implementation of the protocol were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

##### 5.2 Thaumatin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725

Technical data: an update on the outcome of the 24th WG Sweeteners meeting (subgroup chemistry) held on 25 June 2020 was given.

The exposure assessment of thaumatin was discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

Toxicological data: a presentation on the results of the screening (call for data), on the appraisal of the studies (in Distiller), and on some other general considerations (e.g. thaumatin-like proteins, allergenicity, genotoxicity) was given and a discussion took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 6. Any other Business

<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)



- 6.1. Minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 2-3 July 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 24 (PM)-25 (AM) September 2020 (web-conference).

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 24<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS (subgroup chemistry)

**Held on 25 June 2020, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 25 June 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez and Peter Fürst
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi and Giorgia Vianello.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. No apologies were received.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

##### 5.1 Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]

The technical part of the thaumatin draft opinion and the information submitted by interested parties were discussed. Some tasks needed to move forward with the assessment were noted. This opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting (i.e. exposure assessment and biological/toxicological data).

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 25 June 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting is scheduled on 2-3 July.

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 23<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 14-15 May 2020, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 15 May 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:
  - FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Eyong Ndip Galvin, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.
  - DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. A tour de table from all participants was presented. Apologies were received from Peter Fürst (on 14 May) and Romina Shah.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

The WG was informed on the reprioritisation of some of the tasks (including the re-evaluation of sweeteners) under the remit of the Food Additives and Flavouring Team of the FIP Unit and the FAF Panel, due to the new recent mandate on titanium dioxide (E 171) to be completed by end of 2020.

The WG was also informed on the recent publication of the "Draft Framework for Protocol Development for EFSA's scientific assessment", and its pilot phase starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 for one year.

### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

#### 5.1 Different presentations were given to present an overview on the sweeteners re-evaluation:

- Introduction on the re-evaluation of food additives
- The re-evaluation of sweeteners
- Technical data
- Exposure assessment (including the protocol on exposure)
- Toxicological data (Protocol on hazard identification and characterisation)
- Tables on Risk of Bias (animals and human studies).

#### 5.2 Exposure assessment: an update on the preliminary data available to be used for the exposure assessment of Thaumatin (E 957), as well as an overview on some of the decisions taken so far for the exposure assessment for sweeteners in general were presented.

<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)



- 5.3 Neotame (E 961): the draft opinion was not discussed due to lack of time. This opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.
- 5.4 Thaumatin (E957): some sections of the technical part of the thaumatin draft opinion as well as the outcome of the extensive literature search were discussed. This opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

## 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 14-15 May 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: the next WG meeting scheduled for the 4-5 June will be postponed (date to be confirmed).



# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 22<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 30-31 March 2020, web-conference**

**(Agreed on 31 March 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (only 1<sup>st</sup> day), Romina Shah and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:
  - FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.
  - DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, 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 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

<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)



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 A follow up on some of aspects for the implementation phase of the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and hazard characterisation of sweeteners was discussed (i.e. appraisal of animal and human studies and literature searches).
- 5.2 Exposure assessment: a concrete approach based on data from the 1<sup>st</sup> batch of sweeteners was presented and discussed.
- 5.3 Neotame: the draft opinion was discussed in full (technical data, exposure data and biological/toxicological data) as well as the implementation of the protocol to this opinion. Comments to move forward were noted. This opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 30-31 March 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 14 (PM)-15(AM) May 2020

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<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)

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 21<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 30-31 January 2020, Parma**

**(Agreed on 31 January 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
  - Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via tele-conference (2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Riccardo Crebelli.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

The WG was informed that the protocol on the exposure assessment and the accompanying technical report on the outcome of the public consultation were endorsed by the FAF Panel at its 12 Plenary meeting (28-30 January 2020).

### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 A follow up on different aspects for the implementation phase of the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and hazard characterisation of sweeteners has been discussed (i.e. appraisal of animal and human studies, pilot exercise on the neotame 52-week study in dog, refinement for literature searches and overview of chemical substances).

### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 21<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 30-31 January 2020 were agreed.

<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)

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 13-14 January 2020, Parma**

**(Agreed on 14 January 2020)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Oliver Lindtner
  - Jean-Charles Leblanc and Romina Shah participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.  
FIP Unit: Brian Flynn, Alexandra Tard.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

An update on the technical stakeholder event on the re-evaluation of authorised food additives with focus on sweeteners, which took place in Paris on 3 December 2019, was given.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- 5.1 Discussion on the comments received during the public consultation of the protocol for the exposure assessment as part of the safety assessment of sweeteners under the food additives re-evaluation programme: drafting of the report, revision of the protocol

The WG went through all the comments received and drafted the replies in a technical report. Revisions on the draft protocol have been made accordingly, when appropriate.

The report will be fine-tuned for a presentation at the forthcoming FAF Panel meeting, together with the revised version of the protocol.

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 13-14 January 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Dates for next meeting: to be defined

<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)

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 10 December 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 10 December 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Maged Younes (Chair) and Trine Husøy.
  - Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via tele-conference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi and Alexandra Tard.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Riccardo Crebelli.

### 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

<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)



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

Some feedback on the technical stakeholder event on the re-evaluation of authorised food additives with focus on sweeteners, held in Paris on 3 December 2019, was given.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- 5.1 A follow up on different aspects for the implementation phase of the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and hazard characterisation of sweeteners has been discussed.

Additional comments on the protocol on exposure assessment have been also discussed.

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 10 December 2019 were agreed.





## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 27 November 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 27 November 2019)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Jean-Charles Leblanc
  - Oliver Lindtner and Romina Shah participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Francesca Riolo.  
FIP Unit: Brian Flynn, Alexandra Tard.

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

An update on the technical stakeholder event on the re-evaluation of authorised food additives with focus on sweeteners, to be organised in Paris on 3 December 2019, was given.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- 5.1 Discussion on the comments received during the public consultation of the protocol for the exposure assessment as part of the safety assessment of sweeteners under the food additives re-evaluation programme

The WG went through the main comments received and discussed the best approach to address them.

The WG started to draft the technical report that will provide a response to all comments received. Some revisions on the draft protocol have been made accordingly, when appropriate.

This work will continue at a forthcoming WG meeting.

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 27 November 2019 were agreed.
- 6.2. Dates for next meeting: to be decided

<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)

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 24-25 October 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 25 October 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Riccardo Crebelli and Peter Fürst (2<sup>nd</sup> day).

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

An update on the technical stakeholder event on the re-evaluation of authorised food additives with focus on sweeteners, to be organised in Paris on 3 December 2019, was given.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#))].

##### 5.1 Finalisation of the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners:

The revisions made according to the comments received during the public consultations have been discussed. The document will be discussed at the forthcoming Plenary meeting together with the technical report which addresses all the comments received.

##### 5.2 Discussion on the technical report addressing the comments received during the public consultation:

The document has been revised and will be discussed at the forthcoming Plenary meeting together with the final protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners.

#### 6. Any other Business

##### 6.1. Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 24-25 October 2019 were agreed.

##### 6.2. Dates for next meeting: 10 December 2019 (AM)

A proposal for the dates for WG meetings in 2020 has been also discussed.

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 23 September 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 23 September 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
  - Riccardo Crebelli participated via Tele-conference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Peter Fürst and Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson.

### 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.

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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

An update on the latest developments on the sweeteners re-evaluation was given.

### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 Follow up on the comments received during the public consultation on the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners:

All the comments received have been discussed and addressed, and some revisions on the draft protocol have been made accordingly, when appropriate. The document will be discussed at the forthcoming Plenary meeting together with the technical report which address all the comments received.

### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 23 September 2019 were agreed.
- 6.2. Dates for next meeting: 24 October 2019 AM (TC) and 25 October 2019 PM (TC, if needed)

<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)



## Annex

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

With regard to this meeting, Dr Trine Husøy declared the following interest: current involvement in a grant application as project leader on the sweeteners, i.e. call funded by Nord Forsk (organisation under the Nordic Council of Ministers that provides funding for and facilitates Nordic cooperation on research and research infrastructure). In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>3</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>4</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>3</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>4</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 FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE- EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 13 September 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 13 September 2019)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson and Maged Younes (Chair).
  - Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy, Laurence Castle, Oliver Lindtner, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Romina Shah, Peter Fürst participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Francesca Riolo  
FIP Unit: Alexandra Tard, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. Apologies were received from Riccardo Crebelli.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

WG members were informed that the public consultation on the draft protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of sweeteners was extended until 19 September 2019.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

##### 5.1 Discussion on the approach to be followed for the exposure assessment of sweeteners:

The topics to be considered in the exposure assessment of sweeteners were discussed (characterisation of foods containing sweeteners, occurrence data, food consumption surveys, exposure scenarios, target population).

Subject to revisions proposed during the meeting, a revised version was agreed and will be presented in the forthcoming FAF Panel meeting.

#### 6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 13 September 2019 were adopted.

6.2. Dates for next meeting: 23 September 2019

<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)

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 1 July 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 1 July 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Oliver Lindtner.
  - Jean-Charles Leblanc, Romina Shah participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Marina Nikolic, Francesca Riolo  
FIP Unit: Alexandra Tard

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed.

### 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

<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)



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

WG members were informed that the other protocol, for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners was endorsed by the FAF Panel beginning of June and will go for public consultation in the coming days.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#))].

##### 5.1 Discussion on the approach to be followed for the exposure assessment of sweeteners:

The topics to be considered in the exposure assessment of sweeteners were further discussed (characterisation of foods containing sweeteners, occurrence data, food consumption surveys, exposure scenarios, target population). Subject to revisions proposed during the meeting, a new draft document will be circulated to the WG members.

A revised version will be scheduled for presentation in the forthcoming WG sweeteners meeting.

#### 6. Any other Business

##### 6.1. Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 1 July 2019 were adopted.



## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 7 June 2019, TC**

**(Agreed on 7 June 2019)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Jean-Charles Leblanc and Oliver Lindtner participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Marina Nikolic, Francesca Riolo  
FIP Unit: Brian Flynn

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. Apologies were received from Laurence Castle and Romina Shah.

#### 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

<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)



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

No feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission was given.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

##### 5.1 Discussion on the approach to be followed for the exposure assessment of sweeteners:

The approach was further discussed and refined. The topics to be considered in the exposure assessment of sweeteners were discussed (characterisation of foods containing sweeteners, occurrence data, food consumption surveys, exposure scenarios, target population). Some tasks needed to move forward were noted and distributed.

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 7 June 2019 were adopted.
- 6.2. Date for next physical meeting: 1 July 2019.

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 21-22 May 2019, teleconference**

**(Agreed on 22 May 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Peter Furst (22 May), Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 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

<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)



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 Follow up from the WG meeting in May (Strategy for the assessment) and finalisation of the draft protocol:

The latest revisions made on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners have been discussed. The document will be discussed at the forthcoming Plenary meeting.

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 21-22 May 2019 were agreed.

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 2-3 May 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 3 May 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson and Maged Younes (Chair).
  - Trine Husøy participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard (item 4).

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Laurence Castle, Fürst Peter and Riccardo Crebelli.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

Some feedback from the WG meeting of the subgroup on exposure was provided.

### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

#### 5.1 Follow up from the WG meeting in April (Strategy for the assessment):

The latest revisions made on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners have been discussed. Some tasks needed to move forward were noted and distributed.

### 6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 2-3 May 2019 were agreed.

6.2. Dates for next meeting: 21 May (PM)-22 May (AM) (teleconference)

<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)



FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

### MINUTES OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 30 April 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 30 April 2019)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner.
  - Romina Shah participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Marina Nikolic, Francesca Riolo  
FIP Unit: Brian Flynn, Alexandra Tard

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed.

#### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

Timetable for the protocol and its public consultation was presented to the WG members (subgroup exposure).

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#))].

##### 5.1 Discussion on the approach to be followed for the exposure assessment of sweeteners:

The several topics to be considered in the exposure assessment of sweeteners were discussed (characterisation of foods containing sweeteners, occurrence data, food consumption surveys, exposure scenarios, target population). Some tasks needed to move forward were noted and distributed.

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 30 April 2019 were adopted.
- 6.2. Date for next physical meeting: 1 July 2019. Other TC meeting might be scheduled before July 2019.

<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)

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 4-5 April 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 5 April 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
  - Maria José Frutos Fernandez and Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants and particularly Riccardo Crebelli, recently appointed as a new member of this WG. Apologies were received from Fürst Peter.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

#### 5.1 Follow up from the WG meeting in March (Strategy for the assessment):

The latest revisions made on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners have been discussed. Some tasks needed to move forward were noted and distributed.

### 6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 4-5 April 2019 were agreed.

6.2. Dates for next meeting: 2-3 May 2019 (Parma); 21 May (PM)-22 May (AM) (teleconference)

<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)

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 19 March 2019, TELE-conference**

**(Agreed on 19 March 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Laurence Castle.

### 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

<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)



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 Follow up from the WG meeting in March (Strategy for the assessment): the latest revisions made on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners have been discussed.
- 5.2 A brainstorming on the presentation to be given at the next Plenary meeting (26-28 March) on the work carried out so far on the re-evaluation of sweeteners took place.

#### 6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 19 March 2019 were agreed.
- 6.2. Date for next meeting: 4-5 April 2019

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 5-8 March 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 28 March 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
- Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter (via teleconference in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6), Ursula Gundert-Remy (in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6), Trine Husøy (in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6), Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson (in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6) and Maged Younes (Chair) (in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6).
- Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner and Romina Shah have participated via teleconference in agenda points 5.4 to 5.6.
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Dr Andreas Eisenreich (BfR) (for item 5.10, via teleconference).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Brian Flynn, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.  
DATA Unit: Petra Gergelova and Davide Arcella.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work :  
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>.





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 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

#### 5.1. Toxicological and epidemiological data:

The notes from the previous meeting held on 29 January 2019 were adopted.

#### 5.2. **Follow up from the WG meeting in January (Strategy for the assessment):**

A discussion on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners took place and some revisions were made.

#### 5.3. **General discussion and distribution of tasks:**

A general discussion took place on the approach to be followed and some tasks were noted and distributed in order to move forward.

#### 5.4. Exposure assessment:

The notes from the previous meeting held on 13 February 2019 were adopted.

#### 5.5. **Brainstorming on the assessment of the exposure to sweeteners:**

<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)



A presentation was given on different aspects of the exposure assessment.

#### **5.6. General discussion and distribution of tasks:**

A general discussion took place on the possible approach to be followed and some tasks were noted and distributed in order to move forward.

#### **5.7. Technical data:**

The notes from the previous meeting held on 15-16 January 2019 were adopted.

#### **5.8. Follow up from the WG meeting in January (technical data):**

A discussion on the technical parts (i.e. identity and specifications, manufacturing process; analytical methods and stability and fate in food) for some of the sweeteners took place [i.e. acesulfame K [(E 950); aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962); cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii); saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv)].

#### **5.9. General discussion and distribution of tasks:**

During the discussion, some tasks needed to move forward with the assessment were noted and distributed among the experts.

#### **5.10. Presentation on sucralose (E 955)**

Dr Andreas Eisenreich (BfR) was invited as hearing expert to present his views on the current BfR Opinion on the formation of chlorinated compounds during heating of foods containing sucralose (E 955). A discussion and exchange of questions/answers took place.

## **6. Any other business**

#### **6.1. Dates for next meetings:**

The dates for the next meetings were agreed: 19 March 2019 (TC) and 4-5 April 2019.

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

## MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

**Held on 13 February 2019, TELE-conference**

**(Agreed on 13 February 2019)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Romina Shah, Maged Younes
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not present
- EFSA:  
FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard  
DATA Unit: Petra Gergelova, Davide Arcella, Sofia Ioannidou, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

### 5. Exposure assessment methodology and data - Overview on the current status

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

A discussion took place on different aspects of the exposure assessment:

- Information on the authorised uses;
- Presentation on current data available on the use level and the analytical results;
- Presentation on the possible use of FoodEx2 and its facets;
- Presentation on the available consumption data;
- Information from Mintel GNPD;
- Brainstorming on possible methods to assess exposure to sweeteners.

### 6. General discussion on the approach to be followed

A general discussion took place on some of the aspects of the exposure assessment. Different approaches for the exposure assessment were discussed, including some proposals to be further elaborated at forthcoming meetings.

<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)



## 7. Any other Business

- 7.1. Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 13 February 2019 were agreed.
- 7.2. Date for next meeting: 5-8 March 2019

FOOD INGREDIENTS AND PACKAGING UNIT

## Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 29 January 2019, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 29 January 2019)

### Participants

#### Working Group Members:

Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).

Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via teleconference.

#### European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

#### EFSA

**FIP Unit:** Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Alessandra Giarola, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### 3. Adoption of the notes from previous meetings

The notes from the previous meeting were adopted.

#### 4. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest<sup>2</sup>, 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 have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

#### 5. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 6. General update on:

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- Technical data: feedback from the previous WG meeting (subgroup chemistry) was given.
- Exposure: feedback on the brainstorming from the meeting with DATA Unit was given. The first meeting with the experts on the exposure assessment will be held on 13 February 2019.
- Toxicological and epidemiological data: an update on ongoing activities (i.e procurement contract and tasking grant for preparatory work) as well as a follow up from the WG meeting in December (Strategy for the assessment) took place.

#### 7. General discussion and distribution of tasks.

A general discussion took place on some of the aspects of the assessment of the technical data, exposure and biological and toxicological data. An initial discussion on the strategy to be developed for the assessment took place. Some proposals for further elaboration were noted.

#### 8. Any Other Business

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

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

8.1. Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 29 January 2019 were agreed.

8.2. Dates for the next WG meetings were discussed. 5-8 March 2019.



FOOD INGREDIENTS AND PACKAGING UNIT

## Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 15- 16 January 2019, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 16 January 2019)

### Participants

#### Working Group Members:

Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter.

#### European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

#### EFSA

FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. Apologies were received from Laurence Castle on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

### 2. Adoption of agenda and notes from previous meeting

The agenda and notes from the previous meeting (subgroup chemistry) were adopted.

### 3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest<sup>2</sup>, EFSA

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

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

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 have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

#### 4. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

Feedback from the last WG Sweeteners meeting held on 13-14 December 2018 was provided.

#### 5. Update on the current status of the data available

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

A discussion on the technical parts (i.e. identity and specifications, manufacturing process; analytical methods and stability and fate in food) for some of the sweeteners took place [i.e. sucralose (E 955), thaumatin (E 957), neohesperidine DC (E 959), neotame (E 961), sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) mannitol [(E 421 i, ii), isomalt [(E 953), lactitol [(E 966), xylitol [(E 967), erythritol [(E 968), maltitol [(E 965 i, ii)].

#### 6. General discussion and distribution of tasks

During the discussion, some tasks needed to move forward with the assessment were noted and distributed among the experts.

#### 7. Any Other Business

Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 15-16 January 2019 were agreed.

FOOD INGREDIENTS AND PACKAGING UNIT

## Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 13-14 December 2018, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 14 December 2018)

### Participants

**n Working Group Members:**

Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter<sup>1</sup>, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).

**n European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Not present

**n EFSA**

**FIP Unit:** Eleonora Alquati, Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Alessandra Giarola, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard

**DATA Unit:** Petra Gergelova and Doreen Dolores Russell.

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### 3. Adoption of the notes from previous meetings

The notes from previous meetings were adopted.

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<sup>1</sup> Via teleconference on 14/12/2018

#### 4. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest<sup>3</sup>, 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 have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

#### 5. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 6. General update on:

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- Technical data: feedback from the previous WG meeting was given. An overview on the chemical substances (including possible degradation products and impurities) as well as information on the sweeteners that can be manufactured via fermentation were presented.
- A presentation on the occurrence data from Member States, so far gathered by EFSA, was given. As a next step, it was explained, that data will require cleaning and possibly clarifications with the data providers.
- Toxicological and epidemiological data: an update on ongoing activities (i.e. procurement contract and tasking grant for preparatory work), previous evaluations of some of the sweeteners (i.e. sucralose, thaumatin, neotame, and neohesperidine DC) and epidemiological studies available (from one recent review) was given.

#### 7. General discussion and distribution of tasks.

A general discussion took place on some of the aspects of the assessment of the technical data, exposure and biological and toxicological data. During the discussion,

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

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

an initial strategy for the assessment was developed by the WG, including some proposals to be further elaborated at forthcoming meetings.

## **8. Any Other Business**

- 8.1. Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 13-14 December 2018 were agreed.
- 8.2. Dates for the next WG meetings were discussed. Pending agreement from all experts required, the following tentative dates were proposed: 15-16 January 2019 (subgroup chemistry); 29 January 2019; 5-6 March 2019.
- 8.3. The Chair of the WG proposed to appoint Trine Husøy as vice-chair.

## Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018)

### Participants

**n Working Group Members:**

**n** Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter.

**n European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Not present

**n EFSA**

**FIP Unit:** Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. No apologies were received.

### 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 Processes<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest<sup>2</sup>, 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 have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

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

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

#### 4. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

A general overview on the re-evaluation programme for all sweeteners, the ongoing activities, and the way of working of this WG were given.

#### 5. Update on the current status of the data available

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

A presentation on the current status of the technical data available, received following the latest call for data on sweeteners, was given.

A discussion on the technical parts (i.e. identity and specifications, manufacturing process; analytical methods and stability and fate in food) for some of the sweeteners took place [i.e. sucralose (E 955), thaumatin (E 957), neohesperidine DC (E 959) and neotame (E 961)].

#### 6. General discussion and distribution of tasks

During the discussion, some tasks needed to move forward with the assessment were noted and distributed among the experts.

#### 7. Any Other Business

Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were agreed.

## Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 1<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October 2018, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018)

### Participants

#### **n Working Group Members:**

- n** Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
- n** Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via teleconference

#### **n European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Not present

#### **n EFSA**

**FIP Unit:** Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Alessandra Giarola, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard

**Data Unit:** Davide Arcella and Doreen Dolores Russell.

### **1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

### **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 Processes<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest<sup>2</sup>, 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

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

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



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

#### 4. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

#### 5. Appointment of Vice Chair

The Chair decided to postpone the appointment of the Vice Chair(s) of this WG to a later stage, once the WG has been enlarged.

#### 6. Update on the current status of the data available

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

Presentations on the current status of both the technical as well as biological and toxicological data available, received following the latest call for data on sweeteners, were given.

An overview on the use levels data received from the latest call for data has been also given. An initial discussion on the exposure assessment took place.

#### 7. General discussion: setting up questions and strategy design

A general brainstorming and discussion took place on different aspects of the assessment of the technical, exposure and biological and toxicological data, in order to define the main questions to be addressed and set up the best approach to evaluate the food additives under this WG.

The Working Group identified the need for the following additional areas of expertise: chemistry, dietary exposure assessment and toxicology/epidemiology. Additional members would be identified to cover these areas.

#### 8. Any Other Business

8.1. Minutes of the 1<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were agreed.

8.2. Dates for the next WG meetings were discussed and will be defined according to the needs.