Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources added to Food (ANS)

Minutes of the 77th Plenary meeting

Held on 23-24 October 2017, WTC Zuid – Amsterdam (Netherlands)

(Agreed on 13 November 2017)

Participants

- Panel Members:

  Peter Aggett, Fernando Aguilar[1], Riccardo Crebelli, Birgit Dusemund[1], Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Pierre Galtier, David Gott, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Gunter Georg Kuhnle, Claude Lambré, Jean-Charles Leblanc[1], Inger Therese Lillegaard, Peter Moldeus, Alicja Mortensen, Ivan Stankovic, Ine Waalkens-Berendsen, Rudolf Antonius Woutersen, Matthew Wright, and Maged Younes

- Hearing Experts:

  Agenda item 6.1 and 6.2: Paul Tobback

  Agenda item 6.5: Pasquale Mosesso

- European Commission representatives:

  DG SANTE (Health and Food Safety), E2 Food processing technologies and novel foods: Andreia Alvarez Porto

- EFSA:

  FIP Unit: Fabiola Pizzo, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed all participants.

Apologies were received from Metka Filipič and Agneta Oskarsson for the whole meeting.

Ine Waalkens-Berendsen did not participate in agenda points 1-6.1 and 9.1.

Jean-Charles Leblanc did not participate in agenda point 6.5.

Birgit Dusemund did not participate in agenda point 6.5 due to a Conflict of Interest being identified for the agenda item.

[1] Participated via web conference

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without any changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Panel Members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes[2] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest[3], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest and the Specific Declarations of Interest filled in by the Panel Members invited for the present meeting.

Oral Declaration of Interest was asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 76th Plenary meeting held on 26-28 September 2017, Parma (Italy)

The minutes of the 76th Plenary meeting held on 26-28 September were agreed by written procedure on 17 October 2017[4].

5. Report on the written procedures since 76th Plenary meeting

No scientific outputs were adopted by written procedure since the last plenary meeting.

6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and possible adoption

6.1. Re-evaluation of silicon dioxide (E 551) (EFSA-Q-2011-00576)

The draft opinion on the re-evaluation of silicon dioxide (E 551) was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The draft opinion will be further elaborated by the WG following the recommendations from the ANS Panel.

The revised draft opinion will be scheduled for discussion and possible adoption at the next plenary meeting.

6.2. Safety in use of low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose (L-HPC) as a food additive (EFSA-Q-2016-00843)

The draft opinion on the safety in use of low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose (L-HPC) as a new food additive proposed for use in food supplements supplied in tablet form was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The ANS Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and unanimously adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

The full opinion will be available on the Authority's webpage.

[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf
[3] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf
[4] https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/170925

6.3. Safety of nisin (E 234) as a food additive in the light of new toxicological data and the proposed extension of use (EFSA-Q-2017-00097)

The draft opinion on the evaluation of new toxicological data and the proposed extension of use of nisin (E 234) in the food categories unripened cheese and heat-treated meat products was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The ANS Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and unanimously adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

The full opinion will be available on the Authority's webpage.

6.4. Extension of use of lycopene (E 160d) to certain meat preparations, meat products and fruit and vegetable preparations (EFSA-Q-2017-00098)

The draft opinion on the proposed extension of use of lycopene (E 160d) to certain meat preparations, meat products and fruit and fruit and vegetable preparations was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The ANS Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and unanimously adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

The full opinion will be available on the Authority's webpage.

6.5. Scientific opinion on the safety of hydroxyanthracene derivatives (EFSA-Q-2016-00562)

The draft opinion on the safety evaluation of hydroxyanthracene derivatives performed under the framework of Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No1925/2006 was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The draft opinion will be further elaborated by the WG following the recommendations from the ANS Panel.

The revised draft opinion will be scheduled for discussion and possible adoption at the next plenary meeting.

7. New Mandates

The Secretariat informed the members of the ANS Panel that the following new mandate was received:

- M-2017-0178: Request for a new scientific opinion on Ferric Sodium EDTA (EFSA-Q-2017-00696)

The mandate is currently under consideration by the Application Desk (APDESK) Unit of EFSA.

The Secretariat also informed the members of the ANS Panel about the following application, considered valid since the previous meeting:

- M-2017-0121: Request for EFSA to perform a risk assessment and to provide a scientific opinion on the safety in use of Monk fruit extract/Luo han guo (LHG) extract as a food additive (EFSA-Q-2017-00527)

8. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/Scientific Panels, EFSA, the European Commission

The Chairs of the Working Groups of the ANS Panel provided brief feedback on their ongoing activities.

Further to the initial discussion at the 75th ANS Panel plenary meeting, the European Commission's representative informed the Panel about a draft mandate currently under preparation, for the risk assessment of substances present in food intended for infants below 16 weeks of age and permitted for use in category 13.1 of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008. Scope of this mandate is both to follow-up with the safety assessment in this specific age group for those food additives for which the re-evaluation has already been completed by the ANS Panel, as well as to ensure that assessment for this age group is incorporated in the ongoing assessment for the re-evaluation of food additives and aligned to the recommendation from the relevant EFSA Scientific Guidance[5].

9. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

9.1. Scientific opinion on a proposed amendment of the specifications of the food additive Steviol glycosides (E 960) (EFSA-Q-2017-00036)

The Chair of the WG Applications sought feedback from the ANS Panel with respect to certain aspects of the data required to support the evaluation of the proposed modifications to the already authorised food additive steviol glycosides (E 960).

Based on the advice received from the ANS Panel, additional information will be sought from the applicant.

10. Any Other Business

10.1. Presentation Corporate "Guidelines for Observers"

In preparation for the coming ANS Panel plenary meeting on 21-23 November 2017 with a session open to observers, the Secretariat presented the relevant EFSA Guidelines, as revised in February 2017.

[5] EFSA Scientific Committee. Guidance on the risk assessment of substances present in food intended for infants below 16 weeks of age. EFSA Journal 2017;15(5):4849, 58 pp. doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2017.4849

Annex

Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI) or Specific Declarations of Interest (SDoI)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: In her SDoI Dr Birgit Dusemund declared the following interest: In June 2014, on behalf of the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), finalisation of an unpublished report on the safety evaluation of "whole *Aloe arborescens* leaves" as food supplements. This included an evaluation of hydroxyanthracene derivatives as the main components of this botanical. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes[6] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest[7], and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest.

This results in exclusion of the expert from any discussion, voting or other processing of item 6.5 by the concerned scientific group.

[6] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf
[7] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf