

AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLE 36 LIST OF ORGANISATIONS

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 on the Article 36 List, as well as substantial changes to organisations already included on the List, need to be endorsed by the Management Board.

The Management Board is presented with the updated Article 36 List, for possible adoption (Annex I), following:

- Member States’ designations of **4** new organisations for inclusion on the List.

In addition, the Management Board is informed of:

- withdrawals of **3** previously designated organisations from the Article 36 List;
- technical changes adopted by the Executive Director in his Decision dated 26/01/2017 (Annex II).

The updated Article 36 List, 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 ARTICLE 36 LIST OF ORGANISATIONS

The Article 36 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 Article 36 List is regularly reviewed by the Member States for new designation proposals, deletions and changes to organisations included on the List.

I. New designations for the Article 36 List

The Permanent Representations to the EU of Bulgaria, Greece and Latvia have officially notified EFSA of new designation proposals for inclusion in the Article 36 List of the following competent organisations:

Bulgaria (2):

Institute of Plant Physiology and Genetics

Type of organisation: Academic institution / organisation.

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: The Institute implements fundamental and applied research in the field of plant physiology, biochemistry and genetics, with a key significance in working out the current problems of modern society, the most important of which is feeding a growing population under conditions of unfavourable climate changes. Investigations in the field of medical biology, focussing on the study of the genetic nature of socially significant human diseases, are also conducted.

The Institute can fulfil the following tasks corresponding to EFSA's mission: investigations on physiological and biochemical mechanisms of regulation of plant metabolism and defence mechanisms in plants, contributing to overcoming of unfavourable environmental influences and to improving of plant resistance.

Financial information: 96.67% of annual budget is covered from governmental sources and 3.23% from other public, mostly EU / European Social Fund.

Institute of Animal Science-Kostinbrod

Type of organisation: Academic organisation and research institute.

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: The Institute has nine departments with laboratories carrying out both fundamental and applied research in the area of animal nutrition and feed technology, reproduction of farm animals, genetics of farm animals, cattle breeding, sheep breeding, physiology of the farm animals, ecology and quality in animal production, horse breeding, rabbit breeding, poultry breeding and apiculture. The institute has laboratories in genetics, analysis of feed, analysis of milk and meat quality (with GC analysis), laboratory of reproduction and laboratory of quality of bee products.

The Institute can fulfil the following tasks corresponding to EFSA's mission: expertise, assessment and advice concerning feed quality, animal production quality and animal welfare.

Financial information: The annual budget is completely covered from governmental sources.

Greece (1):

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)

Type of organisation: University / Academic institution / organisation.

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: The University participates in national and international committees, carries out educational and other research projects, and organises and contributes to seminars for various social groups. One of the most important NKUA services is promotion and care of national health. In addition, students of the Health Sciences perform their first practice period offering their medical aid to the public under the supervision of their professors.

NKUA can support EFSA's activities in relation to evidence-based risk assessment through the evaluation of levels of chemical contaminants, residues and biological hazards in the foodstuffs and the food chain, in general. The NKUA's extensive experience in nutrition monitoring through the harmonization and analysis of dietary intake data with European coverage can additionally contribute in EFSA's risk management activities.

Moreover, the extensive expertise of NKUA's Faculty Members in the genetics and epidemiology of chronic diseases, metabolic and endocrine disorders (including the analysis of both observational studies and experimental trials), as well as on metabolic profiling can assist EFSA in: (a) identifying and evaluating the scientific evidence for an assessment, (b) in weighing the quality of the evidence, and (c) in understanding the sources of uncertainty, so as to critically appraise and interpret the evidence in a structured, consistent and transparent manner.

Financial information: The annual budget is covered by 22% from public governmental sources, 29% from public non-governmental sources and 49% from private sources. The public non-governmental sources come from the National Strategic Reference Framework European projects, social security funds and other public sector sources of funding.

The biggest part of the private sources comes from the University's revenues from medical fees, donations, provision of services from the members of teaching and research staff, tuition fees, clinical studies, interests and rents.

Latvia (1):

Latvia University of Agriculture

Type of organisation: University / Academic institution / organisation.

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: The University is one of the leading universities of science and technologies in the Baltic Sea region, specialising in the sustainable use of natural resources aimed at the enhancement of quality of life. The University can fulfil the following tasks corresponding to EFSA's mission:

- consumer health and food safety associated issues related to the consumption of food and in particular studies on new products and functional foods, their production and evaluation, biologically active compounds in products, raw material and food processing hygiene in the entire food production chain, nutrition, applications of agrifood technologies as application of new packaging materials (including biodegradable) coming into contact with foodstuffs and technologies in food production;
- health and safety evaluation of food and environment, including mechanical, chemical and biological hazards assessment, including antimicrobial resistance;
- animal health and welfare, including animal feed, feeding practice evaluation, farm conditions, farm management, preventive care, infectious diseases and zoonoses studies in farm-to-fork chain.

Financial information: The annual budget is covered by 72.75% from governmental sources and by 27.25 % from non-governmental sources, mostly public.

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 State concluded that the organisations meet the criteria and has designated them for inclusion in the Article 36 List.

II. Withdrawals and technical changes of organisations on the Article 36 List

Withdrawals:

The Management Board is informed that the following organisations, being parts of the newly designated organisations, are withdrawn from the Article 36 List upon notification from the respective Permanent Representations:

Greece (2):

Entry no. 3.1: Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Public Health Nutrition and Nutritional Epidemiology Unit, Medical school, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Entry no. 3.2: Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

- as these are parts of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, which is newly designated for inclusion in the Article 36 List.

Latvia (1):

Entry no. 4.1: Faculty of Food Technology (FFT), Latvia University of Agriculture,

Entry no. 4.2: Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (FVM), Latvia University of Agriculture,

Entry no. 4.3: Research Institute of Biotechnology and Veterinary Medicine "Sigra" (RIBVMS), Latvia University of Agriculture

- as these are parts of the Latvia University of Agriculture, which is newly designated for inclusion in the Article 36 List.

Sweden (1):

Entry no. 4: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

- as the Agency has no active cooperation with EFSA and no designated resources to maintain their profile up-to-date.

Technical changes:

The Management Board is also informed of the technical changes adopted by the Executive Director Decision dated 26/01/2017.

The technical changes to the already included competent organisations on the Article 36 List do not impact the organisations' eligibility for inclusion in the Article 36 List.

III. Conclusion

The Management Board is presented for adoption the **updated Article 36 List** of competent organisations.

The updated Article 36 List has **four** newly designated organisations added by Bulgaria (2), Greece (1) and Latvia (1). Details of each organisation on the Article 36 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 Article 36 List will be published on the EFSA website and notified via the Official Journal of the European Union.