

2 December 2024

9:00-16:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 6 December 2024

Location: Web conference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Josef Schlatter (chair), Laurentius (Ron) Hoogenboom, Roberto Edoardo Villa
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
Nutrition and Food Innovation Unit (NIF): Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré
Feed and Contaminants Unit (FEEDCO) : Maria Anastassiadou
Methodology and Scientific Support (MESE) Unit: Petra Gergelová

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.
Apologies were received from Angela Bearth.

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 Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group (WG) 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.

¹ 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>

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

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 2 December 2024, via web-conference

The minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 6 December 2024.

V. Scientific topics for discussion

a. Workplan

The WG finalised the assessment of selected issues and related default values with a focus on issues not tackled at the 1st WG meeting held in September 2024: exposure extrapolation from subacute to (sub)chronic, absence of a NOAEL, intake values for breast-fed babies, body weight by weeks, default drinking volume and feed consumption for experimental animals. Specific tasks and actions for addressing the selected issues were agreed upon.

b. Feedback from the WG Experts

Several currently ongoing MESE mandates and activities connected to the mandate on revision of default values were presented. The feedback received from Member States Focal Points on the use and applicability of default values at national level was shared. The Experts reviewed and discussed a supporting documentation relevant for revision of default values for human body weight, an up-to-date analysis of body weight in European population was discussed and follow-up tasks were agreed upon.

c. Interpretation of the Terms of reference

The WG was informed about the initiated MESE self-task mandate on Margin of Exposure and discussed possible implications and need for interaction with the WG on Default Values.

VI. Any Other Business

The calendar for the WG meetings in 2025 was discussed and agreed.

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 15 and 16 January 2025 as one full-day meeting (15 January 2025) and one half-day meeting (16 January 2025), in Parma.

20 September 2024

14:00-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 30 September 2024

Location: Web conference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Josef Schlatter (chair), Angela Bearth, Laurentius (Ron) Hoogenboom, Roberto Edoardo Villa
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
Nutrition and Food Innovation Unit (NIF) : Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarrè
Methodology and Scientific Support (MESE) Unit: Petra Gergelová, Daniela Maurici

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 Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group (WG) 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.

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

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting held on 20 September 2024, via web-conference

The minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 30 September 2024.

V. Scientific topics for discussion

a. Presentation of the mandate. ([EFSA-Q-2024-00409](#))

The self-task mandate requested by EFSA was presented to the WG. In brief, the mandate tasks the WG to revise and update the existing guidance on selected assumptions and default values to be used in a harmonised way across the EFSA Scientific Committee, Scientific Panels and Units in the absence of actual measured data. The current 2012 guidance was introduced, and an overview of the related previous activities were presented and discussed.

b. Interpretation of the Terms of reference and the Workplan

The WG reviewed and clarified the Terms of reference. In particular, the WG assessed a list of selected issues and the related default values present in the current 2012 guidance or raised during the preparatory activities held in the Scientific Committee in last two years. Specific tasks and actions for addressing the default values and assumptions of the selected issues were agreed upon. The timeframe of activities and scheduling of WG meetings were discussed in the context of the timeline of the mandate.

VI. Any Other Business

The Doodle polls to agree on meeting in 2025 will be circulated as soon as possible.

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 2 December 2024 as one full-day meeting, via web conference.
