

NOTE TO THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Health Check on the Focal Point Operational Framework

Background

Today's presentation covers the current work towards the next framework and involvement of the Member States.

Summary

The presentation emphasizes the importance of Focal Points as an instrument of collaboration supporting EFSA's strategic objectives. This Health Check exercise will review the Focal Point Operational framework to support the next EFSA Strategy.

The presentation explains the FP Framework, its financial envelope, split into 2M€ for principal FP activities plus 4M€ for tailor-made activities, allocated via specific agreements in 5 areas (Knowledge and information management and support to scientific production/Engagement, collaboration and partnerships/Capacity Building/ Data/ Risk Communication).

The Health Check consists of possible leaning and efficiency gains under the current framework and a forward-looking work on the design on the next framework, drawing lessons from the current one.

Achievements of the current framework are mentioned, in particular the enhanced networking of Member State (MS) organisations with EFSA, within and beyond MSs, in cross-country consortia and through subcontracting, both within and beyond the List of competent Organisations (Art.36 list). A number of successful tailor-made activities are provided as examples.

MSs are invited to co-create with EFSA the next framework cycle building on a reinforced network of national organisations. This work was kicked-off with a two-day workshop held with Advisory Forum, Focal Point and Advisory Group on Data members on 4 and 5 of November.

Member States are invited to contribute to an EFSA- MS task force, lead by an internal EFSA task force and composed of a number of Advisory Forum and Focal Point members and alternates and Co-Chaired by a Member State participant.