

Note to the Management Board

Withdrawal and appointment of some members of the Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM) and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)

Based on the results of the selection procedure EFSA/E/2014/001, with decision adopted on 19 March 2015, the Management Board appointed the members of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW), Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ), Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM), Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed (FEEDAP), Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO), Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies (NDA), Plant Health (PLH), Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR) – 2015-2018.

With decision adopted on 3 December 2015, the Board revised the composition of the CEF, FEEDAP and GMO Scientific Panels. With the same decision, the Management Board adopted an updated reserve list of suitable candidates for membership in all Scientific Panels and the Scientific Committee.

Since the adoption of the above-mentioned decision, Prof. Vera Maria Rogiers, member of the CONTAM Scientific Panel, and Dr Achim Gathmann, member of the GMO Scientific Panel, informed EFSA of their resignation.

The Selection Committee of the CONTAM Panel proposes the nomination of an expert selected from the reserve list. The name of the expert will be made public once the appointing procedure is concluded.

The expert proposed for appointment in the CONTAM Panel has a high level of expertise in toxicology and risk assessment of food contaminants, which makes him a suitable candidate to replace Prof. Rogiers. With the proposed replacement the number of Panel members in the CONTAM Scientific Panel (2015-2018) would be brought back to 21, with 12 male and 9 female experts representing 12 different nationalities.

The Selection Committee of the GMO Panel proposes to fill the four remaining vacant seats in the GMO Panel at a later stage by further consulting the current reserve list, as well as the reserve list resulting from the selection procedure launched on 18 May 2016 (for the 2017 renewal of the ANS and CEF Scientific Panels). The Selection Committee of the GMO Panel is looking for the following expertise: impact of GM plants on target/non-target organisms and agricultural practices; post-market environmental monitoring of GM plants; and horizontal and vertical gene flow.

The Management Board is kindly invited to note the withdrawal of the former CONTAM and GMO Panel members and consider the appointment of a new member in the CONTAM Scientific Panel. Simultaneously, the Board is invited to adopt an updated list of candidates suitable for membership in the EFSA Scientific Committee and all Scientific Panels.