

Parma, 10 June 2016

## **Note on the establishment of a Standing Working Group on Food Contact Materials of the Scientific Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF) (2014-2017)<sup>1</sup>**

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

### **Background:**

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is the keystone of European Union risk assessment regarding food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, nutrition, plant protection and plant health. In close collaboration with national authorities and in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent and transparent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks associated with the food chain. On request from the European Commission, European Parliament and Member States or on its own initiative<sup>2</sup>, EFSA provides scientific opinions on issues falling under its remit.

The Scientific Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF), which deals with questions on the safety of use of materials in contact with food, enzymes, flavourings and processing aids, confirmed during its 48<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting (inaugural meeting of the CEF Panel mandate 2014-2017) the need of a Standing Working Group on Food Contact Materials related to the evaluations of applications under Commission Regulation (EC) No 450/2009 on active and intelligent materials and articles intended to come into contact with food<sup>3</sup>, Commission Regulation (EC) No 10/2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food<sup>4</sup> and Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 October 2004 on materials and articles intended to come into contact with food and repealing Directives 80/590/EEC and 89/109/EEC<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> This document replaces the previous "Mandate of the Standing Working Group on Food Contact Materials of the CEF Panel" of 25 September 2014, which was updated to reflect the additional expertise needed.

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

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 135, 30.5.2009, p. 3–11.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 12, 15.1.2011, p. 1-132.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 338, 13.11.2004, p. 4–17.

## **Terms of reference:**

The objective of the Standing Working Group on Food Contact Materials is to perform the following preparatory work for consideration by the CEF Panel:

- To carry out safety assessments of substances used in food contact materials including active and intelligent materials as required under the applicable European Regulations (see above)
- To deliver draft scientific opinions on the food contact materials examined
- To deliver draft guidance document(s) for presentation of an application for safety assessment of a substance to be used in food contact materials prior to authorisation.

In order to fulfil its objective, the above-mentioned Standing Working Group shall consist of members with expertise in the following scientific areas: polymer chemistry, analytical chemistry, migration modelling/exposure assessment, toxicokinetics/bioaccumulation, general toxicology, neurotoxicology and genotoxicity.

## **Members:**

During the 48<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the Scientific Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF) the Chair appointed (in consultation with EFSA) the Chair of the Standing Working Group on Food Contact Materials. The decision on the composition of the Standing Working Group was made by the Chair of the Standing Working Group upon proposal of the respective EFSA Head of Unit. The composition of the Standing Working Group on Food Contact Materials is available on the EFSA website<sup>6</sup>.

## **Scope in EFSA's work and outsourcing programme:**

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

## **Timelines:**

Provided the Standing Working Group on Food Contact Materials is not closed earlier, as a result of a period of inactivity, then its mandate will terminate 3 months after the inaugural meeting of the subsequent Scientific Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF) (2017-2020).

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<sup>6</sup> <https://ess.efsa.europa.eu/doi/doiweb/doisearch>

**Expected deliverables:**

Draft EFSA scientific outputs, which will be submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the Scientific Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF).

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