

95th meeting of the EFSA Management Board – public session

Location: Parma and hybrid

Management Board participants	
Aivars BĒRZIŅŠ - Chair (Latvia)	Karoline MATHISEN (EFTA S.A.)
Pamela BYRNE - Vice-Chair (Ireland)	Sanja MUSIĆ MILANOVIĆ* (European Parliament)
Gergana BALIEVA* (Bulgaria)	Henrik NIELSEN (Denmark)
Ana BATALHA (Portugal)	Szabolcs PÁSZTOR* (Hungary)
Margaret BATESON-MISSEN (Commission)	Isabel PEÑA-REY (Spain)
Carl BERTHOD* (Belgium)	Egidijus PUMPUTIS (Lithuania)
Ingrid BORG (Malta)	Marjatta RAHKIO (Finland)
Claire BURY (Commission)	Darja SOKOLIĆ (Croatia)
Floriana CIMMARUSTI* (Consumer Org.s)	Annica SOLHSTRÖM (Sweden)
Laszlo CSUTAK-NAGY* (Romania)	Martin ŠTĚPÁNEK (Czech Republic)
Ugo DELLA MARTA (Italy)	Katarzyna STOŚ* (Poland)
Rebeca FERNANDEZ* (Industry Org.)	Astrid THORS (European Parliament)
Ingunn Midttun GODAL (Norway)	Marie-Luise TREBES (Germany)
Patrick HAU (Luxemburg)	Benoît VALLET (France)
Ulrich HERZOG (Austria)	Ana VILORIA (The Netherlands)
Hrönn Ólína JÖRUNDSDÓTTIR* (Iceland)	Stelios YIANNOPOULOS (Cyprus)
Hendrik KUUSK* (Estonia)	Antonis ZAMPELAS (Greece)

Apologies: Slovenia, Slovakia, Environmental NGOs, Farmers Organisations

Staff of the European Food Safety Authority	
Bernhard URL (Executive Director)	Carlos das NEVES
Lucia BILARDI	Peter DE PAUW
Gian Luca BONDURI	Pedro PINHAL
Dirk DETKEN	Guilhem de SEZE
Barbara GALLANI	Alberto SPAGNOLLI
Nikolaus Georg KRIZ	Selomey YAMADJAKO

Also attending:

Dieter SCHRENK, Chair of the Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain*

Simon MORE, Chair of the EFSA Scientific Committee



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SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

The Management Board **adopted**:

- The opinion on EFSA’s accounts for the financial year 2022.
- The updated list of Art. 36 competent organisations designated by the Member States.
- The amendment to the Practical Arrangements on Public Access to Documents.
- The appointment of Ana Batalha (Portugal) as the Management Board alternate observer in the pre-selection procedure for the recruitment of the forthcoming Executive Director of EFSA.

The Management Board **discussed** around the opportunities and challenges regarding strengthening EFSA’s scientific partnership with the Member States for the performance of food and feed risk assessment.

In addition, the Board **noted**:

- The EFSA Performance Report.
- The annual report on the activities carried out by the EFSA Scientific Networks.
- The update on the call for the renewal of EFSA’s Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels.
- The feedback from the Audit Committee.
- The presentation of the work of the Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain.



Item 1: Welcome by the Chair

1. Aivars Bērziņš, Management Board Chair, opened the 95th Management Board meeting by welcoming the Board members, Executive Director, Chair of the Scientific Committee, EFSA's Management Team, EFSA staff present and external observers.
2. He welcomed to the Management Board Mr Tejs Binderup (newly appointed member representing Denmark), Ms Kristina Granelli (newly appointed alternate member representing Sweden) and Ms Karoline Mathisen (newly appointed member representing the EFTA Surveillance Authority).
3. The Chair informed the fellow members of the apologies received from Slovenia, as well as from the representatives of the Environmental NGOs and Farmers Organisations. He informed the Management Board members that he received the proxy from the Farmers Organisations to express their vote on their behalf.
4. The Chair expressed his condolence for the recent loss of the Management Board member Eleni Ioannou-Kakouri, Vice-President of the Cyprus Consumers Association, and called for a moment of silence to tribute her memory.
5. The audio-file on this item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

6. The Management Board adopted by consensus the agenda of the meeting. The agenda was adopted with the addition of the following item under Any Other Business: Feedback from the Chair of the Management Board on his participation in the Stakeholder Bureau meeting held on 13 June 2023.
7. The audio-file on this item is available online at this [link](#).

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

8. Pursuant to Article 13 of the [Management Board Rules of Procedure](#), the Management Board took note of the Executive Director's assessment of the Declaration of Interest submitted by 33 of its members and confirmed it.
9. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 4: Accounts 2022 financial year

10. Based on the presentation introduced by Pedro Pinhal (EFSA accountant) and noting the feedback provided by Pamela Byrne from the Audit Committee meeting held on the previous day, the Management Board gave a positive opinion on EFSA's 2022 financial accounts. 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](#).
11. **Action:** EFSA to notify the Management Board's opinion to the EU competent authorities by 1 July 2023.

Item 5: Amendments to the Article 36 list of organisations

12. The Management Board adopted by consensus the updated list of Art. 36 competent organisations designated by the Member States, which now includes 3 new organisations designated by Italy (2) and Ireland (1).
13. The Management Board noted the information from Barbara Gallani (Head of the EFSA Communication and Partnership Department) that a written procedure for the inclusion of new organisations into the Art. 36 list may become needed during summer.



14. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 6: Amendment to the Practical Arrangements on Public Access to Documents

15. The Management Board adopted by consensus the amendment to the EFSA Practical Arrangements on Public Access to Documents, which aims at addressing recommendations received from the European Ombudsman. 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: Partnership with Member States for risk assessment

16. Taking into account the evolution of EFSA's operations since its inception, the evolved complexities enshrined in risk assessment processes, the need to ensure EFSA's effective and timely scientific response in support of innovation in the European food and feed sectors, the Management Board exchanged views and considerations around opportunities and challenges in expanding scientific partnership between EFSA and the Member States in co-producing food and feed risk assessment. Enabling and blocking factors, as well as available resources, were considered. Overall, the Management Board members expressed support to EFSA's request for reinforced scientific partnership with the Member States and proposed to work on the identification of practical means and approaches enabling them to advocate for stronger scientific partnership with the governments and public administrations in their countries. The Executive Director backed the proposal of the French representative and invited the Management Board members to continue sharing their thoughts and proposals in writing, with the aim of gathering input from all Member States. The idea of tasking dedicated Management Board sub-groups to the identification of those means and approaches was tabled for possible consideration. 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](#).
17. **Action:** The Management Board members to share in writing their additional thoughts and considerations with EFSA by responding to a questionnaire that EFSA will notify to them in the coming weeks.

Item 8: EFSA Performance Report

18. Bernhard Url (Executive Director) introduced to the Management Board the Performance Report covering the period from 1 January to 30 April 2023. The document includes information on all aspects of the EFSA performance against the Programming Document 2023-2025. Selomey Yamadjako (Head of the EFSA Management Services Department) brought to the Board's attention the data on the budget execution and transfers. The Management Board noted the first Performance Report of the year. 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 the following [link](#).

Item 9: Report on the activities of the EFSA Scientific Networks

19. The Management Board noted the report on the activities of the EFSA Scientific Networks, which was introduced by Nik Kriz (Head of the EFSA Risk Assessment Services Department). The report contains the description of the activities of the Networks during the year 2022. It includes information on main deliverables, outcomes and relevant budget for each Network. The Management Board highlighted the importance of the Scientific Networks in fostering scientific partnership between EFSA and the competent organisations in the Member States. 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 the following [link](#).



Item 10: Feedback from the Audit Committee

20. Pamela Byrne, Vice-Chair of the Management Board and Audit Committee member, deputising for Herman Diricks (Chair of the Audit Committee), updated the Management Board on the outcome of the meeting held on the previous day. Among others, the Audit Committee discussed and endorsed the Management Board opinion on EFSA's accounts 2022 and noted the information on the follow up on outstanding audit observations, evolution of EFSA's budgetary expenditure, implementation of the Board recommendations issued in 2018 following the 3rd external evaluation of EFSA, and EFSA's discharge 2021.
21. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 11: Update on the call for the renewal of Panels

22. The Management Board noted the presentation of Nik Kriz, who shared information on the state of implementation of the procedure for the renewal of EFSA's Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels. In particular, he shared information on the number of applications received and on the timeline for the implementation of the selection and appointment process. 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 the following [link](#).
23. **Action:** At the next occasion of exchange around the exercise for the renewal of the EFSA Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels, EFSA to provide the Management Board with information on the affiliation of the candidate experts.

Item 12: Update from the Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

24. Following the introduction by Prof. Simon More, Chair of the Scientific Committee, Prof. Dieter Schrenk provided the Management Board with an overview of the work carried out by the scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain. 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 13: Any Other Business

25. The Chair gave a feedback to the Management Board on his participation, on 13 June 2013, in the EFSA Stakeholder Bureau meeting, which met for the first time in its new composition. The Chair underlined the fruitfulness of the meeting and the Executive Director stressed the importance of the role played by the Stakeholder Bureau as a channel for EFSA to communicate and collaborate with representatives of the civil society and of the food chain. The Chair anticipated that the annual meeting of the EFSA Stakeholder Forum will be held in November 2023.
26. Carlos Das Neves (EFSA's Chief Scientist) informed the Management Board that, following up on the outcome of the One-Health Conference held in June 2022, the so called "ENVI agencies" (i.e.: EFSA, ECHA, EMA, ECDC and EEA) had established a Cross-Agency Task Force on One-Health, which scope and activities are described on a paper published on EFSA's website at this [link](#).
27. Following up on the decision adopted on the previous day to appoint Benoît Vallet (representative of France) as the Management Board observer in the pre-selection phase of the recruitment process of the next Executive Director of EFSA, the Management Board decided to appoint Ms Ana Batalha (representative of Portugal) as alternate observer.
28. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).



Summary of actions

Action reference	Action	Deadline	Status
June 22, 2023 - 1	EFSA to notify the Management Board's opinion on EFSA's accounts 2022 to the EU competent authorities.	1 July 2023	DONE
June 22, 2023 - 2	The Management Board members to share in writing their additional thoughts and considerations with EFSA by responding to a questionnaire that EFSA will notify to them in the coming weeks.	September 2023	ONGOING
June 22, 2023 - 3	At the next occasion of exchange around the exercise for the renewal of the EFSA Scientific Committee and Scientific Panes, EFSA to provide the Management Board with information on the affiliation of the candidate experts.	March 2024	ONGOING