



**Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations**



**World Health  
Organization**

**101st Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)  
Geneva, 15-21 October 2025**

**WHO Experts participating in the meeting**

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**[Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives \(JECFA\)](#)**

**List of Experts**

The following list of experts is proposed by WHO for the meeting. Please find below their bio-sketches. If you have any comments, please contact us at [jecfa@who.int](mailto:jecfa@who.int) no later than 14 October 2025

**AFGHAN Abdul**

Abdul Afghani is a toxicologist specializing in human health risk assessment. He has been working with Health Canada since 2001 conducting human health risk assessments and proposing risk management measures under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, and the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations. In this capacity, he has developed extensive experience in the human health risk assessment and management of industrial chemicals and polymers, nanomaterials, pharmaceuticals, consumer products, and various food contaminants. He is currently the Senior Scientific Evaluator in the Food Contaminants Toxicology Assessment Section of the Food Directorate within Health Canada. Abdul has participated in previous expert meetings with the WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and JECFA. He possesses a BSc in Biomedical Toxicology from the University of Guelph.

**AGUDO Antonio**

Antonio Agudo is a Physician, specialized in Preventive Medicine and Public Health. He graduated in Medicine (MD) at the University of Barcelona (UB), and he holds a Master of Sciences (MSc) degree in Clinical Epidemiology from the Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR). He completed his doctoral training at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), with a PhD in Public Health and Methodology of Biomedical Research.

Presently, his main research interests are the role of chemical compounds and related biomarkers in the carcinogenic process; the relationship between environmental carcinogens and genetic susceptibility in gastrointestinal cancers and lung cancer; the role of diet, body composition and physical activity in breast cancer and other hormone-related tumours. The latter is a field of growing interest; in order to investigate the potential role of nutrition and related factors on the prognosis and progression of breast cancer survivors, he has set up and coordinates a multicentric randomized clinical trial aimed to assess the effect of a lifestyle intervention combining diet and physical activity on the risk of recurrence, survival, and quality of life among breast cancer patients.

He has collaborated with the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in the IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans, and the IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention. He is member of the World Health Organization (WHO) Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG), and he has been collaborating with JECFA since 2005.

**ARNICH Nathalie**

Dr Nathalie ARNICH is a toxicologist with many years of experience in health risk assessment associated with contaminants in food. Since 2003, she has been working at Anses (the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety, previously AFSSA), located near Paris. She is currently Deputy Head of the unit on food risk assessment and is responsible for health risk assessment and/or scientific advice on request from French ministries in the field of chemical contaminants (such as metals, PFAS, dioxins and PCBs) and natural toxins (marine biotoxins, cyanotoxins, mycotoxins). Nathalie has been on the WHO roster of toxicological and epidemiological experts since 2011. As previous work with FAO/WHO, Nathalie was temporary adviser to the 83<sup>rd</sup> JECFA meeting in 2016 (on sterigmatocystin), and to the 91<sup>st</sup> JECFA meeting in 2021 (on ergot alkaloids). In addition, she participated to the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Toxicity Equivalency Factors for Marine Biotoxins (2016), the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Ciguatera Fish Poisoning (2018) and the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on the Risks and Benefits of Fish Consumption (2023).

**BARLOW Sue**

Sue Barlow has been involved in risk assessment of chemicals and food for many years. In her early career in academia she worked in reproductive/developmental toxicology research and taught pharmacology. She then worked in regulatory toxicology in the UK Department of Health and became chief scientist. Since 1996, she has been an independent consultant in toxicology. She has been a temporary adviser to JECFA since 2005 and a member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Food Safety since 2012. She was involved in the preparation of the 2009 FAO/WHO guide to JECFA and JMPR "Principles and Methods for the Risk Assessment of Chemicals in Food" and was a co-editor of the 2002 IPCS-WHO/ILO/UNEP "Global Assessment of the State-of-the Science of Endocrine Disrupters". She was a member of the Veterinary International Cooperation on Harmonisation Safety Working Group. She has been an evaluator and reviewer for research proposals and projects funded by the European Union. She was a member of the European Commission's Scientific Committee on Food for 10 years. From 2003-2008 she chaired the European Food Safety Authority's Scientific Panel on Food Additives, Flavourings, Processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Food and was a member of EFSA's Scientific Committee from 2003-2012. She is a recipient of the EUROTOX Merit Award.

**BOOBIS Alan**

Alan Boobis is Emeritus Professor of Toxicology at Imperial College London. He was Professor of Biochemical Pharmacology and Director of the Toxicology Unit (supported by Public Health England and the Department of Health) at the College until June of 2017, when he retired after over 40 years at Imperial. His main research interests lie in mechanistic toxicology, chemical risk assessment and food safety. He has published over 300 original research papers (h-index of ~90). He is a member of several international advisory committees, the WHO Study Group on Tobacco Product Regulation (TobReg), JECFA (veterinary residues) and JMPR. He chaired the UK Committee on Toxicity until April 2025, and has been a member of the UK Advisory Committee on Pesticides, Committee on Carcinogenicity, the EFSA CONTAM Panel and the EFSA PPR Panel. He is a past chair/member of the Board of Trustees/Directors of ILSI and ILSI Europe and he is currently a member of several ILSI Europe Task Forces and Expert Groups. He sits on several international scientific advisory boards, in both the public and private sectors. Awards include honorary fellow of the British Toxicology Society, fellow of the British Pharmacological Society, the BTS John Barnes Prize Lectureship, honorary membership and Merit Award of EUROTOX, the Royal Society of Chemistry Toxicology Award, the Arnold J Lehman Award from the SOT, the Toxicology Forum Philippe Shubik Distinguished Scientist Award, and Officer of the British Empire (OBE).

**EDLER Lutz**

Lutz Edler has been senior biostatistician for 31 years in the Division of Biostatistics of the German Cancer Research Center, chair from 1991 until retirement in 2010, with responsibilities for mathematical modelling, statistical data analysis, human and animal carcinogenesis and risk assessment, design and analysis of animal experiments and clinical trials, and general statistical consulting. He published, often as co-author, more than 600 scientific articles including 290 peer

reviewed papers was editor of the Biometrical Journal from 2012-2015 and member of the Ethics Committee of the University of Heidelberg 2006-2018. He has been member of all major statistical societies, received honorary lifetime membership for the International Biometric Society and the International Society of Clinical Biostatistics. After membership in scientific advisory panels of the US EPA from 2002-2009 he served as member of the Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain of EFSA 2009-2018 and chaired several working groups including Fusarium mycotoxins. He was member of expert groups on contaminants and mycotoxins of the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment of Germany and served JECFA/WHO/FAO as expert at several JECFA Meeting since 2016 including Chapter 5 in EHC 240. on Dose–response assessment and derivation of health-based guidance values.

#### **HALLDORSSON Thorhallur**

Prof. Thorhallur I. Halldorsson is a professor at the Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition at the University of Iceland. He also holds an external position as senior scientist at the Department of Epidemiology Research, Statens Serum Institute, Copenhagen. His main research activities are within nutritional and environmental epidemiology covering both observational studies and human interventions. In terms of international engagements Thorhallur was a member of the committee revising the 2022 Nordic Nutrition recommendations and the Nordic Council of ministers. He has, since 2015, been a member of the European Food Safety Authority Scientific Committee; and the Committee of Toxicity under the Food Standards Agency (UK) since 2022.

#### **LE HEGARAT Ludovic**

Ludovic LE HEGARAT is a toxicologist, specialized in genetic toxicology. Since 2009, he was the deputy-head of the Toxicology of Contaminant Unit at the French agency for food, environmental and occupational health safety (ANSES), in Fougères-Laboratory. He has been involved in several national and European research projects on toxicology of contaminants. He has acquired significant expertise in genotoxicity assessment, in the development of new metabolic in vitro models and in high throughput methods for toxicity assessment. He is an expert in several working groups of ANSES to evaluate the toxicity of chemicals (Characterization of substance hazards and toxicity reference values; Assessment of the risks related to chemical substances for the implementation of the REACH Regulation, Assessment of the physical and chemical risks in foods). He is the past president of the French Society of Genetic Toxicology (SFTG) (2017-2022) and member of Expert Group on genotoxicity at OECD and member of international working group on Genotoxicity Testing (IWGT).

#### **LOURO Henriqueta**

Henriqueta Louro is a principal research scientist at the National Institute of Health Dr Ricardo Jorge (Lisbon, Portugal) working in the field of genetic toxicology. She has a background in Biochemistry and a PhD in Public Health- Environmental and Occupational Health (NOVA University, Lisbon) and is a specialist in Human Genetics (Health Ministry, Portugal). She is part of the European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC), being Task co-leader of T5.1-Hazard Assessment, and is involved in studies on human biomonitoring, in vitro/in vivo genotoxicity and nanotoxicology, with participation in European projects such as Nanogenotox, Nanoreg and HBM4EU, and responsible investigator in national projects. She was appointed as Head of Portuguese Delegation to the OECD Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials.

Contributes to risk assessment in EU agencies, participating as member of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) Food Additive and Flavourings Panel and as an external expert at the EFSA cross-cutting Working Groups on Genotoxicity, on Nanotechnologies and on New Approach Methodologies. In addition, Henriqueta Louro is a genotoxicity external expert on the EC Scientific Committee for Consumer Safety (SCCS) - Working Groups on cosmetic ingredients and Nano. She also collaborated with the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC/WHO) monographs working group, on the recent Monograph 136.

#### **SIROT Veronique**

Véronique Sirot is a doctor of epidemiology and public health and has been a senior project manager in the Risk Assessment Department of the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational

Health Safety (Anses) since 2005. She mainly works in the field of dietary exposure to chemical substances and risk assessment, nutritional aspects and risk/benefit approaches, providing inputs into the scientific expert committees of Anses, as well as participating actively in several national and European research projects. In charge of studies on exposure to food chemicals, Véronique Sirot is responsible for the coordination of the French Total Diet Studies. She was member of the EFSA working group on Total Diet Studies (2010-2011) and chaired the scientific advisory board on the first German TDS (2019-2022).

#### **Van den BERG Martin**

Prof. Dr. Martin van den Berg is an Emeritus Professor in Toxicology and former deputy director of the Institute of Risk Assessment Sciences at the University of Utrecht. He has chaired multiple WHO, IARC, and JECFA meetings, contributing significantly to the field of toxicology and risk assessment. He has published over 400 scientific articles and served as editor for several esteemed journals. He was honored with the Princess Chulabhorn Gold Medal Award and an honorary doctorate from the University of Umea. His research focuses among others, on the toxicology of persistent organic pollutants and endocrine disruptors

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