



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

**102nd Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)  
Nanjing, 9-18 June 2026**

**WHO Experts participating in the meeting**

*Published on 28 May 2026*

[http://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas\\_work/chemical-risks/JECFA83-LOE.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas_work/chemical-risks/JECFA83-LOE.pdf?ua=1)

**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 5 June 2026

**BARLOW Sue**

United Kingdom

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.

**BENFORD Diane**

United Kingdom

Dr Diane Benford is a toxicologist with particular expertise in mechanisms of toxicity and risk assessment. Until 2017, she was head of the Risk Assessment Unit at the UK Food Standards Agency. The Unit had overall responsibility for advice associated with all types of chemicals in food and of microbial contamination, but much of Diane's work focussed on chemical contaminants, food additives and natural toxicants. Her role also included acting as scientific secretary to the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT) and part of the joint secretariat to its sister committees on Mutagenicity (COM) and Carcinogenicity (COC). In a personal capacity Diane was a member of the Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM) of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) from 2005 to 2015, acting as chair of the panel for the final 3 year term of office. She is now a member and vice-chair of the EFSA Scientific Committee. She has participated in meetings of JECFA since 2001, firstly as a WHO Temporary Advisor and since 2013 as a member.

**BOON Polly**

Netherlands

Dr Polly Boon studied Human Nutrition at Wageningen University (NL; MSc 1993) and did her PhD at the University of Groningen in the field of behavioural biology and physiology (PhD 1999). From 1999 until 2010, she worked at Wageningen Food Safety Research within the field of dietary exposure to chemicals. From 2010 onwards, she has continued her work on exposure modelling at the National

Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) in the Netherlands. As a senior scientist, she has been a project leader of national and international projects in the field of dietary exposure modelling as well as coordinator of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Chemical Food Safety. She has been a member of several EFSA Working Groups (WG) as a dietary exposure expert. Currently, she is a member of the EFSA Panel on Food Additives and Flavourings (FAF). From 2016, she has served successfully in several JECFA meetings.

#### **CRETON Stuart**

New Zealand

Dr Stuart Creton is a Senior Toxicologist at Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ), where he is responsible for the risk assessment of food additives, processing aids, contaminants and novel foods. Stuart gained a PhD in molecular toxicology from Imperial College London in 2004, following which he worked as a toxicologist at the Food Standards Agency in London. He then worked at the UK National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research (NC3Rs), collaborating with the chemicals industry, regulators and academia to improve the scientific basis and efficiency of chemical risk assessment while reducing reliance on animals. In 2012 Stuart moved to New Zealand as a senior toxicologist at the Environmental Protection Authority, with a focus on pesticides, until joining FSANZ in 2016. Stuart is a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology and has participated in the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) as a WHO expert since 2023.

#### **DALEFIELD Rosalind**

New Zealand

Rosalind Dalefield completed a BVSc and a PhD in veterinary pathology at Massey University, New Zealand. She then completed a three-year residency in toxicology at Kansas State University and became a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology and a Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Toxicology, both in 1999. She worked as a Study Director at contract toxicology laboratories in the USA for approximately a decade, in pharmaceutical drug development. She has worked as a Senior Toxicologist at Food Standards Australia New Zealand since 2010. Dr Dalefield is the author of 19 papers in peer-reviewed journals, eight chapters in books compiled by others, and one book.

#### **FLETCHER Nick**

Australia

Dr Nick Fletcher is currently the Principal Toxicologist and head of the Chemical Safety and Nutrition Science Section at Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ). The team assesses the safety of food additives, contaminants, natural toxicants, processing aids, nutrients, and novel foods. Prior to joining FSANZ, Dr Fletcher worked at the Office of Chemical Safety reviewing the safety of agricultural and veterinary chemicals and subsequently at the Therapeutic Goods Administration conducting premarket safety assessment of prescription medicines. He received a PhD in toxicology from the Karolinksa Institute, Stockholm, which examined the interactions of persistent organic pollutants with nuclear receptor signalling pathways.

#### **HAMBRIDGE Tracy**

Australia

Tracy holds a Bachelor of Applied Science in Nutrition from the University of Canberra and a Masters in Nutrition and Dietetics from Deakin University. Tracy has worked at Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) for over 20 years. She is the manager of the Dietary Exposure and Surveillance Section and oversees the Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) team. As the principal specialist in dietary exposure assessments, she provides oversight of the dietary exposure work of the agency. Her work includes assessing a range of food chemicals (e.g. food additives, contaminants, agricultural and veterinary chemicals, nutrients), for a range of purposes including food standards development and total diet studies. Tracy has a detailed knowledge of national dietary surveys and undertook a secondment to the Australian Bureau of Statistics to the work on the 2011-12 Australian nutrition

survey. Tracy has participated as an invited expert on exposure assessment for the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) since 2002 working on food additives and contaminants. She has attended JMPR since 2023. In the area of dietary exposure assessments, she has published papers and book chapters, sat on national expert panels for evaluating food chemicals, presented at international and national conferences, and conducted many international risk assessment training courses.

#### **JEURISSEN Suzanne**

Netherlands

Suzanne Jeurissen (PhD, ERT) works as a risk assessor human toxicology and project leader at the Centre for Nutrition, Prevention and Health Services of the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) in the Netherlands. She studied Human Nutrition (specializations toxicology and physiology) at Wageningen University. In 2007, she obtained her PhD at the Division of Toxicology and the Laboratory of Organic Chemistry of Wageningen University with a thesis on the bioactivation and genotoxicity of the herbal constituents safrole, estragole and methyleugenol. She is registered as a European Registered Toxicologist. From 2007 onwards, she works at RIVM. Her main activities include risk assessment and policy advice on chemical substances in food, in particular botanicals, food additives and food flavourings. She coordinates the 'RIVM-RIKILT Front Office Food and Consumer Product Safety' for urgent ('ad hoc') risk assessments and she contributes to the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) as WHO Expert on food additives since 2009.

#### **KABADI Shruti**

United States of America

Dr. Shruti V. Kabadi is a lead pharmacologist in the Division of Food Contact Substances (DFCS) at the Office of Food Additive Safety (OFAS) in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), United States Food and Drug Administration (US FDA). Dr. Kabadi also serves as an independent invited expert/advisor for the World Health Organization (WHO) to the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA). She has been recognized as an FDA-wide expert in toxicokinetics for resolving all matters related to food safety. She received her BS in Pharmacy from University of Delhi (New Delhi, India) followed by a PhD in Pharmacology from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (Boston, MA). She completed her post-doctoral training at the Georgetown University Medical Center (Washington DC) and the University of Maryland (Baltimore, MD). Dr. Kabadi joined OFAS in CFSAN/US FDA (College Park, MD) in 2014 as a toxicology reviewer. Over the past 8 years, she has conducted toxicological reviews of several food contact notifications and prenotification consultations. She has also been consulted on many postmarket issues related to food additive safety for her specialized expertise in toxicokinetics. Dr. Kabadi has published articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals, including Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology and Food and Chemical Toxicology and drafted book chapters on principles and applications of toxicokinetic and physiologically based toxicokinetic modeling for the safety evaluation of food additives. She has received several awards for her work as a toxicology reviewer and a team lead of a toxicology review team at US FDA. She has chaired sessions and presented at international conferences and taught classes on topics related to application of toxicokinetic methods for safety evaluation of food additives to graduate students.

#### **KASS Georges**

Italy

Georges Kass was trained as a biochemist and a toxicologist. He received his PhD in biochemical toxicology from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm in 1990. After completing a post-doc at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, he returned to the Karolinska Institute as an Assistant Professor. In 1994, he moved to the University of Surrey in the UK where he became Professor of Toxicology. Fifteen years later, in 2009, he moved to the European Food Safety Authority in Parma, IT, where he was Lead Expert in toxicology until his retirement in 2025. He continues his activities as

a European Registered Toxicologist (ERT) and expert in food safety, and as Adjunct Professor at the University of Galway in Ireland.

### **LEBLANC Jean-Charles**

France

Jean-Charles Leblanc obtained his Ph.D. in Food Science, 2001, (University of Sciences Denis Diderot, Paris VII). He worked as a research engineer in human nutrition and food safety in the French National Institute of Agronomical Research (INRA) from 2000 to 2005 before joining the French agency for food, environmental and occupational health safety (ANSES) as Head of the Food Risk Assessment Department till 2013. Between 2014 and 2017 he was senior consultant in exposure assessment in food safety for Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Since 2017 he is back at ANSES as head of the Salmonella and Listeria unit at the laboratory for food safety. He has participated in JECFA, JMPR and other FAO/WHO consultations for more than 10 years. Author or co-author of more than 150 international scientific publications and over 600 participation in national, European, and international scientific opinions in risk assessment to food chemicals. Main areas of research include exposure assessment methodologies and risk assessment to food chemicals substances.

### **MUELLER Utz**

Australia

Until his retirement in June 2018, Dr Utz Mueller was Head of the Health Assessment Team at the Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), Kingston, ACT. In this role he was responsible for delivering scientific and policy support for this new unit within the APVMA. Prior to joining the APVMA on secondment in 2016, he was the head of the Chemical Safety and Nutrition Section in Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) where he provided advice on risks associated with all types of chemicals in food. Dr Mueller holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons) and PhD in Pharmacology from the University of Western Australia, Perth, WA. Dr Mueller was a Senior Research Fellow at Flinders University in South Australia prior to joining the Therapeutic Goods Administration in 1996 where his primary task was the safety evaluation of pre-market therapeutic drugs. He subsequently joined the Office of Chemical Safety in 1997 to undertake pre-market safety assessments and review the safety of existing agricultural and veterinary chemicals. He has also been a scientific advisor for the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) and the Joint Expert Committee of Food Additives (JECFA) for several years. He is currently a JECFA panel member.

### **SMITH Catherine A.**

Canada

Catherine Smith is a Senior Toxicologist for the Food Directorate's Bureau of Chemical Safety in Health Canada where she is responsible for the toxicological assessment of food additives, contact materials, contaminants, and natural toxins. Catherine has participated in a previous Joint FAO/WHO expert meeting on tropane alkaloids as well as various internal working groups related to microplastics. She has also acted as a reviewer for original research articles, book chapters and grant proposals in the area of toxicology, neurotoxicology, and microplastics. Catherine holds a PhD in Neuroscience (2014) from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. Her research specialized in developmental neurotoxicology and behavioral neuroscience.

## Disclaimer

*In order to enhance their management of Conflicts of Interest as well as strengthen public trust and transparency in connection with FAO/WHO meetings involving the provision of technical/normative advice, the names and brief biographies of individuals ("Published Information" ) being considered for participation in such meetings are disclosed for public notice and comment.*

*The Published Information is provided by the experts themselves and is the sole responsibility of the individuals concerned. FAO/WHO are not responsible for the accuracy, veracity and completeness of the Published Information provided. Furthermore, in no event will FAO/WHO be responsible or liable for damages in relation to the use of, and reliance upon, the Published Information.*

*The comments received by FAO/WHO through the public notice and comment process are treated confidentially and their receipt will be acknowledged through a generic email notification to the sender. Comments and perceptions brought to the knowledge of FAO/WHO through this process are an integral component of FAO/WHO's conflict of interest assessment policy and are carefully reviewed. FAO/WHO reserve the right to discuss information received through this process with the relevant expert with no attribution to the provider of such information. Upon review and assessment of the information received through this process, FAO/WHO, in their sole discretion, may take appropriate management action in accordance with their policies.*

*The participation of an expert in a FAO/WHO meeting does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by the FAO/WHO nor does it create a binding relationship between the expert and FAO/WHO.*

*The list of participating experts, a summary of relevant interests disclosed by such experts, and any appropriate mitigation measures taken by FAO/WHO relating to the management of conflicts of interests, will be reported publically in accordance with FAO/WHO practice.*