

78th Meeting of the EFSA's Management Board

Minutes of the Public Session

Parma, 10 October 2018 – 9:00-14:20

Members of the Management Board Present	
Jaana Husu-Kallio (Chair)	Iñaki Eguileor
Raymond O'Rourke (Vice-Chair)	Didier Houssin
András Székács (Vice-Chair)	Giuseppe Ruocco
Aivars Bērziņš	Michael Scannell
Geronimo Brănescu	Andrej Simončič
Zita Čeponytė	Annette Toft
Herman Diricks	Michael Winter
Libor Dupal	

Staff of the European Food Safety Authority	
Bernhard Url (Executive Director)	Marta Hugas
Gian Luca Bonduri	Juliane Kleiner
Guilhem de Seze	Hans Verhagen
Dirk Detken	Selomey Yamadjako
Barbara Gallani	

Also attending:

Simon More, Chair of the EFSA's Scientific Committee

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SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

The Management Board welcomed Annette Toft, Geronimo Brănescu, Herman Diricks and Libor Dupal as new members.

Jaana Husu-Kallio was elected Chair of the Management Board. Raymond O'Rourke and András Székács were elected as Vice-Chairs.

A new Audit Committee was nominated, which is composed of the following members: Andrej Simončič (Chair), Herman Diricks (Vice-Chair), Aivars Bērziņš, Geronimo Brănescu, Iñaki Eguileor, Michael Winter and the representative of the European Commission.

It was also the first time that Simon More took part in the Board meeting in his capacity of new Chair of the Scientific Committee.

The Board **adopted**:

- The Recommendations following EFSA's third independent external evaluation.
- The Implementing Rules of the Staff Regulations concerning "Middle management", "Function of adviser" and "Temporary occupation of management posts".
- The amendment (two new entries) to the Art. 36 list of competent organisations designated by Member States which may assist EFSA within its mission.
- An amendment to the decision on the Stakeholders Engagement Approach, which allows the nomination of alternate members of the Stakeholder Bureau.

In addition, the Board **noted**:

- The update from the Scientific Committee, provided by its Chair Prof. Simon More, who presented an overview of the working methods and activities that the Scientific Committee carries out and plans to carry out in the coming future.
- The Performance Report, which provided information on the implementation of the Single Programming Document 2018-2020 reporting on the activities and the outcome achieved until August 2018.
- The report on the implementation of the EFSA independence policy that the Board adopted in June 2017. The report outlined the experience gathered by EFSA during the first year of implementation of the new policy and rules.
- The presentation on Interagency Scientific Cooperation, which informed the Board of the on-going activities to step up scientific cooperation with EU Agencies falling within the remit of the European Parliament Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI Agencies) and the European Commission's Joint Research Centre.
- The update on the on-going project aimed at strengthening networking with and amongst the Art. 36 competent organisations.
- The two-year evaluation report of EFSA's Liaison Office in Brussels, which provided information on the achievements of the Liaison Office, as well as an overview on its current and planned activities.

- The feedback from the former Chair of the Audit Committee, who reported, among others, on EFSA's business continuity management system, EFSA performance management and validation of ABAC access rights.
- The update from the European Commission on the on-going legislative process for the revision of Regulation 178/2002.
- The report on the achievements of EFSA's Third Scientific Conference.

Item 1: Opening of the meeting

1. The meeting was opened by the European Commission alternate member of the Management Board, Michael Scannell, who chaired it until the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Board.

Item 2: Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Management Board

2. The Chair invited Dirk Detken (Legal & Assurance Services) to describe the procedure for the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs in accordance with the provisions of the Management Board Rules of Procedure.
3. The Board nominated Dirk Detken and Gian Luca Bonduri as tellers for the voting procedure.
4. The Chair asked to the fellow members to put forward their candidatures for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Management Board. Jaana Husu-Kallio was the only candidate for the position of Chair. Raymond O'Rourke and András Székács were the candidates for the position of Vice-Chairs.
5. The Chair opened the vote procedure for the election of the Chair. At the first round of vote, Jaana Husu-Kallio was elected Chair of the Management Board by unanimity. She accepted her election and, thanking the fellow members for the confidence they expressed on her capacities, she said to be honoured to serve as the Chair of the Management Board for a second term.
6. The Chair opened the vote procedure for the election of the first Vice-Chair. At the first round of vote, Raymond O'Rourke was elected as Vice-Chair of the Management Board by qualified majority (10 votes out of 15). He accepted his election and thanked the Board Members for his re-appointment.
7. The Chair opened the vote procedure for the election of the second Vice-Chair. At the first round of vote, András Székács was elected as Vice-Chair of the Management Board by qualified majority (13 votes out of 15). He accepted his election and thanked the Board Members for his appointment.
8. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).
9. Jaana Husu-Kallio took over the chairmanship of the Management Board meeting. She conveyed a particular welcome to Annette Toft, Geronimo Brănescu, Herman Diricks and Libor Dupal who participated in the Board meeting for the first time following their appointment as members of the EFSA Management Board as from the 1st of July 2018.

Item 3: Nomination of the Members, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee

10. The Board agreed on the composition of the new Audit Committee as follows: Andrej Simončič (Chair), Herman Diricks (Vice-Chair), Aivars Bērziņš (Member), Geronimo Brănescu (Member), Iñaki Eguileor (Member) and Michael Winter (Member). In addition, the representative of the European Commission sits at the Audit Committee with the position of Member. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 4: Board members' Annual and Oral Declaration of Interests

11. Pursuant to Article 13 of the Management Board Rules of Procedure adopted on 27 June 2013, the Board took note of the Executive Director's assessment of the Declarations of Interests submitted by eight of its members and confirmed it.
12. The Chair invited the Board members to declare possible interests in addition to those already declared in their Annual Declaration of Interests. No interest was

declared. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 5: Adoption of the agenda

13. The Chair asked the Board if they wished to add any items to the agenda. The agenda was adopted with the addition of the following items under Any Other Business: (1) Update from the European Commission on the legislative process on the revision of Regulation (EC) no. 178/2002; (2) Feedback from EFSA on the Third Scientific Conference held on 18-21 September 2018; (3) Procedure for the renewal of the contract of the EFSA Executive Director; (4) Adoption of an amendment to the Management Board Decision on the Stakeholders Engagement Approach. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 6: EFSA performance report

14. Bernhard Url (Executive Director) introduced to the Board the performance report covering the reporting period from the 1st of January to the 31st of August, 2018. The document included information in all aspects of the EFSA performance measured during the reporting period against the annual and multiannual work programme as presented in the Single Programming Document 2018-2020. Guilhem de Seze (Scientific Evaluation of Regulated Products) provided an update on EFSA's work on the review of Maximum Residue Levels in accordance with Art. 12 of Regulation (EC) no. 396/2005. Selomey Yamadjako (Business Services Department) brought to the Board's attention data on the management and consumption of resources, highlighting that EFSA remains committed to achieve the annual targets. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.

15. The Board noted EFSA's performance report and asked the Executive Director to convey their gratitude to the EFSA's staff and experts for the results achieved in the reporting period. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

- **Action:** Management Board and EFSA to exchange views on the preparation of future Performance Reports.

Item 7: Update from the Scientific Committee

16. The Chair welcomed Prof. Simon More, who took part in the Management Board meeting for this agenda item via phone-conference. On behalf of the Management Board, she congratulated Prof. More for his recent election as Chair of the EFSA's Scientific Committee.

17. The Board noted the update provided by Prof. More, who provided an overview of the working methods and activities that the Scientific Committee carries out and plans to carry out in the coming future. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 8: EFSA's external evaluation: Management Board recommendations

18. Annette Toft left the meeting at 10:55 A.M. and gave her proxy to Jaana Husu-Kallio to vote on her behalf on the remaining items in agenda.

19. Following the overall introduction by Juliane Kleiner (Risk Assessment and Scientific Assistance) of the activities carried out during the implementation of EFSA's third external evaluation, the Chair summarised the content of the recommendations preliminary drafted by the Management Board Steering

Committee on EFSA's External Evaluation. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.

20. Following an in-depth discussion among the Board members and upon revision of the preliminary draft in accordance with the agreed suggestions, the Management Board adopted the recommendations following EFSA's third independent external evaluation. These will ensure EFSA's continuous improvement in the way it provides independent, high quality scientific advice to policymakers across the European Union. The document containing the Management Board recommendations is available on [EFSA's website](#). The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).
21. Closing the agenda item, on behalf of the whole Management Board, the Chair wished to convey her gratitude to the members of the Steering Committee on EFSA's External Evaluation and to Juliane Kleiner in particular for her support along the entire duration of the external evaluation exercise.

Item 9: Interagency scientific cooperation

22. The Board noted the presentation of Barbara Gallani (Communication, Engagement & Cooperation) and Guilhem de Seze (Scientific Evaluation of Regulated Products), who provided an overview on the initiatives promoted by EFSA to strengthen and enhance scientific cooperation with the European Union Agencies falling within the remit of the European Parliament Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (so-called "ENVI Agencies") and the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC). A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.
23. Referring to the main points highlighted in the presentation, as underlined in the recommendations just adopted by the Board, the Chair concluded stressing the importance of the scientific cooperation among the EU agencies and bodies. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 10: Amendments to Art. 36 list

24. Barbara Gallani introduced the item by shortly updating the Board on the state of development of the on-going project aimed at strengthening networking and cooperation with and amongst the organisations included in EFSA's Art. 36 list. The Board noted that a newly drawn-up list of competent organisations is planned to be prepared by the end of 2019 upon the re-assessment by Member States of their organisations.
25. The Board adopted the amendments (two new entries) to the [Art. 36 list](#) of competent organisations designated by Member States which may assist EFSA within its mission. In view of his current position at Sciensano (i.e. member of the Board of Directors), Herman Diricks abstained from voting on the inclusion of this organisation in the Art. 36 list. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 11: Implementation of the EFSA independence policy

26. The Board noted the presentation provided by Dirk Detken (Legal & Assurance Services), which outlined the experience gathered by EFSA during the first year of implementation of the new independence policy and rules. Overall, the report highlighted that the new rules are more efficient and consistent than before and easier to be applied. 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 12: Risk communication: Tools and approaches

27. The presentation of this agenda item was postponed until the following meeting of the Management Board.

Item 13: Implementing Rules of Staff Regulations

28. Dirk Detken introduced to the Board three draft decisions for the adoption of Implementing Rules to the Staff Regulations related to "Middle management staff", "Function of adviser" and "Temporary occupation of management posts". 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](#).
29. The Board adopted the Implementing Rules to the Staff Regulations on Middle management staff, Function of adviser and Temporary occupation of management posts, all of which were based on agency model decisions agreed with the European Commission services.

Item 14: EFSA's liaison office in Brussels

30. The Board noted the presentation provided by Barbara Gallani on the evaluation of EFSA's liaison office in Brussels, which was set up in 2016. In particular, she highlighted that the Brussels liaison office had increased EFSA's visibility and accessibility at EU institutions and among stakeholders, had grown its contacts portfolio through networking and had proved to be of tangible support to EFSA scientific and communications staff and scientific experts. 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 15: Feedback from the Audit Committee

31. The former Chair of the Audit Committee updated the Board on the outcome of the meeting held on 10 October 2018. Among others, he reported on EFSA's business continuity management system, EFSA performance management and validation of ABAC access rights. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 16: Any other business

32. The Chair informed the audience that, in private session on 9 October 2018, the Board decided to nominate Bernhard Url for a second term as Executive Director of EFSA. With a letter sent on 10 October 2018, the Board informed the European Parliament and asked, in accordance with Art. 26(1) of Regulation (EC) 178/2002, to invite Mr Url to make a statement before the Parliament. Subject to the outcome of the hearing of Mr Url at the European Parliament, the Management Board will adopt a decision on his appointment at the following meeting.
33. As well, the Chair informed the audience that, upon request from the EFSA Stakeholder Bureau, in private session on 9 October 2018 the Board adopted an amendment to the decision on the Stakeholder Engagement Approach which allows the nomination of alternate members of the Bureau.
34. The representative of the European Commission, Michael Scannell, provided an update on the on-going dialogue among the European Commission, European

Parliament and Council around the Commission's proposal for the revision of EFSA's Founding Regulation.

- 35. Hans Verhagen (Senior Science Coordinator) reported on the outcome and main achievements of the EFSA's third scientific conference, which was held in Parma from the 18th to the 21st of September, 2018. The Board congratulated EFSA's experts and staff for the high scientific profile of the conference and for its outstanding organisation.
- 36. The audio-file on the presentations and discussions around the topics under this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

END

Summary of actions

Action reference	Action	Deadline	Status
October 10, 2018 - 1	Management Board and EFSA to exchange views on the preparation of future Performance Reports.	ASAP	OPEN