

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON CONTAMINANTS IN THE FOOD CHAIN

## CONTAM Panel Plenary meeting



21 and 27 June 2024  
13:30-18:00 / 13:30-18:00  
MINUTES - Agreed on 27 June 2024

**Location:** EFSA (Parma)

**Attendees:**

- Panel Members:  
Margherita Bignami<sup>1</sup>, Laurent Bodin, James Kevin Chipman<sup>2</sup>, Jesús Del Mazo, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp<sup>3</sup>, Christer Hogstrand, Laurentius (Ron) Hoogenboom, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Carlo Nebbia, Elsa Nielsen, Evangelia Ntzani, Annette Petersen<sup>4</sup>, Salomon Sand, Dieter Schrenk (Chair), Tanja Schwerdtle<sup>5</sup>, Christiane Vleminckx<sup>6</sup>, Heather Wallace<sup>7</sup>
- Hearing Experts<sup>8</sup>:  
Federico Cruciani
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Frans Verstraete, Veerle Vanheusden, Ivana Poustkova (DG-SANTE)
- EFSA:  
FEEDCO\_CONTAM: Maria Anastasiadou, Mst Tazmin Akhter, Rumbidzai Changwa, Anna Christodoulidou, Chantra Eskes, Elena Gkimprixi, Eirini Kouloura, Marianna Kujawa, Mariano Lopez Romano, Luisa Ramos Bordajandi, Anamarija Romac, Elena Rovesti, Hans Steinkellner, Tuuli Tauriainen.
- Others:  
MESE\_Analysis: Francesca Riolo, Jose Ángel Gómez Ruiz

## 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 Panel members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>9</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>10</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> On 21 June participated from 15.15 CET onwards.

<sup>2</sup> Absent on 21 June.

<sup>3</sup> Absent on 27 June.

<sup>4</sup> Absent on 21 June.

<sup>5</sup> Absent on 27 June.

<sup>6</sup> Absent on 27 June.

<sup>7</sup> On 27 June participated from 15.30 CET onwards.

<sup>8</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>9</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>10</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. Agreement of the minutes of the 143<sup>rd</sup> CONTAM Panel Plenary meeting held on 4-6 June 2024, Parma**

The minutes of the 143<sup>rd</sup> Panel plenary meeting were agreed on 21 June 2024.

## **5. Report on written procedure**

The following WG Chairs were nominated by written procedure and agreed by Panel Chair:

Christer Hogstrand has been nominated as Chair of the WG BFRs, which will work on the update of the remaining Opinions within the mandate on BFRs in food.

Hans Steinkellner (EFSA staff) has been nominated as Chair of the WG Enniatins, which will work on the update of the scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of beauvericin and enniatins in feed and food, as regards enniatins.

Maria Anastassiadou (EFSA staff) has been nominated as Chair of the WG Alternaria, which will work on the update of the scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of Alternaria toxins in feed and food.

Anna Christodoulidou (EFSA staff) has been nominated as Chair of the WG Thebaine and Oripavine, which will work on the development of a scientific opinion on the risks for public health related to the presence of thebaine and Oripavine in poppy seeds and derived products.

Chantra Eskes (EFSA staff) has been nominated as Chair of the WG Phomopsins, which will work on the update of the scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of phomopsins in feed and food.

## **6. Scientific output(s) submitted for discussion/adoption**

### **6.1 Draft Opinion on complex organoarsenic species in food (EFSA-Q-2021-00525)**

The Chair of the WG Arsenic in food presented selected section of the draft Opinion on complex organoarsenic species in food for discussion and possible endorsement. The sections tabled for endorsement were Previous assessments, Legislation, Data and methodologies, Toxicokinetics, Biomarkers, Toxicity, Mode of action, Observations in humans, Occurrence data in food considered for dietary exposure assessment, and Exposure assessment. The CONTAM Panel went through the sections giving particular attention to comments received in written prior to the Plenary. All these sections were endorsed pending minor updates to be made by the WG.

### **6.2 Draft Opinion on the update of the risk assesment on PCDD/Fs and DL-PCBs in food and feed on the basis of the new 2022 WHO TEF values (EFSA-Q-2024-00227)**

The Chair of the WG on dioxins update presented the draft protocol for possible endorsement by the CONTAM Panel. The Panel members went through the protocol, introduced some amendments and endorsed it. The WG will continue with the development of the draft Opinion.

### **6.3 Draft Opinion on plant lectins in food (EFSA-Q-2024-00195)**



The Chair of the WG on lectins presented the draft protocol for possible endorsement by the CONTAM Panel. The Panel members went through the protocol, introduced some amendments and endorsed it. The WG will continue with the development of the draft Opinion.

## 7. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/ Scientific Panels/EFSA/ EC

### 7.1 European Commission

This item was postponed to upcoming Plenary meetings.

### 7.2 Scientific Panel(s) including their Working Groups

- **WG on BFRs in food<sup>11</sup>**

The Chair of the WG BFRs informed the CONTAM Panel that an error had been identified in the Opinion, in particular on the estimated chronic dietary intakes corresponding to the body burden at the BMDL for BDE-209 for reproductive effects and for neurodevelopmental effects. The members went through the sections of the Opinion that needed revision, and noted that the overall conclusions of the risk assessment were not changed, but amendments to correct the values concerned and calculated MOETs were necessary. The CONTAM Panel agreed with the proposed amendments. The amended Opinion will be republished in the EFSA Journal with an *erratum* note indicating the sections revised. To avoid confusion, the original version of the output will be removed from the EFSA Journal, but it will remain available on request.

- **WG on Feed detoxification processes<sup>12</sup>**

This item was postponed to upcoming Plenary meetings.

- **WG on Arsenic in food<sup>13</sup>**

See item 6.1.

- **WG on Lectins<sup>14</sup>**

See item 6.3.

- **WG on BEA genotoxicity<sup>15</sup>**

This item was postponed to upcoming Plenary meetings.

- **WG on Perchlorate update<sup>16</sup>**

This item was postponed to upcoming Plenary meetings.

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/chemical-contaminants/wg-BfRs.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/chemical-contaminants/contamwg-feeddetoxification.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2021-10/wg-arsenic-in-food.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-04/wg-lectins-in-food.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-04/wg-genotoxicity-of-beauvericin.pdf>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-04/wg-minutes-contam-perchlorate-in-food.pdf>



- **WG  $\Delta^8$ -THC<sup>17</sup>**

This item was postponed to upcoming Plenary meetings.

- **WG Dioxins update<sup>18</sup>**

This item was postponed to upcoming Plenary meetings.

### **7.3 Scientific Committee**

The CONTAM Panel Chair reported on matters important for the work of the Panel that were discussed at the last meeting of the EFSA Scientific Committee held 25 June 2024 (ad-hoc Plenary).

### **7.4 EFSA**

This being the last Plenary meeting of the CONTAM Panel mandate 2018-2024, EFSA and the staff within the FEEDCO Unit/CONTAM Team, acknowledged the work done by the CONTAM Panel within this mandate and thanked all Panel members very much for the fruitful collaboration.

## **8. Any other business**

None.

## **9. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 2-3 July 2024, Parma (Inaugural Plenary of the CONTAM Panel mandate 2024-2029).

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<sup>17</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-04/wg-delta8thc.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-06/wg-dioxins-update.pdf>