

AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST OF COMPETENT ORGANISATIONS DESIGNATED BY THE MEMBER STATES

SUMMARY

Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004¹ foresees that the “*Authority’s Management Board, acting on a proposal from the Executive Director, shall draw up the list of competent organisations*” (Art.2(2)) and that “*the list shall be updated regularly, on the basis of proposals from the Authority’s Executive Director, taking account of reviews or new designation proposals from the Member States*” (Art.2(4)).

Organisations are “*designated by the Member States on the basis of criteria*”². In accordance, new designations of competent organisations to be included in the List, as well as substantial changes to organisations already included in the List, need to be endorsed by the Management Board.

The Management Board is presented with the updated List of Competent Organisations designated by Member States, for possible adoption (Annex I), following:

- Member States’ designations of **5** new organisations for inclusion in the List.

In addition, the Management Board is informed about:

- withdrawal of **1** previously designated organisations from the List;

The updated List of Competent Organisations designated by Member States, including all changes, is herewith presented for the adoption of the Management Board.

¹ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004 of 23 December 2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 with regard to the network of organisations operating in the fields within the European Food Safety Authority’s mission (OJ L 379, 24.12.2004, p. 64–67)

² The criteria the designated organisations have to meet can be described as follows, ref. Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004, Art.1(1):

- A. They must “carry out scientific and technical support tasks in the fields within the mission of the European Food Safety Authority”;
- B. They must be “legal entities pursuing public interest objectives” and be able to ensure that the “tasks entrusted to them by the Authority will be performed with independence and integrity”;
- C. They must “possess a high level of scientific or technical expertise in one or several fields within the Authority’s mission”;
- D. They must “have the capacity to operate in a network on scientific actions”.

AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST OF COMPETENT ORGANISATIONS DESIGNATED BY THE MEMBER STATES

The List was initially drawn up by the Decision of the Management Board of 19 December 2006, following the procedure set out in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004. The List is regularly reviewed by the Member States for new designation proposals, deletions and changes to organisations included in the List.

I. New designations for the List

The Permanent Representations to the EU of Hungary, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom have officially notified EFSA of new designation proposals for inclusion in the List of the following competent organisations, which may assist EFSA with its mission:

Hungary (2):

National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition (NIPN)

Type of organisation: Governmental organisation / Public institute

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: On 1 March 2015, the National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition (NIPN) was appointed by the Government as a licensing authority for pharmaceutical and public administrative matters. It is a legal successor of the merged National Institute for Food and Nutrition Science (included in the Article 36 List). One of NIPN's main activities is to provide the public with safe, effective and quality medicines in accordance with the regulations. It is also responsible for tasks of public authority in the field of cosmetics and for statutory tasks as regards food supplements, food for special medical purposes and infant formula. Besides, it provides expertise, carries out professional, methodological, research, education, registration, coordination and supervisory activities in the public health nutrition field. The Institute plays active role in the planning, implementing and monitoring of public health policy interventions. NIPN also participates in preparing domestic and union-level legal acts as well as in the committees and working parties of EMA and professional committees of WHO, the Council of Europe and OECD. It has experience in participating in international projects, for example in the fields of nutrition and physical activity, health technology assessment and pharmacovigilance.

NIPN could fulfil tasks corresponding to EFSA's mission especially through the following: its Directorate General of Food and Nutrition Science focuses on public health in relation to human nutrition and nutritional environment. The Institute regularly monitors food consumption patterns and the nutritional status of adults and children. It is also responsible for developing and updating dietary guidelines and supports the decision-making process related to food and nutrition policies both at national and international levels. Furthermore, its activities include education, research, scientifically based risk assessments and advisory services to Hungarian and international authorities and industries. It also participates in nutritional evaluation of food supplements, food for special medical purposes, infant formula and in the approval and interpretation of nutritional and health claims. Laboratory activity of NIPN covers, amongst others, examination of foods as well as meals served in mass catering (e.g. nutritional components, vitamins, macro and micro elements, fatty acid composition). The Institute plays active role in the planning, implementing and monitoring of public health policy interventions such as public health product tax, restrictions on trans fatty acids or regulation of mass catering.

As a legal successor of the National Institute for Food and Nutrition Science, NIPN has scientific knowledge, experience and experts in the field of nutritional epidemiology, public health, dietetics, vitamins and minerals to be added to foods, nutritional and health claims on food products as well as it has laboratory background in the field of food chemistry.

Financial information: The annual budget is covered by 18% from governmental sources and by 82% from non-governmental sources being mostly own revenues for activities carried out by NIPN as a public authority (68%) and income from international activities (8% projects and EU grants) and others income (6%).

Budapest University of Technology and Economics

Type of organisation: University / Academic institution

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: The Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME) mission is to provide differentiated, multilevel quality education and scientific training, built on strong bachelor programmes, carry out research, development and innovation and employ an academic staff with PhD degrees and above in engineering, natural sciences and certain fields of economics and social sciences. As one of the centres of Hungary's scientific, technological and economic life, BME has a close relationship with professional organisations and the economic sector, and focuses on the utilisation of mutual benefits. BME considers as its duty the fostering of international relations in order to further increase the expertise and international recognition of its academic staff, researchers and students. Scientific activities, scientific research, publication and the continuing status as a research university are goals which are inseparable from educational activities.

To support the strategic objectives of EFSA to build the EU's scientific assessment capacity and knowledge community and to increase efficiency, BME is capable of providing expertise for both desktop and laboratory research in the fields of food science including food chemistry and food composition, food safety and HACCP, food technology and processing, food allergens and allergies. The university is also capable of providing expert advice about issues of nutrition science, such as nutrient sources added to food and nutritional and health claims. In line with the strategic objective of prioritizing public and stakeholder engagement in the process of scientific assessment, BME can also contribute by the dissemination of results for researchers, for the industry and for consumers too and by using the gathered knowledge to improve the curriculum of engineers specialized in food science.

Financial information: The annual budget is covered by 49% from governmental sources (central budgetary subsidy) and by 51% from non-governmental sources, incl. 19.3% from public sources (mostly grants), 22.5% from mixed sources (mostly education and training revenues and 9.2% from private sources (incomes from industrial projects).

Italy (1):

Ministry of Health of Italy (Ministero della Salute)

Type of organisation: Governmental organisation

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: The Ministry of Health (MoH) mission is protecting the constitutional right to health and exercises the functions in the following areas: protection of human health; coordination of the national health system; veterinary health; health protection in the workplaces; food hygiene and safety. Within the general framework of health protection and promotion, the Ministry has the following four main objectives: 1) guarantee to all citizens the fairness of the system, the quality, the efficiency and the transparency also with a correct and adequate communication, 2) highlight inequalities and inequities and promote corrective and improving actions,

3) collaborate with the Regions in order to assess the health situation, correct and improve them and 4) draw the lines of innovation and change and face the states of emergency that threaten public health.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) is the competent authority for food safety, responsible for the implementation of respective EU Regulations. Most of the competencies for animal health, food and feed safety, animal welfare, risk assessment in the food chain and consultation of producers and consumers are assigned at national level to the Directorate-General for Animal Health and Veterinary Medicine (DGAHVM), Directorate-General for Food Hygiene, Food Safety and Nutrition (DGFHFSN) and Directorate-General of Collegial bodies for health protection of the MoH.

Financial information: The annual budget is covered by 100% from governmental sources.

Spain (1):

Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena

Type of organisation: University / Academic institution

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: The Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena (UPCT) is a public university with the mission to educate students in higher education degrees in disciplines of engineering and economical studies at all the academic levels (grade, master and doctoral studies) and to promote research and technology transfer in these areas at a regional, national and international level. It is considered a specialized University, focussed on engineering studies. It is very relevant scientifically due to its strong bonds with other European and international research institutions, as well as having a strong influence in the region of Murcia on all the productive sectors. The agro-food sector is the most relevant one in the region of Murcia and, therefore, the University covers all the scientific disciplines related to it.

Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena (UPCT) is active in research related to all aspects involved in agro-food production and food safety is a key aspect. It has research groups working on all the remits of EFSA, such as Food and feed safety, Nutrition, Animal health and welfare, Plant protection and Plant health including environmental aspects. Most of these groups are present in the School of Agronomical Engineering and the Research Institute of Plant Biotechnology, although there are other groups that interact with them. The research carried out covers from primary production to engineering aspects of the food production, including all the steps of a farm to fork approach. The activity developed covers from basic research to support to agro-food industries and advice to authorities.

Financial information: The annual budget is covered mostly (95,99%) from public sources, incl. 84.41% from governmental sources, 10.01% student fees and 1.57% from other public sources (local, national or EU), and by 4.01% from private sources (projects with industry).

The United Kingdom (1):

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC Support Co)

Type of organisation: Governmental organisation and other: The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) was established by the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and has therefore always been a public body. The JNCC Support Co (or company) came into existence via the Regulatory Reform (Joint Nature Conservation Committee) Order 2006. The Support Company is a company limited by guarantee. Although not technically classified as a public body in its own right the Support Company is a subsidiary of the JNCC itself and exists and operates solely within the public sector. It is bound by the same financial and property rules that apply to all public bodies and can only legally do those

things which are delegated to it by the JNCC. The official name is JNCC Support Co, recognised as JNCC.

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) is the statutory adviser to the UK Government and devolved administrations on UK and international nature conservation. Its work contributes to maintaining and enriching biological diversity sustaining natural systems. JNCC delivers the UK and international responsibilities of the Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside (CNCC), Natural Resources Wales, Natural England, and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). The functions that arise from these responsibilities are principally to: advise Government on the development and implementation of policies for, or affecting, nature conservation in the UK and internationally; provide advice and disseminate knowledge on nature conservation issues affecting the UK and internationally; establish common standards throughout the UK for nature conservation, including monitoring, research, and the analysis of results; commission or support research which it deems relevant to these functions.

Under JNCC mission in fields of EFSA mission, there are mainly the following areas relevant: understanding and evaluating the resilience of food production systems to food supply threats, animal and plant health and options for prevention and mitigation of disease; understanding of natural resource management - forest products; facilitating co-operation amongst government organisations and wider stakeholders to identify and address EFSA's shared priorities; furthermore: core skills in data collation and management, citizen science, application development, statistical modelling and recording biological datasets particularly pertaining to wildlife. JNCC scientists are well versed in risk assessment, risk communication and risk management for a range of foods, feeds and environmental compartments.

Financial information: The annual budget is covered by 99% from governmental sources and by 1% from non-governmental sources (EU funding).

EFSA has ensured that the organisations designated by the Member State comply with the criteria set out in Article 1(1) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004. The brief abstract from the profile for each organisation provided above is based on the information submitted via the Art36-Database. Member States concluded that the organisations meet the criteria and have designated them for inclusion in the Article 36 List.

II. Withdrawals

In addition, the Management Board is informed about:

- withdrawal, upon a notification received from the Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU, of **1** included organisation in the List, which merged into the new designated organisation National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition (NIPN), namely:

Hungary (1):

Entry no. 2: National Institute for Food and Nutrition Science.

III. Conclusion

The Management Board is presented for adoption the **updated List of competent organisations**.

The updated Article 36 List has **five** newly designated organisations added by Hungary (2), Italy (1), Spain (1) and the United Kingdom (1). Details of each organisation on the List, including specific fields of competence, are available in the Search Tool of the Article 36 Database to: all Article 36 organisations, EFSA national Focal Points, EFSA Advisory Forum members and alternates and to EFSA staff.

The updated List will be published on the EFSA website and notified via the Official Journal of the European Union.