

**Statement of the Scientific Panel on Food Additives, Flavourings,
Processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Food (AFC) on a request
from the European Commission related to**

**the possibility to assess the safety of nutrient sources added for
nutritional purposes in food supplements and the bioavailability of the
nutrients from these sources based on the supporting dossiers**

(Question No EFSA-Q-2008-072)

Adopted on 1 April 2008

Following a request from the Commission to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the Scientific Panel on Food Additives, Flavourings, Processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Food was asked to provide a scientific opinion on the safety and bioavailability of a large number of nutrient sources added for nutritional purposes in food supplements and to consider if it is appropriate to provide one or separate opinions on the nutrient sources for which dossiers have been submitted.

Very limited information was submitted in a number of these dossiers listed in Tables 1 and 2 of the Annex. The information provided (sometimes limited to the product or ingredient name) did not conform to the minimal requirements set out in the *Guidance on submissions for safety evaluation of sources of nutrients or of other ingredients proposed for use in the manufacture of foods*¹. In particular the information did not permit an unequivocal chemical description and identification of the substances, nor their bioavailability to be established. The Secretariat informed the Panel that despite the repeated request to petitioners for complete technical dossiers, no additional data for the dossiers listed in the Annex to this statement have been received. Furthermore, the Panel was unable to confirm the identity or specification of the substances in Table 2 from the Annex from the information provided.

Therefore, the Panel concludes that due to the lack of appropriate dossiers supporting the use of the nutrient sources requested by the petitioners listed in the Annex to this

¹ SCF/CS/ADD/NUT/21 Final, (opinion expressed on 11 July 2001). Available at URL:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/scf/out100_en.pdf.

Endorsed by the AFC Panel on its 2nd Plenary meeting:

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/Event_Meeting/minutes_afc_02_adopted_en1,3.pdf

statement, the safety of the nutrient sources and the bioavailability of the nutrients from these substances cannot be assessed.

SCIENTIFIC PANEL MEMBERS

F. Aguilar, H. Autrup, S. Barlow, L. Castle, R. Crebelli, W. Dekant, K.-H. Engel, N. Gontard, D. Gott, S. Grilli, R. Gürtler, J.-C. Larsen, C. Leclercq, J.-C. Leblanc, F. X. Malcata, W. Mennes, M.-R. Milana, I. Pratt, I. Rietjens, P. Tobback, F. Toldrá.

ANNEX

Table 1. Dossiers containing too limited information to allow the assessment of safety of the nutrient sources for food supplements and the bioavailability of the nutrients from these sources

Name provided by the petitioner for the nutrient source	Petitioner
boron alpha-ketoglutarate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
boron amino acid chelate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
boron amino acid chelate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
boron aspartate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
boron citrate aspartate complex	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
boron gluconate complex	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
boron glycinate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
boron picolinate complex	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
boron proteinate	BioCare Ltd.
boron proteinate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
boron proteinate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
calcium alpha-ketoglutarate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
calcium magnesium citramate	Metabolics Ltd.
calcium taurinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
chromium aspartate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
chromium chloride ²	Metabolics Ltd.
chromium nicotinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
colloidal silver	Earth Force
copper acetate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
copper chloride	Metabolics Ltd.
copper lysinate ³	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
copper picolinate	Metabolics Ltd.
DI-alpha-tocopheryl succinate ⁴	Earth Force

² Chromium(III) chloride is listed in Annex II of the DIRECTIVE 2002/46/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 10 June 2002 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to food supplements.

³ Copper lysine complex is listed in Annex II of the DIRECTIVE 2002/46/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 10 June 2002 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to food supplements.

⁴ D-alpha-tocopheryl succinate is listed in Annex II of the DIRECTIVE 2002/46/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 10 June 2002 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to food supplements.

Name provided by the petitioner for the nutrient source	Petitioner
dibenzozide	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
dibenzozide (nat b 12)	Gee Lawson Ltd.
ferric oxide	Gee Lawson Ltd.
ferrous picolinate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
ferrous succinate	Re-Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
gold chloride	Metabolics Ltd.
GTF chromium yeast	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
iodine-from kelp	Metabolics Ltd.
iron alpha - ketoglutarate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
iron chloride	Metabolics Ltd.
iron histidinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
iron peptonate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
iron succinate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
magnesium alpha-ketoglutarate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
magnesium bromide	Metabolics Ltd.
magnesium citrate malate	Metabolics Ltd.
magnesium pantothenate	BioCare Ltd.
magnesium peroxide	Metabolics Ltd.
magnesium rice chelate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
manganese alpha-ketoglutarate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
manganese arginate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
manganese histidinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
manganese picolinate	Metabolics Ltd.
manganese picolinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
molybdenum amino acid chelate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
molybdenum amino acid chelate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
molybdenum amino acid chelate	Solgar
molybdenum chloride	Metabolics Ltd.
molybdenum citrate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
molybdenum yeast	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
pantheine	Metabolics Ltd.
pantheine	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
phosphorus amino acid chelate	Gee Lawson Ltd.

Name provided by the petitioner for the nutrient source	Petitioner
phosphorus amino acid chelate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
platinum chloride	Metabolics Ltd.
potassium acetate ⁵	Gee Lawson Ltd.
potassium alpha-ketoglutarate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
potassium ascorbate ⁶	Metabolics Ltd.
potassium bromide	Metabolics Ltd.
potassium glycinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
potassium sulfate ⁵	Metabolics Ltd.
potassium taurinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
pyridoxine alpha-ketoglutarate HCl (PAK)	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
selenium ascorbate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
selenium ethanolamine phosphate	BioCare Ltd.
selenium picolinate	Metabolics Ltd.
silica amino acid chelate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
silicon ethanolamine phosphate	BioCare Ltd.
silver hydroxide	Metabolics Ltd.
sodium ascorbate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
sodium metasilicate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
sodium metavanadate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
sulphur amino acid chelate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
thiamine carboxylase	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
unesterified mixed tocopherols	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
vanadium amino acid chelate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
vanadium sulfate	Metabolics Ltd.
zinc alpha-ketoglutarate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
zinc arginate	Metabolics Ltd.
zinc arginate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
zinc ethanolamine phosphate	BioCare Ltd.
zinc histidinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.

⁵ Approved food additives.

⁶ Potassium L-ascorbate is listed in Annex II of the DIRECTIVE 2002/46/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 10 June 2002 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to food supplements.

Table 2. Dossiers containing too limited information to allow the assessment of safety of the nutrient sources for food supplements and the bioavailability of the nutrients from these sources, although dossiers containing more substantial information for nutrient sources with the same name were submitted by other petitioners.

Name provided by the petitioner for the nutrient source	Petitioner
adenosylcobalamin	Metabolics Ltd.
adenosylcobalamin	National Association of Health Stores
bis-glycinato oxo vanadium	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
calcium citrate malate	Metabolics Ltd.
calcium ethanolamine phosphate	BioCare Ltd.
calcium pidolate	National Association of Health Stores
chromium orotate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
copper orotate	National Association of Health Stores
inositol hexaniacitate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
iron ethanolamine phosphate	BioCare Ltd.
iron orotate	National Association of Health Stores
iron pidolate	National Association of Health Stores
magnesium ascorbate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
magnesium ascorbate	Metabolics Ltd.
magnesium ethanolamine phosphate	BioCare Ltd.
magnesium malate	Metabolics Ltd.
manganese ascorbate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
manganese ascorbate	BioCare Ltd.
methylcobalamin	Metabolics Ltd.
nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide	Metabolics Ltd.
potassium aspartate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
potassium aspartate	Holland and Barret Retail Ltd.
potassium magnesium aspartate	Metabolics Ltd.
potassium orotate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
pyridoxal-5-phosphate	Metabolics Ltd.
pyridoxal-5-phosphate	BioCare Ltd.
selenium amino acid chelate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
selenium amino acid chelate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
thiamine pyrophosphate	Metabolics Ltd.

vanadium citrate	National Association of Health Stores
zinc ascorbate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
zinc picolinate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.
zinc pidolate	National Association of Health Stores
potassium amino acid chelate	Gee Lawson Ltd.
potassium amino acid chelate	Re-Action Sales and Marketing Ltd.