

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS (FCM)

1st FCM Panel meeting

2-4 July 2024

14:30-18:00 / 09:00-18:00 / 09:00-13:00

MINUTES (Agreed on 19 July 2024)



Location: EFSA, Parma

Attendees:

- FCM Panel Members:
Riccardo Crebelli, Maria da Silva, Konrad Grob, Claude Lambré, Evgenia Lampi, Maria Rosaria Milana, Marja Pronk, Gilles Rivière, Mario Ščetar, Georgios Theodoridis, Els Van Hoeck, Nadia Waegeneers
- European Commission: Jonathan Briggs, Bastiaan Schupp, Jiri Sochor
- Hearing experts: Detlef Wölfle (for agenda item 7.1), Marcel Mengelers (for agenda item 7.4)
- EFSA:
Food Ingredients and Packaging (FIP) Unit: Zainab Al Harraq, Eric Barthélémy, Gianluca Colombo, Cristina Croera, Daniele Comandella, Valeriu-Georghe Curtui, Julia Fontan Vela, Blanka Halamonda, Alexandros Lioupis, Remigio Marano, Sandra Rainieri, Elisa Savini, Vasiliki Sfika, Emmanouil Tsochatzis, Katharina Volk
Methodology and Scientific Support (MESE) Unit: Claudia Cascio, Bruno Dujardin

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Panel coordinator welcomed the participants and thanked them for their commitment towards EFSA. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Panel members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Panel 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.

An interest was declared orally by Evgenia Lampi before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declaration of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to Annex I.

4. Tour the table for introducing the members and staff

Panel members and EFSA staff introduced themselves highlighting their role and expertise.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



5. Work-program of the FCM Panel 2024-2029

The Panel coordinator presented the remit of the FCM Panel, gave an overview of its organisation and presented the work program for 2024.

A presentation showing the procedures for assessing FCM applications was given to the Panel.

Each Working Group (WG) coordinator presented the main activities of the WGs of the FCM Panel, specifically: WG on Food Contact Material (FCM WG), WG on Recycling plastics (REC WG), WG on the evaluation of substances used to reduce microbial contamination from products of animal origin (Decontamination WG), WG on Extraction solvents (EXT SOL WG) and WG on preparation for re-evaluation of phthalates, structurally similar substances and replacement substances (Phthalates WG).

The Head of Unit presented the respective roles and responsibilities of experts and staff throughout the risk assessment process and illustrated the main challenges foreseen for the FCM Panel.

6. Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Panel

The election of the Chair and the two Vice-Chairs took place following the guidelines laid down in the EFSA implementing rule of the Management Board concerning the establishment and operations of the Scientific Committee, Scientific Panels and of their Working Groups³.

Claude Lambré was elected Chair of the FCM Panel; Maria Rosaria Milana and Els van Hoeck were elected Vice-Chairs of the FCM Panel.

7. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and possible adoption

7.1 FCM 19-20 - N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)alkyl (C8-C18) amine (FCM No 19), and N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)alkyl (C8-C18) amine hydrochlorides (FCM No 20) ([EFSA-Q-2019-00483-484](#))

An overview of the assessment was presented and discussed with the Panel. The suggestions received by the Panel will be considered for the final drafting of the opinion.

7.2 Re-assessment of the risks to public health related to the presence of Styrene in plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food ([EFSA-Q-2023-00365](#))

7.3

An overview of the assessment was presented and discussed with the Panel. The suggestions received by the Panel will be considered for the final drafting of the opinion.

7.4 Wax, rice bran, oxidised and wax, rice bran, oxidised, calcium salts ([EFSA-Q-2022-00452](#))

The FCM Panel discussed all parts of the draft opinion. The opinion was unanimously adopted, subject to the incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting and editorial changes.

7.5 Hexane as a food extraction solvent ([EFSA-Q-2023-00719](#))

³ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2022-10/paneloperation_0.pdf



The FCM Panel discussed the draft 'technical report on the need for re-evaluation of the safety of hexane used as an extraction solvent in the production of foodstuffs and food ingredients'. The report was unanimously endorsed, pending some changes as suggested during the meeting. The report will be finalised and validated internally by EFSA.

8. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

The Scientific guidance on the criteria for the evaluation of post-consumer mechanical PET recycling was presented to the Panel. Then followed a presentation of an example of PET recycling assessment carried out previously by the CEP Panel.

An overview of the Transparency Regulation was presented to the Panel.

9. New mandates

Food Sector	EFSA-Q-Number	Subject	Validity date
FCM	EFSA-Q-2024-00224	Application for the authorisation of poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline) as a new substance to be used in plastic for food contact uses	26/06/2024

10. AoB

The Panel coordinator presented to the Panel the dates of the plenary meetings for 2024 and 2025.

The next FCM Panel meeting will take place online from 17th to 19th September 2024.



Annex I

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

With regard to this meeting, Dr. Evgenia Lampi declared that she was appointed to participate to a Working Party on exposure assessment under the remit of the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation Development (OECD). The focus of this working party is on the development of Emission Scenario Documents (EDS) on the estimation releases of chemicals to the environment (Environmental Hazard/Risk Assessment). In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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.