

Parma, 23 August 2016

Note on the establishment of a Standing Working Group on Infant Nutrition of the Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies (2015-2018)

The Nutrition Unit is requested to manage the administrative and scientific activities of the Standing Working Group on Infant Nutrition. The Nutrition 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 initiative¹, EFSA provides scientific opinions on issues falling under its remit.

The Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies, which deals with questions related to dietetic products, nutrition and food allergies as well as associated subjects such as novel foods, confirmed during its 27th Plenary Meeting the need of a Standing Working Group on Infant Nutrition.

Terms of reference:

The objective of the Standing Working Group on Infant Nutrition is to deal with all incoming requests related to infant nutrition, such as a guidance document for the assessment of the safety and suitability of infant and follow-on formula manufactured from hydrolysed protein, an application for a follow-on formula with a lower than currently permitted protein content and a request in the framework of revision of Directive 2006/125/EC of 5 December 2006 on processed cereal-based foods and baby foods for infants and young children. In order to fulfil its objective, the above-mentioned Standing Working Group shall consist of members with expertise in the following scientific areas: should have long-standing expertise in the safety and suitability assessment of foods for infants, paediatric nutrition, clinical diagnosis of food allergy, paediatric gastroenterology, paediatric immunology, immunology of allergic diseases, clinical trials on infant nutrition products and clinical trials on food allergy.

Members:

During the 27th Plenary Meeting of the Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies, the Chair appointed (in consultation with EFSA) the Chair of the Standing Working Group on Infant Nutrition. 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 Infant Nutrition is available on the EFSA website².

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

¹ 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).

² <https://ess.efsa.europa.eu/doi/doiweb/doisearch>

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 Infant Nutrition 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 Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies (2018-2021).

Expected deliverables:

Draft EFSA scientific outputs, which will be submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies.

SIGNED

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