



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 21th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (CORE) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

Held on 14 September 2020, TELE/Web

(Agreed on 21 September 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Méssean, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbriggen.

■ Hearing Experts¹:

Boet Glandorf and Christoph Tebbe

■ EFSA:

GMO Unit: Andrea Gennaro, Nikoletta Papadopoulou, Franz Streissl

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 20th Working Group meeting held on 24 June 2020, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 20th Working Group meeting held on 24 June 2020 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Revision of the draft scientific opinion

Revisions to the draft scientific opinion in light of the public consultation comments were discussed. The draft scientific opinion will go for finalisation.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

none

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 20th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (CORE) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

Held on 24 June 2020, TELE/Web

(Agreed on 15 July 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Méssean, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbriggen.

■ Hearing Experts¹:

Boet Glandorf (item 5) and Christoph Tebbe

■ EC:

DG SANTE: Alexandre Huchelmann and Hans Moons

■ EFSA:

GMO Unit: Andrea Gennaro and Nikoletta Papadopoulou

APLHA Unit: Franz Streissl

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Salvatore Arpaia.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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. Certain interests were declared orally by the members before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declarations of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the Annex I.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 19th Working Group meeting held on 8 June 2020, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 19th Working Group meeting held on 8 June 2020 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Public consultation comments

Experts and EFSA staff drafted responses for all comments received through the online public consultation on the draft EFSA GMO Panel scientific opinion on the molecular characterisation and environmental risk assessment of GM plants obtained through synthetic biology. The public consultation was open from 31st March⁵ 2020 till 4 June 2020 (included).

5.2. Revision of the draft scientific opinion

Revisions to the draft scientific opinion in light of the public consultation comments were also discussed.

6. Any Other Business

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/consultationsplanner>



6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

September 16 (date to be confirmed), 10:00-17:00



Annex I

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

- With regard to this meeting, Dr Adinda De Schrijver declared the following interest: as a representative of Sciensano, she was responsible to submit the comments made during EFSA's public consultation of the draft SynBio Plant ERA GMO Panel opinion, on behalf of the Belgian Biosafety Advisory Council⁶. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁷ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁸, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest (CoI).
This resulted in the exclusion of the expert from the meeting when discussions, voting or other processing of comments submitted by the Belgian Biosafety Advisory Council were discussed under items 5.1-5.2, by the concerned scientific group.
- With regard to this meeting, Dr Boet Glandorf declared the following interest: as a representative of the GMO Office of the National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), she was responsible to submit the comments made during EFSA's public consultation of the draft SynBio Plant ERA GMO Panel opinion on behalf of RIVM⁹.
Participation of the hearing expert in the present meeting was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group (i.e. not possible to draft or be involved in the discussion or the adoption of a scientific output), in accordance with the applicable legal framework¹⁰.

⁶ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/call/public-consultation-gmo-panel-draft-scientific-opinion-evaluation>

⁷ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁸ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/call/public-consultation-gmo-panel-draft-scientific-opinion-evaluation>

¹⁰ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 19th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (CORE) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

Held on 8 June 2020, TELE/Web

(Agreed on 23 June 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Méssean, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbriggen

■ Hearing Experts¹:

None

■ EC:

Alexandre Huchelmann

■ EFSA:

GMO Unit: Andrea Gennaro and Nikoletta Papadopoulou

APLHA Unit: Franz Streissl

SCER: Reinhilde Schoonjans

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 18th Working Group meeting held on 13 January 2020, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 18th Working Group meeting held on 11 February 2020 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Public consultation comments

Experts and EFSA staff discussed the comments received through the online public consultation on the draft EFSA GMO Panel scientific opinion on the molecular characterisation and environmental risk assessment of GM plants obtained through synthetic biology. The public consultation was open from 31st March⁵ 2020 till 4 June 2020 (included).

5.2. Revision of the draft scientific opinion

Revisions to the draft scientific opinion in light of the public consultation comments were also discussed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

June 24, 10:00-17:00

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/consultationsplanner>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 18th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (CORE) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

Held on 11 February 2020, TELE/WEB

(Agreed on 17 February 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Méssean, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbriggen

■ Hearing Experts¹:

None

■ EC:

Ilaria Maria Giabatti

■ EFSA:

GMO Unit: Andrea Gennaro and Nikoletta Papadopoulou

APLHA Unit: Franz Streissl

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 17th Working Group meeting held on 13 January 2020, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 17th Working Group meeting held on 13 January 2020 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Finalisation of the draft opinion

Experts and EFSA staff discussed the feedback of the GMO Panel following endorsement of the SynBio plant ERA draft opinion for public consultation. The WG finalised the draft opinion which will enter the consultation process by the 31st March.⁵

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

12 May, 2020 TELE/WEB

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/consultationsplanner>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

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MINUTES OF THE 17th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (CORE) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

Held on 13 January 2020, TELE/Web

(Agreed on 22 January 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Méssean, Ewen Mullins and Matias Zurbringgen,
- Hearing Experts¹:
None
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Fernando Álvarez, Yann Devos, Andrea Gennaro and Nikoletta Papadopoulou
APLHA Unit: Franz Streissl
- Others:
Not Applicable

¹ 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Nicola Patron.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 16th Working Group meeting held on 24-25 October 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 16th Working Group meeting held on 2 December 2019 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Discussion of the GMO Panel output

Experts and EFSA staff discussed the SynBio plant ERA draft opinion. Next steps and actions were discussed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

February 11, 14:00-16:00

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 16th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (CORE) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

Held on 2 December 2019, TELE/Web

(Agreed on 2 December 2019)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Messéan, Ewen Mullins and Matias Zurbringgen

■ Hearing Experts¹:

None

■ EFSA:

GMO Unit: Fernando Álvarez, Yann Devos, Andrea Gennaro and Nikoletta Papadopoulou
APLHA Unit: Franz Streissl

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Nicola Patron.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 15th Working Group meeting held on 24-25 October 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 15th Working Group meeting held on 24-25 October 2019 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Discussion of the GMO Panel output

Experts and EFSA staff discussed the comments and feedback received from the GMO Panel meeting (27 November 2019) on the SynBio plant ERA draft opinion. Next steps and actions were discussed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

To be scheduled

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 15th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (CORE) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

**Held on 24-25 October 2019, Parma
(Agreed on 29 October 2019)¹**

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Messean, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron, Matias Zurbringgen (TELE)

■ Hearing Experts²:

None

■ EFSA:

GMO Unit: Fernando Alvarez, Yann Devos, Andrea Gennaro, Nikoletta Papadopoulou

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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 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 14th Working Group meeting held on 23 September 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 14th Working Group meeting held on 23 September 2019 were agreed.⁵

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Discussion of the GMO Panel output

Experts and EFSA staff discussed the outcome of the assessment of existing guidelines for SynBio plant ERA and drafted text for the GMO Panel scientific opinion.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meetings

15 November 2019 (TELE; MC group)

5 December 2020 (TELE 2-5pm; core group)

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

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 14th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

TELE-conference, 23 September 2019

(Agreed on 23 September 2019)¹

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Ewen Mullins
- Hearing Experts²:
Boet Glandorf and Christoph Tebbe
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Yann Devos and Andrea Gennaro
- Others:
Not Applicable

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. No apologies for absence were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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 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 13th Working Group meeting held on 20 September 2019

The minutes of the 13th Working Group meeting held on 20 September 2019 were agreed.⁵

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Applicability of EFSA guidelines using selected case studies for SynBio GM plants

EFSA staff/experts discussed the adequacy of the data requirements given in EFSA (2010) for the assessment of potential adverse effects on biogeochemical processes of GM plants obtained through synthetic biology using selected case studies.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

24-25 October 2019 (Parma)

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

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 13th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

**Held on 20 September 2019 Parma
(Agreed on 26 September 2019)¹**

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Tamas Dalmay, Josep Casacuberta

- Hearing Experts:
None

- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Nikoletta Papadopoulou

- Others:
NA

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. No apologies for absence were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.



3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 12th Working Group meeting held on 11 September 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 12th Working Group meeting held on 11 September 2019 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Structure of the GMO Panel output

EFSA staff/experts discussed the structure/outline and content of the molecular characterisation part of the GMO Panel scientific opinion on SynBio plants.

5.2. Assessment of EFSA GMO Panel (2011)

EFSA staff/experts discussed the suitability of several sections of the EFSA guidelines (2011) for the molecular characterisation for food and feed risk assessment of GM plants and reviewed them in light of the respective mandate on SynBio of the European Commission.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

23 September 2019 (TELE)

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 12th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

TELE-conference, 11 September 2019

(Agreed on 11 September 2019)¹

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Ewen Mullins
- Hearing Experts²:
Salvatore Arpaia
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Fernando Álvarez, Andrea Gennaro and Franz Streissl
- Others:
Not Applicable

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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 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 11th Working Group meeting held on 9 September 2019

The minutes of the 11th Working Group meeting held on 9 September 2019 were agreed.⁵

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Applicability of EFSA guidelines using selected case studies for SynBio GM plants

EFSA staff/experts discussed the adequacy of several data requirements for the environmental risk assessment (i.e. interactions of the GM plant with target and non-target organisms) of the ERA GMO Panel Guidance Document (2010) for the selected case studies relevant to the mandate on SynBio of the European Commission.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

23 September 2019 (TELE/WEB)

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

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/qmo/wq-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 11th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

TELE-conference, 9 September 2019

(Agreed on 9 September 2019)¹

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Adinda De Schrijver
- Hearing Experts²:
Christoph Tebbe
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
 - Not Applicable
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Fernando Álvarez and Andrea Gennaro
- Others:
Not Applicable

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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 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 10th Working Group meeting held on 3 September 2019

The minutes of the 10th Working Group meeting held on 3 September 2019 were agreed.⁵

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. ERA of GM SynBio plants

EFSA staff/experts assessed the suitability of the 2010 ERA GMO Panel guidance document for the area of risk – plant to micro-organism gene transfer - for the selected case studies of the mandate.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

11 September 2019 (TELE-conference)

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

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 10th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (CORE) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

TELE-conference, 3 September 2019

(Agreed on 3 September 2019)¹

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Messean, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron, Matias Zurbriggen
- Hearing Experts²:
None
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
DG SANTE: Ilaria Ciabatti
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Yann Devos, Andrea Gennaro, Nikoletta Papadopoulou
- Others:
Not Applicable

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. Apologies received by Josep Casacuberta.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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 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 5th Working Group meeting held on 8 May 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 9th Working Group meeting held on 19 July 2019 were agreed.⁵

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Structure of the GMO Panel output

EFSA staff/experts discussed the structure/outline and content of the GMO Panel scientific opinion on SynBio plants.

5.2. Assessment of EFSA GMO Panel (2010, 2011)

EFSA staff/experts discussed the suitability of several sections of the EFSA guidelines (2010, 2011) for the environmental risk assessment and the molecular characterisation for food and feed risk assessment of GM plants, and reviewed them in light of the respective mandate on SynBio of the European Commission.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

9 September 2019 (TELE; ERA (HGT) group)

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

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 9th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

**Held on 19 July 2019 Parma
(Agreed on 22 July 2019)¹**

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Tamas Dalmay, Josep Casacuberta, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbriggen

- Hearing Experts:
None

- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Nikoletta Papadopoulou

- Others:
NA

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. No apologies for absence were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.



3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 8th Working Group meeting held on 20 June 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 8th Working Group meeting held on 20 June 2019 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Assessment of EFSA guidelines

EFSA staff/experts discussed the requirements for the molecular characterisation (MC) in GMO applications from the EFSA guidance document (2011) and the implementing regulation (EU) 503/2013, and their suitability for the risk assessment of SynBio plant applications. The draft structure of the scientific opinion for the MC section was also discussed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

3 September 2019 (TELE)

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/gmo/wq-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 8th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

**Held on 20 June 2019, Parma
(Agreed on 20 June 2019)¹**

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbruggen
- Hearing Experts:
None
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
DG SANTE: Ilaria Ciabatti
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Yann Devos and Nikoletta Papadopoulou
SCER Unit: Caterina Barrasso
- Others:
NA

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. No apologies for absence were received.

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.



2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 7th Working Group meeting held on 5 June 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 7th Working Group meeting held on 5 June 2019 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Possible plant SynBio applications in the next 10 years

Experts were updated about the submission of the final deliverables by JKI for the procurement "NP/EFSA/SCER/2018/02 – Mapping of plant SynBio developments in the agri-food sector". Relevant case studies were selected by the experts.

5.2. Assessment of EFSA guidelines

EFSA staff/experts discussed the requirements for the GMO applications outlined in the EFSA guidance documents for ERA and MC (2010, 2011 respectively), and their suitability for the risk assessment of SynBio plants applications. The reporting format of the adequacy assessment in the scientific opinion was also discussed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

19 July (TELE)

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (MC) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

TELE-conference, 5 June 2019

(Agreed on 24 June 2019)¹

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay
- Hearing Experts²:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Nikoletta Papadopoulou
- Others:
Not Applicable

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. Certain interests were declared orally by the members before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declaration(s) of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the **Annex**.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting held on 8 May 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting held on 8 May 2019 were agreed.⁵

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Applicability of EFSA guidelines using selected case studies for SynBio

EFSA staff/experts discussed the data requirements for the molecular characterisation in GMO applications based on the EFSA guidance (2011), and their relevance for the risk assessment of selected case studies relevant to plant SynBio ERA developments.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

20 June 2019 (Parma; core group)

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

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



Annex

With regards to this meeting, Prof. Josep Casacuberta declared the following interest: *participation to the Scientific Committee of ARRIGE (arrige.org)*. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was deemed to potentially represent a Conflict of Interest (CoI). As a precautionary measure, until the new interest has been fully assessed by EFSA, the expert has been excluded from this meeting of the concerned scientific group.



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 6th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

**Held on 8 May 2019 Tele/Web
(Agreed on 8 May 2019)¹**

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbriggen
- Hearing Experts²:
Frank Hartung, Thorben Sprink and Ralf Wilhelm
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
DG SANTE: Ilaria Ciabatti
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Yann Devos, Nikoletta Papadopoulou and Tommaso Raffaello
SCER Unit: Caterina Barrasso and Reinhilde Schoonjans
- Others:
NA

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants. Apologies for absence were received from Antoine Messéan.

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² 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>



2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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 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. Declarations of Interest of Hearing experts

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA invited Frank Hartung, Thorben Sprink and Ralf Wilhelm to submit an Annual Declaration of Interest. Their participation in the present meeting was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group (i.e. not possible to draft or be involved in the discussion or the adoption of a scientific output), in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

5. Agreement of the minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting held on 3 May 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting held on 3 May 2019 were agreed.⁵

6. Scientific topics for discussion

6.1. Possible plant SynBio applications in the next 10 years

JKI presented the outcome of the procurement "NP/EFSA/SCER/2018/02 – Mapping of plant SynBio developments in the agri-food sector". Experts discussed plant SynBio developments that might potentially move to commercial/practical applications within the next 10 years.

6.2. Selection of case studies

EFSA staff/experts discussed case study selection for the activities of the Working Group.

7. Any Other Business

7.1. Not Applicable

8. Next meeting

5 June (TELE, MC)

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

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 5th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP (MC) ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

**Held on 3 May 2019, TELE/WEB
(Agreed on 8 May 2019)¹**

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay
- Hearing Experts²:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Nikoletta Papadopoulou
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² 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>



3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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 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 4th Working Group meeting held on 25 March 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting held on 25 March 2019 were agreed.⁵

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Possible plant SynBio applications in the next 10 years

EFSA staff/experts discussed the data requirements for the molecular characterisation in GMO applications based on the EFSA guidance (2011), and their relevance for the risk assessment of possible plant SynBio developments.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

8 May 2019 (TELE-conference; core group)

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

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

TELE-conference, 25 March 2019

(Agreed on 25 March 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Messéan, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbriggen
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
DG SANTE: Ilaria Ciabatti
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Yann Devos, Nikoletta Papadopoulou and Tommaso Raffaello
SCER Unit: Caterina Barrasso and Reinhilde Schoonjans
- Others:
Not Applicable

¹ 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>



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting held on 20 March 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting held on 20 March 2019 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Possible plant SynBio applications in the next 10 years

Experts introduced plant SynBio developments that might potentially move to commercial/practical applications within the next 10 years. EFSA updated the experts on the on-going procurement "NP/EFSA/SCER/2018/02 – Mapping of plant SynBio developments in the agri-food sector".

5.2. Outline/structure of the mandated output

EFSA staff/experts discussed the potential outline and structure of the mandated output.

5.3. Expertise needs

EFSA staff/experts discussed additional expertise needs for the working group.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

3 May 2019, TELE/WEB

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 3rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

TELE-conference, 20 March 2019

(Agreed on 20 March 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Messéan and Ewen Mullins
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
 - Not Applicable
- EFSA:
GMO Unit: Yann Devos
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

EFSA welcomed the participants.

¹ 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>



2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 5 March 2019, TELE-conference

The minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 5 March 2019 were agreed.⁴

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Expertise needs

EFSA staff/experts discussed additional expertise needs for the working group.

5.2. Outline/structure of the mandated output

EFSA staff/experts discussed the potential outline and structure of the mandated output.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

25 March 2019 (TELE-conference)

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>



GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

MINUTES OF THE 2ND MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY (SYNBIO) PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT (ERA)

**Held on 5 March 2019, TELE/WEB
(Agreed on 18 March 2019)**

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Josep Casacuberta and Tamas Dalmay,
- Hearing Experts¹:
 - none
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
 - DG SANTE:
- EFSA:
 - GMO Unit: Nikoletta Papadopoulou
- Others:
 - Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

¹ 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>.



3. 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 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of 1st Working Group meeting held on 24 January 2019 via TELE/WEB.

The minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting held on 24 January 2019 were agreed on 30 January 2019.⁴

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The Experts discussed the data requirements for the molecular characterisation in GMO applications, and their relevance for the risk assessment of potential SynBio developments.⁵

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Next meeting(s)

The next meeting is scheduled on the 25 March 2019.

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

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/gmo/wg-plant-synbio-ERA.pdf>

⁵ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2018-01000>

Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Working Group on Synthetic Biology (SynBio) Plant Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA)

**Held on 24 January 2019, TELE/WEB
(Agreed on 30 January 2019)**

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

- Josep Casacuberta, Tamas Dalmay, Adinda De Schrijver, Antoine Messéan, Ewen Mullins, Nicola Patron and Matias Zurbriggen

- **Hearing Experts¹:**

- None

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

- DG SANTE: Ilaria Ciabatti

- **EFSA:**

- GMO Unit: Yann Devos, Nikoletta Papadopoulou, Tommaso Raffaello and Matthew Ramon
- SCER Unit: Caterina Barrasso and Reinhilde Schoonjans

- **Others:**

- None

¹ 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>.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. 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 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.

4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1. Introduction to the mandate

EFSA staff introduced the [mandate](#) and its scope, as well as the associated timeline and expected deliverables.

4.2. Plant SynBio developments within the remit of this working group

The Experts discussed the working context of SynBio developments in the frame of this working group for case-study selection.

4.3. Possible plant SynBio applications in the next 10 years

Experts introduced some possible plant SynBio developments that might move to commercial/practical applications within the next 10 years.

5. Next meeting

To be determined.

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