In 2005, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) witnessed another landmark year of growth and development under the guidance of its Management Board and Executive Director. EFSA also completed its final relocation from Brussels to Parma, Italy.

Scientific work expanded significantly in 2005 with a focus on its core risk assessment themes: (1) answering general questions on food and feed safety, (2) authorisations, (3) monitoring of specific risk factors, zoonoses and animal diseases and, (4) further investment in food science.

Several important initiatives also began aimed at strengthening EFSA’s position as the European centre of scientific excellence for risk assessment linked to food and feed safety, critical to building consumer confidence in the risk assessment process.

Emerging public health concerns investigated by EFSA during the year included avian influenza, the safety of goat meat and goat meat products with respect to BSE risk, and the discovery that the substances 2-isopropyl thioxanthone (ITX) and 2-ethylhexyl-dimethylaminobenzoate (EHDAB) which are used in printing ink on food packaging materials, were migrating to foods. In all cases, the Authority provided prompt advice to the public and EU authorities. EFSA continued to deliver comprehensive scientific assessments on topics such as the safety of wild and farmed fish and upper limits for vitamins and minerals. The Authority pushed ahead on initiating its own work, so-called self-tasking, to further develop risk assessment related to food and feed.

EFSA’s communication outreach also grew with increased efforts to highlight the work of the Authority through public announcements and the publication of EFSA’s advice both on- and offline. In 2005 the EFSA Communications Department published 46 press releases and statements to promote the Authority and its scientific work.

Moreover, regular exchanges took place with the European Institutions and Member States, notably through the Advisory Forum, informing risk managers on scientific matters and the Authority’s work. Building on its stakeholder relations programme, EFSA established in 2005 a Stakeholder Consultative Platform in order to further structure its two-way dialogue with interested parties.

As stipulated in its Regulation, an independent evaluation of EFSA was completed and a public consultation to gather feedback was held.
BIOHAZ Panel
Opinion related to Campylobacter in animals and foodstuffs

PPR Panel
Opinion related to the appropriate variability factor(s) to be used for acute dietary exposure assessment of pesticides in fruit and vegetables

BIOHAZ Panel
Opinion on the risk assessment of a revised inspection of slaughter animals in areas with low prevalence of Trichinella

3rd EFSA Scientific Colloquium
“Towards a European Food Consumption Data Base”

Scientific Committee
Opinion on a request from EFSA related to a generic approach to the safety assessment by EFSA of microorganisms used in food/feed and the production of food/feed additives

FEEDAP Panel
Opinion on the updating of the criteria used in the assessment of bacteria for resistance to antibiotics of human or veterinary importance in microbial feed additives (self-task activity)

AFC Panel
Opinion related to semicarbazide in food

BIOHAZ Panel
Assessment of the health risks of goat meat and goat meat products with regard to BSE

CONTAM Panel
Opinion related to the safety assessment of wild and farmed fish

Highlights from EFSA’s activities in 2005 •••
### Summary of Annual Report

**European Food Safety Authority**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of adopted scientific opinions, statements and reports: 15</td>
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<td>Number of adopted scientific opinions, statements and reports: 12</td>
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<td>Number of adopted scientific opinions, statements and reports: 22</td>
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<td>AFC Panel</td>
<td>AHAW Panel</td>
<td>Scientific Committee</td>
<td>CONTAM Panel</td>
<td>AHAW Panel</td>
<td>GMO Panel</td>
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<td>Opinion to review the toxicityology of a number of dyes illegally present in foods in the EU</td>
<td>Opinion related to animal health and welfare aspects of avian influenza</td>
<td>After public consultation on a draft opinion during April-May, the SC adopts an opinion on a harmonised approach for risk assessment of substances which are both genotoxic and carcinogenic</td>
<td>Opinion related to the presence of non-diseas-le like polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in feed and food</td>
<td>Opinion related to the aspects of the biology and welfare of animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes following two stakeholders consultations in February and August</td>
<td>Opinion on an application for the placing on the market of genetically modified potato EH92-527-1 with altered starch composition, for production of starch and food/feed uses</td>
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**GMO Panel**

- Opinion on an application for the placing on the market of genetically modified potato EH92-527-1 with altered starch composition, for production of starch and food/feed uses

**GMO Panel**

- Opinion on an application for the placing on the market of genetically modified potato EH92-527-1 with altered starch composition, for production of starch and food/feed uses

**Call for renewal of the Scientific Panels**

EFSA calls for top-level scientists from Europe and beyond

**EFSA Stakeholder Consultative Platform**

- holds its first meeting

**EFSA/WHO conference with support of ILSI**

- Principles of Risk Assessment concerning Food Producing Animals: Current and future approaches

**EFSA Stakeholder Consultative Platform**

- holds its first meeting

**Acting Executive Director appointed**

- Geoffrey Hodder leaves EFSA to take up the post of Chief Executive of the British Health and Safety Executive and Herman Koëter is appointed EFSA Acting Executive Director

**Annual Report on Zoonoses - 2004**

- EFSA publishes its first annual report on infectious diseases transmissible from animals to humans

**EFSA calls for top-level scientists from Europe and beyond**

**EFSA Stakeholder Consultative Platform**

- holds its first meeting

**Call for renewal of the Scientific Panels**

EFSA calls for top-level scientists from Europe and beyond

**Viale Piacenza (Parma) proposed for EFSA’s operational seat by the Management Board**

**Animal welfare**

- Dr. Herman Koëter, Deputy Executive Director and Director of Science, awarded prize for his efforts in improving animal welfare

**Scientific Expert Services**

- Joint Conference organised by EFSA, DG SANCO and DG JRC

*“Methods for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) in Food”*
EFSA finances at a glance

EFSA’s continuing growth was evident from its increased budget execution throughout the year. Eighty per cent of the budget allocated for 2005 (€37.2 million) was committed (€29.8 million). This lower commitment figure is explained by the late finalisation of the 2005 establishment plan, approved by the EU Budgetary Authority in June, resulting in delays in the launch of recruitment calls. Carry-over commitments to 2005 (i.e. commitments registered at the end of 2004 for which the related activities were delivered in 2005 and/or services delivered late in 2004 and paid for in 2005) totaled €6.3 million.

ABB expenditures 2005

From an activity based budgeting (ABB*) perspective, i.e. after reallocation of staff and infrastructure expenditures by activity, the total expenditures for 2005 can be split as shown in the chart below. Administration includes Human Resources, Legal, Finance, Facilities, Accounting and IT Departments. The expenditures of the Directorate and the International and Institutional Affairs Department are proportionally spread over the 3 reported activities.

* Since 2004 the EU Institutions adopted ABB, a method of budgeting in which activities that incur costs in each function of an organisation are established and relationships are defined between activities. This information is then used to decide how much resource should be allocated to each activity.