

75th Meeting of the EFSA's Management Board

Minutes of the Public Session

Parma, 12 December 2017 – 9:00-13:40

Members of the Management Board Present	
Jaana Husu-Kallio (Chair)	Stella Michaelidou-Canna
Robert van Gorcom (Vice-Chair)	Jan Mousing
Raymond O'Rourke (Vice-Chair)	Michael Scannell
Aivars Bērziņš	Andrej Simončič
Zita Čeponytė	András Székács
Iñaki Eguileor	Michael Winter

Apologies: Didier Houssin, Giuseppe Ruocco and Piet Vanthemsche

Staff of the European Food Safety Authority	
Bernhard Url (Executive Director)	Juliane Kleiner
Gian Luca Bonduri	James Ramsay
Peter De Pauw	Jane Richardson
Paul Devalier	Alberto Spagnolli
Guilhem de Seze	Hans Verhagen
Dirk Detken	Selomey Yamadjako
Marta Hugas	

Also attending:

Anthony Hardy, Chair of the EFSA's Scientific Committee

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SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

The Board adopted:

- The revised Management Board Code of Conduct, which rules have been aligned to the Independence policy adopted in June this year.
- The Programming Documents covering the period 2018-2021. In particular, these include the 'Final programming document 2018-2020', the 'Budget 2018' and the 'Draft programming document 2019-2021'. The Board voiced its concerns for the sustainability of the Authority in terms of human and financial resources and invited the EU budgetary authority and the Member States to ensure to EFSA the resources needed to continue delivering high quality scientific risk assessment.
- The EFSA internal Control Framework, which is designed to provide assurance regarding the achievement of the objectives set in Art. 30 of the EFSA Financial Regulation.
- Five amendments (new entries) to the Art. 36 list of competent organisations designated by Member States which may assist EFSA within its mission.

In addition, the Board noted:

- The EFSA Performance Report, which provided an overview on the implementation of the programming document 2017-2019.
- An update from the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Prof. Anthony Hardy, who presented the activities carried out in the risk assessment methodological areas, with a glance to the activities planned for the months to come.
- An update on the work that is being carried out to widen EFSA's evidence base and maximise access to its data. Among others, achievements include the development of the 'Knowledge Junction' and the 'Scientific Data Warehouse'.
- An update on the implementation of EFSA's IT operational strategy. The Board congratulated EFSA for the results achieved so far, and encouraged further implementation in line with EFSA's multiannual plan.
- The feedback from the Chair of the Audit Committee, who reported, among others, on the IAS strategic audit plan 2018-2020, EFSA accountability framework, the new internal control framework of EFSA and the EFSA report on the outstanding audit recommendations.

Item 1: Welcome by the Chair

1. The Chair opened the 75th Management Board meeting by welcoming the Board members, Executive Director, Chair of the Scientific Committee, EFSA Management Team and staff members. The representative of the European Commission and the Chair of the Scientific Committee participated via phone-conference.
2. The Chair conveyed her and the Board's wishes to Ladislav Miko (Deputy Director General for the Food Chain at the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety), who will become the Head of the European Commission Representation in Slovakia as of January 2018. The Management Board expressed gratitude to Ladislav Miko for his contribution to the work of EFSA over the past years.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

3. The Chair asked the Board if they wished to add any items to the agenda. The agenda was adopted with the addition of the following items under Any Other Business: feedback from Andrej Simončič on his participation as observer in the meeting of the external reviewers for the renewal of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels in 2018 (7 Dec.); feedback from EFSA on the outcome of the Board satisfaction survey.

Item 3: Board members' Annual and Oral Declaration of Interests

4. Pursuant to Article 13 of the Management Board Rules of Procedure adopted on 27 June 2013, the Board took note of the ED assessment of the Declarations of Interests submitted by one of its members and confirmed it.
5. The Chair invited the Board members to declare possible interests in addition to those already declared in their Annual Declaration of Interests. Robert van Gorcom declared to have been appointed as coordinator of the statutory tasks at the Wageningen University. He will update his Declaration of Interest in the following days. The Board noted the new interest of Mr van Gorcom.

Item 4: Code of Conduct of the Management Board

6. Dirk Detken (Legal and Assurance Services) introduced the item highlighting the changes proposed for adoption by the Board, which aimed to align the Code of Conduct to the EFSA Independence policy adopted in June. The Board adopted the revised Code of Conduct of the Management Board. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda items is available online at this [link](#).
7. **Action:** EFSA to develop the online register where to publish the interests of the former Board members in the two years following the end of their term.

Item 5: EFSA performance report

8. Bernhard Url (Executive Director - ED) introduced to the Board the performance report covering the reporting period from the 1st of September to the 31st of October, 2017. The document included information on the Authority performance during the reporting period, which was measured against the indicators in the annual and multiannual work programmes as presented in the programming document 2017-2019. Comments from the Board focused in particular on the work EFSA carried out in the areas of bee health, endocrine active substances, assessment of MRLs and cumulative risk assessment.
9. Selomey Yamadjako (Business Services - BuS) provided an update on the budget consumption level (commitments and payments) as of the end of November 2017. In particular, she highlighted that the shortfall detected in Title I in mid-

2017 had been addressed with the adoption of corrective measures not requiring the transfer of funds from Title III. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.

10. The Board noted EFSA's performance report and asked the ED to convey their gratitude to the EFSA's experts and staff for the considerable results achieved in the reporting period. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda items is available online at this [link](#).
11. **Action:** EFSA to provide the Board with a comprehensive presentation of the work it carries out in the field of bee health.

Item 6: Update from the Scientific Committee

12. The Board noted the update provided by Prof. Anthony Hardy, Chair of the Scientific Committee, who presented the activities carried out in the area of methodological risk assessment, with a view also to the tasks planned for the near future and the analysis of the challenges that this work will imply. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 7: Programming Documents 2018-2021

13. The Executive Director introduced to the Board the '[Programming Document 2018-2020](#)', inclusive of the '[Budget 2018](#)', and the '[Draft Programming Document 2019-2021](#)'. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.
14. While expressing appreciation for the ambitious plan of activities for 2018 and beyond, [the Board voiced its concerns for the sustainability of the Authority in terms of human and financial resources](#). Looking at the next EU Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), the Board called the EU budgetary authority and the Member States to devote attention to the evident financial constraints EFSA has to operate with, and to adopt budgetary decisions allowing EFSA to continue delivering high quality scientific risk assessment in the years to come.
15. The Board adopted the EFSA Programming Document 2018-2020, the EFSA Budget 2018 and the EFSA Draft Programming Document 2019-2021. In January 2018, these will be notified to the competent EU institutions and made available online. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).
16. **Actions:**
 - At the next meeting, the Board will exchange views around EFSA beyond 2020: overall context evolution, next Strategy cycle, way to influence the next MFF and possible new ways of funding EFSA.
 - Robert van Gorcom (to be confirmed) might participate in the first [Risk Assessment Research Assembly](#), which will take place at Utrecht on 7 February 2018.

Item 8: Reputation management

17. Discussion around this item was postponed until the following Board meeting.

Item 9: Update on the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Approach

18. Discussion around this item was postponed until the following Board meeting.

Item 10: Update on Open Data

19. The Board noted Jane Richardson's (Evidence Management) presentation on the work that is being carried out to widen EFSA's evidence base and maximise access to its data (Strategic objective no. 2 of the Strategy 2020). Among others, achievements include the development of the 'Knowledge Junction', a curated online community for exchanging evidence used in food and feed safety risk assessments, and the 'Scientific Data Warehouse', a tool for visualising data assessed by EFSA in areas such as antimicrobial resistance and pesticide residues. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.
20. The Board acknowledged the progress made in the areas of management and access to data and invited the scientific community and the organisations in the Member States to make use of the huge amount of data made available by EFSA. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 11: Update on IT operational strategy implementation

21. The Board noted Paul Devalier's (Digital Transformation Services) presentation on the implementation of EFSA's IT operational strategy and, congratulating EFSA for the results achieved so far, encouraged the Authority to further implement the strategy in line with the multiannual plan. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 12: Feedback from the Audit Committee

22. The Chair of the Audit Committee updated the Board on the outcome of the meeting held on 11 December 2017. Among others, he reported on the IAS strategic audit plan 2018-2020, EFSA accountability framework, the new internal control framework of EFSA and the EFSA report on the outstanding audit recommendations. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 13: EFSA internal control framework

23. The Board adopted EFSA's new [Internal Control Framework](#), which is designed to provide assurance regarding the achievement of the objectives set in Art. 30 of the EFSA Financial Regulation: (1) effectiveness, efficiency and economy of operations; (2) reliability of reporting; (3) safeguarding of assets and information; (4) prevention, detection, correction and follow-up of fraud and irregularities; (5) adequate management of the risks related to the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 14: Amendments to Art. 36 list

24. The Board adopted the amendments (five new entries) to the [Art. 36 list](#) of competent organisations designated by Member States which may assist EFSA within its mission. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 15: Any other business

25. Andrej Simončič provided the Board with a feedback on his participation in the meeting of the external reviewers engaged in the renewal of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels. Mr Simončič took part in this meeting, which

was held on 7 December 2017, with the status of observer on behalf of the Board. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

26. Dirk Detken anticipated the preliminary outcome of the survey launched in mid-November with the aim to measure the satisfaction of the Board members with regard to the support they receive from EFSA in performing their statutory tasks. A full report will be circulated after the festivity break. The Chair invited all Board members to provide their feedback through the survey.

27. **Action:** EFSA to circulate the report on the Board survey after the festivity break.

END

Summary of actions

Action reference	Action	Deadline	Status
Dec. 12, 2017 - 1	EFSA to develop the online register where to publish the interests of the former Board members in the two years following the end of their term.	Mid-2018	OPEN
Dec. 12, 2017 - 2	EFSA to provide the Board with a comprehensive presentation of the work it carries out in the field of bee health.	2018	OPEN
Dec. 12, 2017 - 3	The Board to engage in a reflection around EFSA beyond 2020.	March 2018	OPEN
Dec. 12, 2017 - 4	A member of the Board to possibly participate in the first Risk Assessment Research Assembly .	7 Feb., 2018	DONE
Dec. 12, 2017 - 5	EFSA to circulate the report on the Board satisfaction survey.	Jan. 2018	DONE