



FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 30th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 25-26 March 2021, web-conference

(Agreed on 26 March 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli (1st day), Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Jiri Sochor

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific outputs for discussion

A break-out session of the sub-group exposure was held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

5.1 Neotame (E 961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740

The full draft opinion was discussed and revised: technical part, exposure assessment, toxicological part, discussion and uncertainties, including the latest set of data submitted by interested parties (technical and toxicological data).

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.2 Thaumatin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725

The results on the exposure assessment of thaumatin (E 957) were discussed.

Technical data: a discussion on some part of the technical section of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) took place.

Toxicological data: the approach for the weight of evidence and data extraction, according to the protocol on hazard identification and characterisation, was discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.3 Steering on genotoxicity (neotame, neohesperidine DC, sucralose)

Following the assessment of the data available on genotoxicity for the three opinions on neotame, neohesperidine DC and sucralose, a discussion took place to decide on the way to move forward.

5.4 Sucralose (E 955) EFSA-Q-2011-00724

The results on the exposure assessment of sucralose (E 955) were discussed.

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



Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.5 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726

The results on the exposure assessment of neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.6 Saccharin (E 954) EFSA-Q-2011-00725

An update on the exposure assessment of saccharin (E 954) was presented. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 30th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 25-26 March 2021 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 26 April (PM) and 30 April (AM;PM) (web-conference)



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 29th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 28-29 January 2021, web-conference

(Agreed on 29 January 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (1st day only), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace (1st day only), Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
 - FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.
 - DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath and Francesca Riolo.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Peter Fürst.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Break-out sessions of the sub-groups on chemistry and exposure were held in parallel with the rest of the meeting.

5.1 Implementation of the protocol

A discussion on how to perform the next steps on data extraction and weight of evidence, according to the protocol on hazard identification and characterisation, took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

The main points of discussion will be implemented on the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957) as a pilot.

5.2 Thaumatin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725

The results on the exposure assessment of thaumatin (E 957) were discussed.

Technical data: a discussion on some aspects of the technical part of the draft opinion on thaumatin (E 957), following the information received by interested business operators, took place.

Toxicological data: some clarifications on the risk of bias tables for both animals and human studies on thaumatin (E 957) were discussed. The genotoxicity section of the draft opinion on thaumatin was also discussed.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.3. Neotame (E 961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740

The results of the exposure assessment of neotame (E 961) were discussed.

Technical data: a discussion on some aspects of the technical part of the draft opinion on neotame (E 961), following the information received by the interested business operator, took place.

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



Other parts of the draft opinion (e.g. Discussion) were also discussed as well as the outcome of the updated literature search.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.4 Sucralose (E 955) EFSA-Q-2011-00724

The results on the exposure assessment of sucralose (E 955) were discussed.

Toxicological data: the relevance of some of the toxicity studies, included after the screening for relevance step of the protocol, was discussed.

An update on some changes applied in the Distiller tools were also presented.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.5 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726

The results on the exposure assessment of neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed.

Some issues on the data available were presented to the WG and the steering on the next steps to move forward were noted.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 29th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 28-29 January 2021 were agreed.

6.2. Next meeting: 25-26 March 2021 (web-conference)



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 28th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 27 November 2020, web-conference

(Agreed on 27 November 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Giorgia Vianello.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Break-out sessions of the sub-groups on chemistry, exposure and epidemiology were held in parallel with the morning session.

5.1 Neotame (E 961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740

The results of the exposure assessment of neotame (E 961) were discussed.

Toxicological data/Implementation of the protocol: a discussion on the risk assessment approach for the safety evaluation of neotame (E 961) took place.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.2 Sucralose (E 955) EFSA-Q-2011-00724

The preliminary results on the exposure assessment of sucralose (E 955) were discussed.

A discussion took place on the technical data (i.e. stability and impurities) of sucralose (E 955) submitted by interested business operator.

Toxicological data: the outcome of the categorisation step (in Distiller) was presented.

Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.3 Thaumatin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725

The results on the exposure assessment of thaumatin (E 957) were discussed.

A discussion took place on the risk of bias table for human studies as well as on the risk of bias evaluation of human studies on thaumatin (E 957).

Toxicological data: a general discussion took place on the data extraction for human and animal studies.

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



Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.4 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726

The preliminary results on the exposure assessment of neohesperidine DC (E 959) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted. This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 28th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 27 November 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 28-29 January 2021 (web-conference)



FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 27th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 22-23 October 2020, web-conference

(Agreed on 23 October 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani (23 October only), Romina Shah (22 October only), Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Francesca Riolo.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Oliver Lindtner.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific outputs for discussion

5.1 Saccharin Na, Ca, K (E 954) EFSA-Q-2011-00736, EFSA-Q-2011-00737, EFSA-Q-2011-00738, EFSA-Q-2011-00739) (Exposure)

A presentation on the data available on saccharin (E 954) was given, and a discussion took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

5.2 Cyclamates (E 952) EFSA-Q-2011-00733, EFSA-Q-2011-00734, EFSA-Q-2011-00735 (Exposure)

A presentation on the data available on cyclamates (E 952) was given, and a discussion took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

5.3 Outcome WG Specifications on data on solubility and particle size (Neohesperidine DC (E959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726; Sucralose (E 955) EFSA-Q-2011-00724; Cyclamates (E 952) EFSA-Q-2011-00733, EFSA-Q-2011-00734, EFSA-Q-2011-00735)

An update on the outcome of the discussion on data on solubility and particle size held on 14 October 2020 under the WG Specifications was given, and the steps to move forwards were noted.

5.4 Thaumatin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725

Toxicological data: some sections of the biological and toxicological data were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

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



5.5 Neotame (E961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740

Toxicological data/Implementation of the protocol: the revisions of the text based on the comments received during the previous Working Group meeting were discussed.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.6 Sucralose (E 955) EFSA-Q-2011-00724

Some parts of the technical section of the draft opinion (i.e. identity of the substance, specifications, manufacturing process, stability) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

Toxicological data: an update on the results of the screening process (papers retrieved from the call for data and literature search) was given.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.7 General issues

Some general issues raised since the previous Working Group meeting in September were discussed.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 27th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 22-23 October 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 26-27 November 2020 (web-conference)



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 26th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 24-25 September 2020, web-conference

(Agreed on 25 September 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy (24th September only), Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (24th September only), Alicja Mortensen (25th September only), Evangelia Ntzani (25th September only), Romina Shah (24th September only), Heather Wallace (25th September only), Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

The Working Group Chair informed the Working Group about the outcome of the 16th Plenary meeting of the FAF Panel, which was held on 21-23 September 2020 (Open to Observers).

5. Scientific outputs for discussion

5.1 Neohesperidine DC (E959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726

A discussion on some technical data took place within the subgroup Chemistry. Next steps to move forward were noted.

5.2 Neohesperidine DC (E959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726 (Exposure)

A presentation on the data available (i.e. Mintel, use levels) on neohesperidine DC (E 959) was given, and a discussion took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

5.3 Thaumatin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725

Some part of the technical section of the draft opinion (i.e. manufacturing process, method of analysis and stability and reaction/fate in food) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

Toxicological data: an update on the appraisal of the toxicological studies of Thaumatin using the DistillerSR tool took place; a presentation on the appraisal process using the DistillerSR tool was given to the Working Group. Genotoxicity studies and other toxicity studies were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

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



This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.4 General issues

Some general issues raised since the previous Working Group meeting in July were discussed.

5.5 Neohesperidine DC (E 959) EFSA-Q-2011-00726 (Technical and toxicological data)

An update on the outcome of the discussion held on 24th September (AM) within the subgroup chemistry was given.

Some parts of the technical section of the draft opinion (i.e. identity of the substance and specifications) were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

Toxicological data: an update on the results of the screening process (papers retrieved from the call for data and literature search) was given.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.6 Neotame (E961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740

Toxicological data/Implementation of the protocol: the revisions of the text based on the comments received during the previous Working Group meeting were discussed.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 26th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 24-25 September 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meetings: 22-23 October 2020 (web-conference)
26-27 November 2020 (web-conference)
17-18 December 2020 (web-conference)



FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 25th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 2-3 July 2020, web-conference

(Agreed on 3 July 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

- Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (2nd July only), Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah (2nd July only), Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

■ EFSA:

FIP Unit: Eyong Ndip Galvin, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific output for discussion

5.1 **Neotame (E 961) EFSA-Q-2011-00740:**

Some feedback on the clarification teleconference held on 4 June 2020 with one of the interested parties was given.

The exposure assessment of neotame was discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

The sections of the draft opinion on toxicological data and on the implementation of the protocol were discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

5.2 **Thaumatococin (E 957) EFSA-Q-2011-00725**

Technical data: an update on the outcome of the 24th WG Sweeteners meeting (subgroup chemistry) held on 25 June 2020 was given.

The exposure assessment of thaumatococin was discussed. Next steps to move forward were noted.

Toxicological data: a presentation on the results of the screening (call for data), on the appraisal of the studies (in Distiller), and on some other general considerations (e.g. thaumatococin-like proteins, allergenicity, genotoxicity) was given and a discussion took place. Next steps to move forward were noted.

This draft opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

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



6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 25th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 2-3 July 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 24 (PM)-25 (AM) September 2020 (web-conference).

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 24th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS (subgroup chemistry)

Held on 25 June 2020, web-conference

(Agreed on 25 June 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez and Peter Fürst
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi and Giorgia Vianello.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. 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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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.

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



4. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None

5. Scientific output for discussion

5.1 Thaumatococcus [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]

The technical part of the thaumatococcus draft opinion and the information submitted by interested parties were discussed. Some tasks needed to move forward with the assessment were noted. This opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting (i.e. exposure assessment and biological/toxicological data).

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 24th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 25 June 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting is scheduled on 2-3 July.

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 23rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 14-15 May 2020, web-conference

(Agreed on 15 May 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Monika Batke, Ellen Bruzell, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Rex FitzGerald, Cristina Fortes, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Alicja Mortensen, Evangelia Ntzani, Romina Shah, Heather Wallace, Matthew Wright and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
 - FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Eyong Ndip Galvin, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.
 - DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. A tour de table from all participants was presented. Apologies were received from Peter Fürst (on 14 May) and Romina Shah.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

The WG was informed on the reprioritisation of some of the tasks (including the re-evaluation of sweeteners) under the remit of the Food Additives and Flavouring Team of the FIP Unit and the FAF Panel, due to the new recent mandate on titanium dioxide (E 171) to be completed by end of 2020.

The WG was also informed on the recent publication of the "Draft Framework for Protocol Development for EFSA's scientific assessment", and its pilot phase starting on the 1st June 2020 for one year.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

5.1 Different presentations were given to present an overview on the sweeteners re-evaluation:

- Introduction on the re-evaluation of food additives
- The re-evaluation of sweeteners
- Technical data
- Exposure assessment (including the protocol on exposure)
- Toxicological data (Protocol on hazard identification and characterisation)
- Tables on Risk of Bias (animals and human studies).

5.2 Exposure assessment: an update on the preliminary data available to be used for the exposure assessment of Thaumatin (E 957), as well as an overview on some of the decisions taken so far for the exposure assessment for sweeteners in general were presented.

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



- 5.3 Neotame (E 961): the draft opinion was not discussed due to lack of time. This opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.
- 5.4 Thaumatin (E957): some sections of the technical part of the thaumatin draft opinion as well as the outcome of the extensive literature search were discussed. This opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 23rd Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 14-15 May 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: the next WG meeting scheduled for the 4-5 June will be postponed (date to be confirmed).

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 22nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 30-31 March 2020, web-conference

(Agreed on 31 March 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner (only 1st day), Romina Shah and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
 - FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Ana Campos Fernandes, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Ana Maria Rincon, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard and Vianello Giorgia.
 - DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair 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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by

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



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 A follow up on some of aspects for the implementation phase of the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and hazard characterisation of sweeteners was discussed (i.e. appraisal of animal and human studies and literature searches).
- 5.2 Exposure assessment: a concrete approach based on data from the 1st batch of sweeteners was presented and discussed.
- 5.3 Neotame: the draft opinion was discussed in full (technical data, exposure data and biological/toxicological data) as well as the implementation of the protocol to this opinion. Comments to move forward were noted. This opinion will be discussed in a forthcoming WG meeting.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 22nd Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 30-31 March 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Next meeting: 14 (PM)-15(AM) May 2020

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

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 21TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE- EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 30-31 January 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 31 January 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
 - Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via tele-conference (2nd day).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Riccardo Crebelli.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

The WG was informed that the protocol on the exposure assessment and the accompanying technical report on the outcome of the public consultation were endorsed by the FAF Panel at its 12 Plenary meeting (28-30 January 2020).

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 A follow up on different aspects for the implementation phase of the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and hazard characterisation of sweeteners has been discussed (i.e. appraisal of animal and human studies, pilot exercise on the neotame 52-week study in dog, refinement for literature searches and overview of chemical substances).

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 21th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 30-31 January 2020 were agreed.

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

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 20TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 13-14 January 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 14 January 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Oliver Lindtner
 - Jean-Charles Leblanc and Romina Shah participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Claudia Cascio, Petra Gergelova, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.
FIP Unit: Brian Flynn, Alexandra Tard.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

An update on the technical stakeholder event on the re-evaluation of authorised food additives with focus on sweeteners, which took place in Paris on 3 December 2019, was given.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- 5.1 Discussion on the comments received during the public consultation of the protocol for the exposure assessment as part of the safety assessment of sweeteners under the food additives re-evaluation programme: drafting of the report, revision of the protocol

The WG went through all the comments received and drafted the replies in a technical report. Revisions on the draft protocol have been made accordingly, when appropriate.

The report will be fine-tuned for a presentation at the forthcoming FAF Panel meeting, together with the revised version of the protocol.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 20th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 13-14 January 2020 were agreed.
- 6.2. Dates for next meeting: to be defined

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

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 19TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 10 December 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 10 December 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Maged Younes (Chair) and Trine Husøy.
 - Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via tele-conference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi and Alexandra Tard.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Riccardo Crebelli.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by

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



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

Some feedback on the technical stakeholder event on the re-evaluation of authorised food additives with focus on sweeteners, held in Paris on 3 December 2019, was given.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- 5.1 A follow up on different aspects for the implementation phase of the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and hazard characterisation of sweeteners has been discussed.

Additional comments on the protocol on exposure assessment have been also discussed.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 19th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 10 December 2019 were agreed.



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 18TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 27 November 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 27 November 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Jean-Charles Leblanc
 - Oliver Lindtner and Romina Shah participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Francesca Riolo.
FIP Unit: Brian Flynn, Alexandra Tard.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

An update on the technical stakeholder event on the re-evaluation of authorised food additives with focus on sweeteners, to be organised in Paris on 3 December 2019, was given.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- 5.1 Discussion on the comments received during the public consultation of the protocol for the exposure assessment as part of the safety assessment of sweeteners under the food additives re-evaluation programme

The WG went through the main comments received and discussed the best approach to address them.

The WG started to draft the technical report that will provide a response to all comments received. Some revisions on the draft protocol have been made accordingly, when appropriate.

This work will continue at a forthcoming WG meeting.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 18th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 27 November 2019 were agreed.
- 6.2. Dates for next meeting: to be decided

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

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 17TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 24-25 October 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 25 October 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Peter Fürst, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Riccardo Crebelli and Peter Fürst (2nd day).

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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

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



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

An update on the technical stakeholder event on the re-evaluation of authorised food additives with focus on sweeteners, to be organised in Paris on 3 December 2019, was given.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

5.1 Finalisation of the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners:

The revisions made according to the comments received during the public consultations have been discussed. The document will be discussed at the forthcoming Plenary meeting together with the technical report which addresses all the comments received.

5.2 Discussion on the technical report addressing the comments received during the public consultation:

The document has been revised and will be discussed at the forthcoming Plenary meeting together with the final protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners.

6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 17th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 24-25 October 2019 were agreed.

6.2. Dates for next meeting: 10 December 2019 (AM)

A proposal for the dates for WG meetings in 2020 has been also discussed.

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 16TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 23 September 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 23 September 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
 - Riccardo Crebelli participated via Tele-conference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Barmaz Stefania, Consuelo Civitella, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Peter Fürst and Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 Declaration(s) of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the Annex.

4. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

An update on the latest developments on the sweeteners re-evaluation was given.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 Follow up on the comments received during the public consultation on the protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners:

All the comments received have been discussed and addressed, and some revisions on the draft protocol have been made accordingly, when appropriate. The document will be discussed at the forthcoming Plenary meeting together with the technical report which address all the comments received.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 16th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 23 September 2019 were agreed.
- 6.2. Dates for next meeting: 24 October 2019 AM (TC) and 25 October 2019 PM (TC, if needed)

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



Annex

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

With regard to this meeting, Dr Trine Husøy declared the following interest: current involvement in a grant application as project leader on the sweeteners, i.e. call funded by Nord Forsk (organisation under the Nordic Council of Ministers that provides funding for and facilitates Nordic cooperation on research and research infrastructure). In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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.

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



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 15TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 13 September 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 13 September 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson and Maged Younes (Chair).
 - Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy, Laurence Castle, Oliver Lindtner, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Romina Shah, Peter Fürst participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
 - DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Francesca Riolo
 - FIP Unit: Alexandra Tard, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. Apologies were received from Riccardo Crebelli.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

WG members were informed that the public consultation on the draft protocol for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of sweeteners was extended until 19 September 2019.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

5.1 Discussion on the approach to be followed for the exposure assessment of sweeteners:

The topics to be considered in the exposure assessment of sweeteners were discussed (characterisation of foods containing sweeteners, occurrence data, food consumption surveys, exposure scenarios, target population).

Subject to revisions proposed during the meeting, a revised version was agreed and will be presented in the forthcoming FAF Panel meeting.

6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 15th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 13 September 2019 were adopted.

6.2. Dates for next meeting: 23 September 2019

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

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 14TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 1 July 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 1 July 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Oliver Lindtner.
 - Jean-Charles Leblanc, Romina Shah participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Marina Nikolic, Francesca Riolo
FIP Unit: Alexandra Tard

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by

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



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

WG members were informed that the other protocol, for the assessment of hazard identification and characterisation of the sweeteners was endorsed by the FAF Panel beginning of June and will go for public consultation in the coming days.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

5.1 Discussion on the approach to be followed for the exposure assessment of sweeteners:

The topics to be considered in the exposure assessment of sweeteners were further discussed (characterisation of foods containing sweeteners, occurrence data, food consumption surveys, exposure scenarios, target population). Subject to revisions proposed during the meeting, a new draft document will be circulated to the WG members.

A revised version will be scheduled for presentation in the forthcoming WG sweeteners meeting.

6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 14th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 1 July 2019 were adopted.



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 13TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE- EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 7 June 2019, TC

(Agreed on 7 June 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Jean-Charles Leblanc and Oliver Lindtner participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Marina Nikolic, Francesca Riolo
FIP Unit: Brian Flynn

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. Apologies were received from Laurence Castle and Romina Shah.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the

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



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

No feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission was given.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

5.1 Discussion on the approach to be followed for the exposure assessment of sweeteners:

The approach was further discussed and refined. The topics to be considered in the exposure assessment of sweeteners were discussed (characterisation of foods containing sweeteners, occurrence data, food consumption surveys, exposure scenarios, target population). Some tasks needed to move forward were noted and distributed.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 13th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 7 June 2019 were adopted.
- 6.2. Date for next physical meeting: 1 July 2019.

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 12TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 21-22 May 2019, teleconference

(Agreed on 22 May 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Peter Furst (22 May), Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by

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



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 Follow up from the WG meeting in May (Strategy for the assessment) and finalisation of the draft protocol:

The latest revisions made on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners have been discussed. The document will be discussed at the forthcoming Plenary meeting.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 12th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 21-22 May 2019 were agreed.

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 11TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 2-3 May 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 3 May 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson and Maged Younes (Chair).
 - Trine Husøy participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard (item 4).

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Laurence Castle, Fürst Peter and Riccardo Crebelli.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

Some feedback from the WG meeting of the subgroup on exposure was provided.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

5.1 Follow up from the WG meeting in April (Strategy for the assessment):

The latest revisions made on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners have been discussed. Some tasks needed to move forward were noted and distributed.

6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 11th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 2-3 May 2019 were agreed.

6.2. Dates for next meeting: 21 May (PM)-22 May (AM) (teleconference)

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



FOOD INGREDIENT AND PACKAGING UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 10TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 30 April 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 30 April 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner.
 - Romina Shah participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Petra Gergelova, Marina Nikolic, Francesca Riolo
FIP Unit: Brian Flynn, Alexandra Tard

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

Timetable for the protocol and its public consultation was presented to the WG members (subgroup exposure).

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

5.1 Discussion on the approach to be followed for the exposure assessment of sweeteners:

The several topics to be considered in the exposure assessment of sweeteners were discussed (characterisation of foods containing sweeteners, occurrence data, food consumption surveys, exposure scenarios, target population). Some tasks needed to move forward were noted and distributed.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 10th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 30 April 2019 were adopted.
- 6.2. Date for next physical meeting: 1 July 2019. Other TC meeting might be scheduled before July 2019.

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

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 9TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 4-5 April 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 5 April 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).
 - Maria José Frutos Fernandez and Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via teleconference.
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants and particularly Riccardo Crebelli, recently appointed as a new member of this WG. Apologies were received from Fürst Peter.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

5.1 Follow up from the WG meeting in March (Strategy for the assessment):

The latest revisions made on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners have been discussed. Some tasks needed to move forward were noted and distributed.

6. Any other Business

6.1. Minutes of the 9th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 4-5 April 2019 were agreed.

6.2. Dates for next meeting: 2-3 May 2019 (Parma); 21 May (PM)-22 May (AM) (teleconference)

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

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 8TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 19 March 2019, TELE-conference

(Agreed on 19 March 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson and Maged Younes (Chair).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Laurence Castle.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by

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



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific output for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

- 5.1 Follow up from the WG meeting in March (Strategy for the assessment): the latest revisions made on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners have been discussed.
- 5.2 A brainstorming on the presentation to be given at the next Plenary meeting (26-28 March) on the work carried out so far on the re-evaluation of sweeteners took place.

6. Any other Business

- 6.1. Minutes of the 8th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 19 March 2019 were agreed.
- 6.2. Date for next meeting: 4-5 April 2019

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 5-8 March 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 28 March 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
- Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter (via teleconference in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6), Ursula Gundert-Remy (in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6), Trine Husøy (in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6), Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson (in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6) and Maged Younes (Chair) (in agenda points 5.1 to 5.6).
- Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner and Romina Shah have participated via teleconference in agenda points 5.4 to 5.6.
- Hearing Experts¹:
Dr Andreas Eisenreich (BfR) (for item 5.10, via teleconference).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Brian Flynn, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.
DATA Unit: Petra Gergelova and Davide Arcella.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

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>.



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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Scientific outputs for discussion

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)].

5.1. Toxicological and epidemiological data:

The notes from the previous meeting held on 29 January 2019 were adopted.

5.2. **Follow up from the WG meeting in January (Strategy for the assessment):**

A discussion on the draft protocol for the assessment of the sweeteners took place and some revisions were made.

5.3. **General discussion and distribution of tasks:**

A general discussion took place on the approach to be followed and some tasks were noted and distributed in order to move forward.

5.4. Exposure assessment:

The notes from the previous meeting held on 13 February 2019 were adopted.

5.5. **Brainstorming on the assessment of the exposure to sweeteners:**

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



A presentation was given on different aspects of the exposure assessment.

5.6. General discussion and distribution of tasks:

A general discussion took place on the possible approach to be followed and some tasks were noted and distributed in order to move forward.

5.7. Technical data:

The notes from the previous meeting held on 15-16 January 2019 were adopted.

5.8. Follow up from the WG meeting in January (technical data):

A discussion on the technical parts (i.e. identity and specifications, manufacturing process; analytical methods and stability and fate in food) for some of the sweeteners took place [i.e. acesulfame K [(E 950); aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962); cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii); saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv)].

5.9. General discussion and distribution of tasks:

During the discussion, some tasks needed to move forward with the assessment were noted and distributed among the experts.

5.10. Presentation on sucralose (E 955)

Dr Andreas Eisenreich (BfR) was invited as hearing expert to present his views on the current BfR Opinion on the formation of chlorinated compounds during heating of foods containing sucralose (E 955). A discussion and exchange of questions/answers took place.

6. Any other business

6.1. Dates for next meetings:

The dates for the next meetings were agreed: 19 March 2019 (TC) and 4-5 April 2019.

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

MINUTES OF THE 6TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RE-EVALUATION OF SWEETENERS

Held on 13 February 2019, TELE-conference

(Agreed on 13 February 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner, Romina Shah, Maged Younes
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not present
- EFSA:
FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard
DATA Unit: Petra Gergelova, Davide Arcella, Sofia Ioannidou, Zsuzsanna Horvath, Francesca Riolo.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Exposure assessment methodology and data - Overview on the current status

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

A discussion took place on different aspects of the exposure assessment:

- Information on the authorised uses;
- Presentation on current data available on the use level and the analytical results;
- Presentation on the possible use of FoodEx2 and its facets;
- Presentation on the available consumption data;
- Information from Mintel GNPD;
- Brainstorming on possible methods to assess exposure to sweeteners.

6. General discussion on the approach to be followed

A general discussion took place on some of the aspects of the exposure assessment. Different approaches for the exposure assessment were discussed, including some proposals to be further elaborated at forthcoming meetings.

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



7. Any other Business

- 7.1. Minutes of the 6th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 13 February 2019 were agreed.
- 7.2. Date for next meeting: 5-8 March 2019

FOOD INGREDIENTS AND PACKAGING UNIT

Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 29 January 2019, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 29 January 2019)

Participants

Working Group Members:

Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).

Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via teleconference.

European Commission and / or Member States representatives:

Not present

EFSA

FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Alessandra Giarola, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard.

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. Adoption of the notes from previous meetings

The notes from the previous meeting were adopted.

4. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

5. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

6. General update on:

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- Technical data: feedback from the previous WG meeting (subgroup chemistry) was given.
- Exposure: feedback on the brainstorming from the meeting with DATA Unit was given. The first meeting with the experts on the exposure assessment will be held on 13 February 2019.
- Toxicological and epidemiological data: an update on ongoing activities (i.e procurement contract and tasking grant for preparatory work) as well as a follow up from the WG meeting in December (Strategy for the assessment) took place.

7. General discussion and distribution of tasks.

A general discussion took place on some of the aspects of the assessment of the technical data, exposure and biological and toxicological data. An initial discussion on the strategy to be developed for the assessment took place. Some proposals for further elaboration were noted.

8. Any Other Business

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

8.1. Minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting on the re- evaluation of sweeteners held on 29 January 2019 were agreed.

8.2. Dates for the next WG meetings were discussed. 5-8 March 2019.

FOOD INGREDIENTS AND PACKAGING UNIT

Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 15-16 January 2019, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 16 January 2019)

Participants

Working Group Members:

Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter.

European Commission and / or Member States representatives:

Not present

EFSA

FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. Apologies were received from Laurence Castle on the 16th January 2019.

2. Adoption of agenda and notes from previous meeting

The agenda and notes from the previous meeting (subgroup chemistry) were adopted.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

Feedback from the last WG Sweeteners meeting held on 13-14 December 2018 was provided.

5. Update on the current status of the data available

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

A discussion on the technical parts (i.e. identity and specifications, manufacturing process; analytical methods and stability and fate in food) for some of the sweeteners took place [i.e. sucralose (E 955), thaumatin (E 957), neohesperidine DC (E 959), neotame (E 961), sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) mannitol [(E 421 i, ii), isomalt [(E 953), lactitol [(E 966), xylitol [(E 967), erythritol [(E 968), maltitol [(E 965 i, ii)].

6. General discussion and distribution of tasks

During the discussion, some tasks needed to move forward with the assessment were noted and distributed among the experts.

7. Any Other Business

Minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 15-16 January 2019 were agreed.

FOOD INGREDIENTS AND PACKAGING UNIT

Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 13-14 December 2018, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 14 December 2018)

Participants

n Working Group Members:

Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter¹, Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).

n European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

n EFSA

FIP Unit: Eleonora Alquati, Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Alessandra Giarola, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard

DATA Unit: Petra Gergelova and Doreen Dolores Russell.

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. Adoption of the notes from previous meetings

The notes from previous meetings were adopted.

¹ Via teleconference on 14/12/2018

4. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest³, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

5. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

6. General update on:

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

- Technical data: feedback from the previous WG meeting was given. An overview on the chemical substances (including possible degradation products and impurities) as well as information on the sweeteners that can be manufactured via fermentation were presented.
- A presentation on the occurrence data from Members States, so far gathered by EFSA, was given. As a next step, it was explained, that data will require cleaning and possibly clarifications with the data providers.
- Toxicological and epidemiological data: an update on ongoing activities (i.e procurement contract and tasking grant for preparatory work), previous evaluations of some of the sweeteners (i.e. sucralose, thaumatin, neotame, and neohesperidine DC) and epidemiological studies available (from one recent review) was given.

7. General discussion and distribution of tasks.

A general discussion took place on some of the aspects of the assessment of the technical data, exposure and biological and toxicological data. During the discussion,

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

an initial strategy for the assessment was developed by the WG, including some proposals to be further elaborated at forthcoming meetings.

8. Any Other Business

- 8.1. Minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 13-14 December 2018 were agreed.**
- 8.2. Dates for the next WG meetings were discussed. Pending agreement from all experts required, the following tentative dates were proposed: 15-16 January 2019 (subgroup chemistry); 29 January 2019; 5-6 March 2019.**
- 8.3. The Chair of the WG proposed to appoint Trine Husøy as vice-chair.**

Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 29th November 2018, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 29th November 2018)

Participants

n Working Group Members:

n Laurence Castle, Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Fürst Peter.

n European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

n EFSA

FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Federica Lodi and Camilla Smeraldi

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The participants were welcomed. 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 Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

4. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

A general overview on the re-evaluation programme for all sweeteners, the ongoing activities, and the way of working of this WG were given.

5. Update on the current status of the data available

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

A presentation on the current status of the technical data available, received following the latest call for data on sweeteners, was given.

A discussion on the technical parts (i.e. identity and specifications, manufacturing process; analytical methods and stability and fate in food) for some of the sweeteners took place [i.e. sucralose (E 955), thaumatin (E 957), neohesperidine DC (E 959) and neotame (E 961)].

6. General discussion and distribution of tasks

During the discussion, some tasks needed to move forward with the assessment were noted and distributed among the experts.

7. Any Other Business

Minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 29th November 2018 were agreed.

Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Flavouring (FAF)

Minutes of the 1th Meeting of the Working Group on the re-evaluation of sweeteners

Held on 9th-10th October 2018, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 10th October 2018)

Participants

n Working Group Members:

- n Maria José Frutos Fernandez, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Trine Husøy and Maged Younes (Chair).**
- n Thorhallur Ingi Halldorsson participated via teleconference**

n European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not present

n EFSA

FIP Unit: Dimitrios Chrysafidis, Alessandra Giarola, Federica Lodi, Camilla Smeraldi and Alexandra Tard

Data Unit: Davide Arcella and Doreen Dolores Russell.

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 Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Feedback from FAF Panel, EFSA and European Commission

None.

5. Appointment of Vice Chair

The Chair decided to postpone the appointment of the Vice Chair(s) of this WG to a later stage, once the WG has been enlarged.

6. Update on the current status of the data available

Sorbitols [(E 420 i,ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00644](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00645](#)]; Mannitol [(E 421 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00646](#), [EFSA-Q-011-00647](#)]; Acesulfame K [(E 950) [EFSA-Q-2011-00721](#)]; Isomalt [(E 953) [EFSA-Q-2011-00723](#)]; Sucralose [(E 955) [EFSA-Q-2011-00724](#)]; Thaumatin [(E 957) [EFSA-Q-2011-00725](#)]; Neohesperidine DC [(E 959) [EFSA-Q-2011-00726](#)]; Aspartame acesulfame salt [(E 962) [EFSA-Q-2011-00727](#)]; Lactitol [(E 966) [EFSA-Q-2011-00728](#)]; Xylitol [(E 967) [EFSA-Q-2011-00729](#)]; Erythritol [(E 968) [EFSA-Q-2011-00730](#)]; Cyclamates [(E 952 i, ii, iii) [EFSA-Q-2011-00733](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00734](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00735](#)]; Saccharin Na, Ca, K [(E 954 i, ii, iii, iv) [EFSA-Q-2011-00736](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00737](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00738](#), [EFSA-Q-2011-00739](#)]; Neotame [(E 961) [EFSA-Q-2011-00740](#)]; Maltitol [(E 965 i, ii) [EFSA-Q-2017-00490](#); [EFSA-Q-2011-00755](#)]].

Presentations on the current status of both the technical as well as biological and toxicological data available, received following the latest call for data on sweeteners, were given.

An overview on the use levels data received from the latest call for data has been also given. An initial discussion on the exposure assessment took place.

7. General discussion: setting up questions and strategy design

A general brainstorming and discussion took place on different aspects of the assessment of the technical, exposure and biological and toxicological data, in order to define the main questions to be addressed and set up the best approach to evaluate the food additives under this WG.

The Working Group identified the need for the following additional areas of expertise: chemistry, dietary exposure assessment and toxicology/epidemiology. Additional members would be identified to cover these areas.

8. Any Other Business

8.1. Minutes of the 1th Working Group meeting on the re-evaluation of sweeteners held on 9th-10th October 2018 were agreed.

8.2. Dates for the next WG meetings were discussed and will be defined according to the needs.