



EFSA
European Food Safety Authority

Panel on Dietetic products, Nutrition and Allergies

26 October 2005

**MINUTES OF THE 11TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE
SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON DIETETIC PRODUCTS, NUTRITION AND ALLERGIES
HELD ON 5 OCTOBER 2005**

PARTICIPANTS

Panel members:

- Wulf Becker
- Jean-Louis Bresson
- Albert Flynn
- Pagona Lagiou
- Martinus Løvik
- Geltrude Mingrone
- Bevan Moseley
- Andreu Palou
- Hildegard Przyrembel
- Seppo Salminen
- Stephan Strobel
- Hendrik van Loveren

EFSA staff:

- Pilar Rodríguez Iglesias

European Commission:

- Jacques Humières¹
- Andreas Klepsch¹
- Helen Lee¹
- Ana Nieto Nuez²
- Sabine Osaer¹

¹ DG Health and Consumer Protection

² DG Research

1. WELCOME TO MEMBERS, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Francesco Branca, Daniel Brasseur, Alan Jackson and Henk van den Berg.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In relation to agenda item 8.1 “Draft opinion on a formula based on whey protein partial hydrolysates with a protein content of at least 1.9 g protein/100 kcal” the following interests have been declared: Professor Hildegard Przyrembel declared giving a lecture on a topic unrelated to item 8.1 during a symposium financed by the applicant. Professor Seppo Salminen declared an indirect interest that his institute had received a financial contribution (i.e. grant) from the applicant for a project unrelated to item 8.1.

No other declarations of interest were made in relation to the items on the agenda.

4. CO-ORDINATION WITH EFSA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND OTHER EFSA PANELS

The AFC Panel has been requested to assess a very large number of dossiers on food supplements pursuant to the food supplements Directive 2002/46/EC. Annex II of the Directive is a list of permitted vitamin or mineral preparations that may be added for specific nutritional purposes in food supplements. The trade of products containing vitamins and minerals not listed in Annex II is prohibited from the 1st of August 2005. Vitamin and mineral substances may be considered for inclusion in the lists following the evaluation of an appropriate scientific dossier concerning the safety and bioavailability of the individual substance. The AFC Panel is seeking assistance from the NDA Panel to cover the nutritional aspects (e.g. bioavailability) of the assessment of these dossiers.

5. GENERAL INFORMATION BY EFSA ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE PANEL

The Panel was informed of a working document discussed at the previous meeting of the Scientific Committee (SC) on a possible strategy for scientific expert meetings in Parma. The objective of this paper was to address the concerns expressed by the SC/Panel experts in relation to the move of the EFSA offices to Parma and to provide a first view on possible EFSA measures.

It was emphasized that EFSA prefers to have both its plenary meetings as well as its WG meetings in Parma, but that it wishes to apply a strategy that needs to be sensible and sufficiently flexible for the experts working for the SC/Panels as well as EFSA’s staff. The Panel was also informed that the financial compensation system would be reconsidered

following a comparison between the current system and the one applied by some Commission services, such as DG Research.

The scientific co-ordinator briefed the Panel on a meeting of the Chairs of all Community's Scientific Committees involved in risk assessment that will take place on 7-8 December 2005 in Brussels.

Finally, the Panel was informed about the procedure and timetable for the appointment of Geoffrey Podger's successor. It was also announced that the Management Board approved at its last meeting the appointment of Herman Koëter to become the Acting Executive Director once Geoffrey Podger would leave on the 26th of November 2005. Antoine Cuvillier, currently Head of Legal Affairs, has been appointed to become the Acting Deputy Executive Director, and Djien Liem, currently the scientific co-ordinator of the Scientific Committee, would be the Acting Director of Science.

The Chair expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Panel for all the work done by Geoffrey Podger in the first years of operation of EFSA and wished him all the best for the future.

6. NOVEL FOODS

6.1 Draft opinion on chia seed and ground whole chia seeds as a novel food ingredient

The draft opinion prepared by the Working Group on Novel Foods was introduced and discussed. The opinion was adopted subject to the incorporation of modifications agreed upon by the Panel.

The text of the full opinion appears on the EFSA web site, available at: http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/nda/nda_opinions/catindex_en.html.

7. FOOD ALLERGY: UPDATE OF ANNEX IIIA OF DIRECTIVE 2000/13/EC

7.1 Draft opinion on the evaluation of fructose for labelling purposes

The draft opinion prepared by the Working Group on Food Allergy was introduced and discussed. The opinion was adopted subject to the incorporation of modifications agreed upon by the Panel.

The text of the full opinion appears on the EFSA web site, available at: http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/nda/nda_opinions/catindex_en.html.

8. INFANT FORMULAE

8.1 Draft opinion on a formula based on whey protein partial hydrolysates with a protein content of at least 1.9 g protein/100 kcal

The draft opinion prepared by the Working Group on Infant Formulae was introduced and discussed. The opinion was adopted subject to the incorporation of modifications agreed upon by the Panel.

The text of the full opinion appears on the EFSA web site, available at: http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/nda/nda_opinions/catindex_en.html.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

10. ADOPTION OF THESE MINUTES

These minutes were adopted by written procedure on 9 November 2005.