

16th meeting of the EFSA Stakeholder Consultative Platform

Parma, 29-30th June 2011

Attendees EFSA

- Hubert Deluyker (HD)
- Anne Laure Gassin (ALG)
- Steve Pagani (SP)
- Herman Fontier (HF)
- Lucia De Luca (LDL)
- Leng Heng (LH)
- Laura Smillie (LS)
- Caroline Haga (CH)
- Frank Boelaert
- Ernesto Guisado Ferrer (EGF)
- Goumperis Tilemachos (TR)
- Claudia Heppner (CH)
- Dirk Detken (DD)
- Caroline Merten (CM)
- Luisa Venier (LV)
- Nicoletta Manghi (NM)
- Rita Lazar (RL)

Attendees Members

- CHAIR (Andreas Varlamos)
- BEUC
- CEFIC
- CELCAA
- FOODDRINK EUROPE
- COPA-COGECA
- ECPA
- EFFA
- EFFAT
- EUFIC
- EUROCOOP
- FEFAC
- FEFANA
- FRESHFEL EUROPE
- ILSI EUROPE
- UEAPME

Apologies

- EEB
- EMRA
- EPHA
- ESA
- EUROCOMMERCE
- EUROGROUP FOR ANIMALS
- EUROPABIO
- FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
- GREENPEACE
- EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Observers

- AIBI
- COPA-COGECA
- ELC
- IFAH-EUROPE

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSIONS	SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSIONS
1. Outlook on EFSA progress Report By Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle	In view of the ongoing E-coli crisis and the emergency task force set up to address the crisis, Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle could not attend the Platform. The power point presentation on the Progress Report can be found at the following link: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/110629.htm
Introduction to the Communications breakout sessions – by Anne Laure Gassin, Director of Communications	In the Reflection Paper on the engagement of stakeholders' organisations on EFSA's activities, one of the tools proposed in order to increase interaction and enhance the role of the Platform was the request to organise break-out sessions on specific issues. It was decided to start with "communications break out sessions" dealing with scientific issues suggested by the Platform members. The Platform members were invited to express a preference on the subjects to be discussed at the break out sessions and on their attendance. The issues identified were: Zoonoses, Health Claims and Pesticides. Anne Laure Gassin provided an introduction summarising the main goal and process of the breakout sessions. The whole presentation can be found at the following link. http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/110629.htm

<p>Subdivision in breakout sessions:</p> <p>1) Health claims: Presenters: Beate Kettlitz from FOODDRINK EUROPE, Henry Uitslag from BEUC From EFSA: the deputy head of Media Relations Lucia De Luca;</p> <p>2) Zoonoses: Presenter: Annette Toft from Copa-Cogeca and Robert Fitzhenry from EUFIC. From EFSA: the communication officer Caroline Haga.</p> <p>3) Pesticides: Presenter: Kalila Hajjar from ECPA. From EFSA: the head of Media Relations: Steve Pagani.</p> <p>Report back of the breakout sessions to the Plenary (20 minutes per session including discussion in all topics) – by the Rapporteurs of each session</p> <p>Wrap up of the breakout sessions – by Anne Laure Gassin, Director of the Communications Directorate</p>	<p>The sessions were organised as round table discussions, with the participation of Platform members divided in sub-groups, and an EFSA communications officer moderating the discussion. One or more stakeholders' organisations in each group volunteered to introduce the debate by presenting the point of view of their organisation on communications on the scientific issue as well as any communications undertaken by their own organisation. .</p> <p>An overview and summary of the discussions is attached to these minutes as Annex 1.</p> <p>The whole set of presentations on each specific scientific issue can be found at the following link:</p> <p>http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/110629.htm</p>
<p>Update on EFSA's Communications activities – by Anne-Laure Gassin, Director of the Communications Directorate</p>	<p>Anne Laure Gassin provided an exhaustive overview of EFSA's recent and upcoming communications. The whole presentation can be found:</p> <p>http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/110629.htm</p> <p>Questions and answers (FEFAC; EFFAT, CELCAA) were mainly focused on the E-Coli crisis and on the way EFSA was coordinating the scientific advice to be provided.</p> <p>Anne Laure specified that EFSA was collaborating closely with the EU Member States Authorities, the European Commission and with ECDC.</p> <p>FOODDRINK EUROPE suggested whether it would be possible for EFSA to organise a technical meeting with Stakeholders on the Threshold of Toxicological Concern. BEUC supported such a suggestion.</p>

<p>Outcome of the Stakeholders' Consultative Group on Emerging Risks submitted to EFSA: Report on Stakeholders' activities in the area of emerging risks – by Tobin Robinson, Head of the EFSA Emerging Risks Unit and by Thorsten Guthke from FEFANA and Andreas Varlamos from BEUC, members of the WG.</p>	<p>Tilemachos Goumperis from the EFSA Emerging Risks Unit provided a presentation of the outcome of the stakeholders' consultative Group on emerging risks. The presentation was complemented by Thorsten Guthke, from FEFANA. Tilemachos Goumperis provided the background on the creation of consultative group, the main goals, the main achievements and targets. Thorsten Guthke provided an update on the main outcomes of the report. Tilemachos Goumperis indicated that EFSA is considering having a second mandate for the consultative group renewing the membership and the tasks. A draft mandate will be issued over the summer. It was asked to the Platform members to contribute and input on the second mandate by providing suggestions, inputs and focus of the group to be implemented in the new mandate.</p> <p>The whole presentation can be found at the following link: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/110629.htm</p> <p>Considerations: FEFAC: underlined that in order to increase the efficiency of the group, the group should be integrated with additional scientific expertise, including input from scientific panel members. In addition FEFAC suggested having a chapter on emerging risks in the EFSA annual report. CELCAA underlined that the task of detecting and anticipating emerging risks is extremely difficult, but it is essential to build a robust network of collaboration and communication to be able to respond in the quickest timing and deadline to potential events. EFFAT: suggested that the Agency for health and safety at work has developed a model to detect emerging risks. It was suggested to analyse the model as benchmark.</p>
<p>Recommendations and actions plan stemming from the Reflection Paper on the engagement of the stakeholders in the EFSA's activities – by Dirk Detken, Head of the Legal and Regulatory Affairs 2.</p>	<p>Dirk Detken presented the recommendations and actions plan stemming from the discussions on the implementation of the Reflection Paper on the engagement of Stakeholders on the EFSA's activities. He underlined that the document foresees a series of suggestions involving both sides, EFSA and the Stakeholders. As regards the actions to be put in place by EFSA he provided an overview of the next steps and on the deadlines for the implementation. For the contributions of the Platform organisations, he set out a series of deadlines for EFSA and the members to take action.</p> <p>The whole presentation can be found at the following link http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/110629.htm</p>
<p>EFSA's work on acrylamide – by Caroline Merten, Scientific Officer of the Dietary and Chemicals monitoring Unit, and Claudia Heppner Head of the Contaminants Unit</p>	<p>The whole presentation can be found at the following link: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/110629.htm</p>

<p>Update on the E-Coli crisis – by Hubert Deluyker, Director Risk Assessment and Scientific Assistance</p>	<p>Hubert Deluyker updated the Platform on the ongoing action taken to face the E-Coli crisis. Hubert Deluyker explained that a rapid risk assessment by EFSA and ECDC, published 29 June 2011, highlighted the links between the French and German outbreaks both associated with sprouts. In both outbreaks the rare strain of E. coli O104:H4 had been confirmed.</p>
<p>Any other business</p>	<p>Actions and deadlines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Contribution for the next Platform agenda: to be sent to the Secretariat by the 1st September 2011. 2) Contribution for the second mandate of the stakeholders emerging risks consultative group: to be sent by the 10th August 2011 3) Implementing the interaction in the medium term perspective: providing information about the scientific priorities and work plans already foreseen by the members for the incoming year(s) in order to be used in the medium term as potential contribution to EFSA's work plan: By 30th October 2011 4) Providing ideas and suggestions for technical meetings to be possibly organised by EFSA on specific scientific issues: by the 30th October 2011 5) Providing information about all initiatives such as conferences, congresses, events organised by the members in the next months/year whereby it is considered that the presence of EFSA could be advisable: by 30th October 2011 6) Provide the mapping of the activities of the members, and with the mapping of the associates of the members and their activities to allow a better information flow and targeted communication to be channelled to all interested parties: by the 15th November 2011