

Minutes

41st Meeting of the Focal Point Network, EFSA, Parma 14 - 15 November 2019

Chair: Victoria Villamar

Members	
Belgium	<i>Frederic Denauw</i>
Bulgaria	<i>Donka Popova</i>
Croatia	<i>Sanja Milos</i>
Cyprus	<i>Christophoros Papachrysosotomou</i>
Czech Republic	<i>Petr Beneš</i>
Denmark	<i>Birgitte Helwich</i>
Finland	<i>Kirsi-Maarit Siekkinen</i>
Estonia	<i>Piret Priisalu</i>
France	<i>Céline Bahuon</i>
Greece	<i>Foteini Tzoumanika</i>
Hungary	<i>Renáta Prisztóka</i>
Iceland	<i>Grimur Olafsson</i>
Ireland	<i>Edel Smyth</i>
Italy	<i>Luca Busani</i> <i>Maria Girolama Falcone</i>
Latvia	<i>Elina Ciekure</i>
Lithuania	<i>Rima Zivatkauskaitė</i>
Luxembourg	<i>Elisa Barillozzi</i>
Malta	<i>Giannella Pisani</i>
Netherlands	<i>Linda Kox</i>
Norway	<i>Gisle Solstad</i>
Poland	<i>Katarzyna Floryanowicz-Czekalska</i>
Portugal	<i>Filipa Melo De Vasconcelos</i>
Romania	<i>Bogdan Licarete</i>
Slovak Republic	<i>Marica Kuzmiak Theiszová</i>
Slovenia	<i>Blaža Nahtigal</i>
Spain	<i>Maria José Rubio</i>
Sweden	<i>Karin Nyberg</i>



Observers

Switzerland	<i>Barbara Engeli</i>
Bosnia Herzegovina	<i>Dalibor Vidačak</i>
Kosovo*	<i>Fisnik Rexhepi</i>
North Macedonia	<i>Sanja Ilieva</i>
Montenegro	<i>Ana Velimirovic</i>
Serbia	<i>Nadežda Dukić</i>
Turkey	<i>Muzaffer Nurseren Budak</i>

FP Secretariat

<i>Julia Finger</i>	<i>Drago Marojevic</i>
<i>Annafranca Loparco</i>	

EFSA

<i>Cristina Alonso Andicoberry</i>	<i>Panagiotis Kalavros</i>
<i>Marco Conterbia</i>	<i>Viktorija Krivova</i>
<i>Elisa Corsini</i>	<i>Martina Kurisova</i>
<i>Jean-Lou Dorne</i>	<i>Drago Marojevic</i>
<i>Julia Finger</i>	<i>Federica Lodi</i>
<i>Barbara Gallani</i>	<i>Annafranca Loparco</i>
<i>Gisele Gizzi</i>	<i>Johanna Nemess</i>
<i>Saba Giovannacci</i>	<i>Eileen O'Dea</i>
<i>Tilemachos Goumperis</i>	<i>Bernhard Url</i>
<i>Kerstin Gross-Helmer</i>	<i>Victoria Villamar</i>
<i>Rory Harrington</i>	<i>Gabriele Zancanaro</i>
<i>Claudia Heppner</i>	

Apologies: Albania, Austria, Germany and United Kingdom

**This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence*

1. Welcome and Adoption of Agenda

Victoria Villamar, Head of Engagement and Scientific Cooperation (ENCO) opened the 41st FP meeting. The plenary adopted the agenda.

2. Welcome by EFSA's executive director

Bernhard Url, Executive Director of EFSA welcomed the FPs. He underlined the importance of the FP network and its importance in addressing the new Transparency Regulation.

3. Looking back on FP workshop 12-13 November & outlook on new FP tasks

Victoria Villamar gave an overview of the workshop that took place before the FP meeting. FPs have worked with EFSA staff from various Units on proposals for new tasks, providing their input, feedback and ideas. Victoria also provided, an update on the implementation of the new transparency regulation, especially on current developments in the ART Programme.



Different members emphasised the need to further formalise/institutionalise the function of the FPs in order to support them in their role of connectors between RA and RM on national and European level. In addition, a factsheet was proposed including transparent information on FPs' role and funding.

FP stressed the need to create DATA flow charts on the national level following the model developed within the AF DATA Task Force in order to support the data collection on national level.

Action 1: EFSA to publish a fact sheet on FPs role and grant allocation

Action 2: EFSA to deliver a training on the new FPs tasks

4. Matters arising

4.1 Action Points from last meeting

Julia Finger informed FPs that all actions of the last meeting have been addressed or are ongoing, with some of them taken up during the current meeting.

4.2 Feedback from the last meeting

Feedback from the previous meeting was positive. FPs emphasised the positive effect of co-chairing by EFSA-MS.

4.3 Focal Point meetings in 2020

Julia Finger provided information about the next year's FP meetings and informed FPs that 3 meetings will be organised in 2020. Reflecting frequent comments in the FP evaluations, EFSA has decided to hold 2-day meetings next year. The initially planned meeting for March has been cancelled. The next FP meeting is in May in Estonia. The 43rd FP meeting will be held in Montenegro, the day before the meeting an ED visit to the country will take place.

5. Reporting and renewal of agreements

Julia Finger presented an overview on the FP agreements and the reporting for 2019. Last year new framework agreements have been created, and the renewal of these agreements has been asked already. FPs are reminded that the reporting has been moved to the beginning of the year. Additionally, Julia informed FPs that an amendment will be done with new tasks and increase of budget at the beginning of 2020. The increase is planned to go beyond 2020.

Action 3: FPs to inform EFSA asap on restrictions regarding payment of FP grants

6. EU RAA update

Drago Marojevic gave an update on the process regarding the EU-RAA update. Phase 1 with the collection of project ideas has been concluded. In Phase 2 countries are asked to express interest in the (new or old) projects ideas in the database.

Action 4: EFSA to conduct a survey on the EU RAA catalogue

7. EU-FORA

Cristina Alonso Andicoberry from ENCO provided latest figures on EU FORA applications. FPs discussed what worked well in promotion of the call for fellows and what can be done better. Greece, Spain and Italy presented their actions as a FP to attract fellows.

8. Toxicological Risk Assessment in animals/modelling

Jean-Lou Dorne from Scientific Committee & Emerging Risks (SCER) Unit presented the newly created modelling for toxicological RA in animals.

Action 5: FPs to inform national organisations about EFSA's on-going work on toxicological RA and to explore/present possible engagement EFSA/MS activities.



9. Competent organisations management: state of play and way ahead

Kerstin Gross-Helmert and Martina Kurisova from ENCO Unit gave an update on the Art. 36 project on new approach on managing of the Art.36 organisations. As a result of substantial commitment of FPs and continuous assistance by EFSA, all countries have re-viewed their list of organisations and the proposal for a renewed List is submitted to the EFSA's Management Board for approval. They also stressed the importance of keeping the list up-to-date and functional.

Action 6: EFSA to conduct a survey for additional training needs on the Art.36 tool

10. Communication Lab: campaigns, translation, dissemination

Rory Harrington from the Communication (COM) Unit gave an overview on the EFSA's campaign results and provided an outlook on activities under ENRICO project and the involvement of MS/FPs. Julia Finger informed that with the amended FP agreements there will be funds for the MS for translations.

Barbara Gallani, Elisa Corsini and Rory Harrington from COM facilitated the interactive brainstorming session on FP dissemination.

Action 7: EFSA to perform a survey on the preferred option with regards the translation of the campaign materials in the FP TEAMS space

The second day of the FP meeting was opened by Victoria Villamar and Julia Finger.

11. Promoting EFSA as an employer of choice

Panagiotis Kalavros from Human Capital (HUCAP) Unit underlined the importance of FPs in the dissemination of calls. He gave an overview of the EFSA's career opportunities and presented them how they could further support EFSA.

Action 8: EFSA to share with FP the information kit on the career opportunities

12. TEAMS group work

Julia Finger and Annafranca Loparco from EFSA made a general recap of the FP activity on TEAMS. They highlighted critical aspects and recommended solutions to the encountered problems.

Marco Conterbia and Saba Giovannacci from Transformation Service (TS) Unit provided to the FPs technical support during a practical exercise.

The exercise covered the following aspects:

- Correct management of Files library;
- Collaboration on editing a Word template;
- Use of FP shared calendar.

Action point 9: EFSA to create separate channels within the Team 'Focal Points Network', namely a unilateral one called 'EFSA Announcements' and two more ones called 'FP Announcements' and 'Request for Exchange of Information'.

AOB

13.1 Food Safety Almanac Project

As a follow-up of the presentation given last meeting, Majlinda Lahaniatis, FP from Germany, presented via teleconference an update on the BfR WIKI project on Food Safety Almanach.

13.2 TAIEX Expert mission on 'Risk Management and Risk Assessment at EU level, legislation and implementation'



Majlinda Lahaniatis, FP from Germany presented the outcomes and lessons learned from the TAIEX expert mission organised in Albania.

13.3 New Italian FP: First year of activities

Luca Busani, FP from Italy provided an overview of the main achievements of the first year of new Italian FP and presented the priorities for the next years.

13.4 Feedback from the IPA Autumn School in Croatia

Sanja Milos, FP from Croatia provided feedback from the Osijek Autumn School 2019: "Exploring fit-for-purpose food safety risk assessment ". The Autumn School is a new partnership initiative for the IPA partners developed in close collaboration with scientific experts from the HAPIH, organised under the EFSA Pre-Accession Programme 2019-2021.

13.5 Bee Health: Guidance and beekeepers' survey

Csaba Szentes from Pesticide Peer Review (PREV) Unit informed FPs about bee guidance and beekeepers survey that will be launched in the following weeks.

Action: 10 FP to support the 'Beekeepers survey' and to identify beekeepers associations in IT, BG and RO.

Action 11: EFSA to share to share with FPs materials on Bee health activities and 'Beekeepers survey'.

13.6 BIOR Symposium

Elina Ciekure FP from Latvia invited FPs to take part and to share the invitation for the "BIOR" 10th Anniversary Scientific Symposium "Science to Strengthen Sustainable and Safe Food Systems" that will be held on 30th -31st January 2020, Riga, Latvia.

13.7 BTSF Feedback

Stylianos Koulouris gave an updated on new arrangements with the EC with regards to BTSF training session on risk assessment planned for 2020.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

Victoria Villamar closed the meeting by thanking all FPs for their commitment and contribution during the workshop and FP meeting.



SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

Reference	Who	What
Action 1	EFSA	to publish a fact sheet on FPs role and grant allocation
Action 2	EFSA	to deliver a training on the new FPs tasks
Action 3	FPs	to inform EFSA asap on restrictions regarding payment of FP grants
Action 4	EFSA	to conduct a survey on the EU RAA catalogue
Action 5	FPs	to inform national organisations about EFSA's on-going work on toxicological RA and to explore/present possible engagement EFSA/MS activities
Action 6	EFSA	to conduct a survey for additional training needs on the Art.36 tool
Action 7	EFSA	to perform a survey on the preferred option with regards the translation of the campaign materials in the FP TEAMS space
Action 8	EFSA	to share with FP the information kit on the career opportunities
Action 9	EFSA	to create the separate unilateral channels with the Team 'Focal Points Network' called 'EFSA Announcements'; 'FP Announcements' and 'Request for Exchange of Information'
Action 10	FP	to support the 'Beekeepers survey' and to identify beekeepers associations in IT, BG and RO
Action 11	EFSA	to share with FPs materials on Bee health activities and 'Beekeepers survey'