



European Food Safety Authority

Minutes
Management Board Meeting
6 November 2002
10.00 – 17.30 Centre Borschette, Brussels

Members of the Management Board present

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| • Angeliki Assimakopoulou | • Matthias Horst |
| • Ernst Bobek | • João Pedro Machado |
| • Giorgio Calabrese | • Pirkko Raunemaa |
| • Robert Coleman | • Bart Sangster |
| • Carlos Escribano Mora | • Stuart Slorach |
| • Peter Gaemelke | • Roland Vaxelaire |
| • Cathérine Geslain-Lanéelle | • Patrick Wall |

Staff of the European Food Safety Authority Implementation Team present

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| • Jochen Brodersen | • Anja Van Impe |
| • Antoine Cuvillier | • Katty Verhelst |
| • Christine Majewski | • Peter Wagstaffe |
| • Andy Stimpson | |

Preliminary Formalities

Stuart Slorach opened the meeting by welcoming the Board members and the webstreaming audience. Apologies were received from Deirdre Hutton.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 17 October 2002 and matters arising

The minutes of the Management Board meeting of 17 October 2002 were adopted. This document will be published on the Authority's website.

In line with the wishes of the Board, the chairman had written to the Danish Presidency expressing concern over the detrimental impact of the lack of a decision on the seat on the establishment of the Authority. A response to this letter had not yet been received.

The secretariat will contact the members who have not yet completed their annual declaration of interest, commitment and confidentiality.

3. Procedure for the Appointment of the Executive Director

Geoffrey Podger was nominated to the post of Executive Director during the meeting of 1 October and gave a statement to the European Parliament on 22 October. A letter

was received from Pat Cox, President of the European Parliament, on 5 November giving the Parliament's favourable opinion on the appointment of Geoffrey Podger.

It was agreed that Stuart Slorach would write a formal letter of appointment on behalf of the Management Board to Geoffrey Podger as soon as terms and conditions of employment had been explored and a starting date agreed with Mr Podger.

4. Decision on the 2003 Management Plan (Doc. MB 17.10.2002 – 2 – version 2)

Christine Majewski introduced this matter and thanked the members of the Board for their input. The document has been updated in light of comments from the members and further work and reflection from the EFSA team. In addition, Geoffrey Podger has been consulted on the document and some amendments incorporated as a result of this.

Emphasis had been added on building links with national organisations, and on risk assessment and communication. The changes made on budgetary requirements were a result of the changes in activities and flexibility on recruitment (e.g. detached national experts rather than only temporary agents), although the overall budgetary limits had not been changed. The budget had been drafted on the basis of the Authority starting operations in Brussels in 2003.

Jochen Brodersen explained that the European Parliament's Budgetary Authority has set aside only 50% of the requested budget, pending a decision on the Authority's seat.

The Board members agreed that such a reduction in the budget in the first year of activity would have severe consequences on the ability of the Authority to be established and commence its work. It is possible for the Authority to become operational in Brussels notwithstanding a decision on the final seat, but not without the appropriate budget.

It was concluded that the Board would monitor this situation and once a response is received from the Danish Presidency concerning the seat, the Board would reconsider whether a letter be sent to the European Parliament, pointing out that if only approximately 50% of the requested budget is made available, the Authority will face problems in terms of recruitment and the implementation of the 2003 work programme.

The Board unanimously adopted the draft budget 2003 and draft establishment plan 2003. The draft work programme 2003 was unanimously adopted with the additional amendments made in the meeting bearing in mind that the document is provisional until the Budgetary Authority has finalised the 2003 budget and the Executive Director is able to give indications of priorities.

5. Decision concerning the Scientific Committee and Panels (Documents MB 17.10.2002 – 3 – version 2 and MB 6.11.2002 – 2)

Peter Wagstaffe introduced the matter by thanking the members who contributed to the draft document. Document 17.10.2002 3 version 2 was updated as a result of the

discussions at the Board's meeting of 17 October. It was agreed that the issue of indemnities to the members of the Scientific Committee and Panels and in particular their sufficiency, would need to be reviewed in the light of experience.

The Board unanimously adopted the Decision concerning the Scientific Committee and Panels, taking into account the amendments as discussed in the meeting.

6. EFSA Management Board Team Building Day – Bart Sangster (Document MB 17.10.2002 – 5)

Following the suggestion by Bart Sangster, the members decided on 29th (evening)-30th November to hold a Team Building Day. Any suggestions and ideas on the proceedings of the day are to be sent to Stuart Slorach or Bart Sangster with copies to Christine Majewski by 11 November. Bart Sangster is to distribute the agenda and any other information prior to the date.

Since a few Board members cannot attend, it was agreed to have a follow-up Team Building Day in the spring of 2003, linked to a Management Board meeting. Prior to the Board's meeting in December, the Secretariat is to circulate a list of dates for availability for such a follow-up Team Building.

The Management Board members are to inform the Secretariat on their availability to meet for dinner on the evening of 10 December, prior to the Board meeting of 11 December.

7. Amendment to Article 15 of the Rules of procedure for the Management Board concerning indemnities for Board members (Document MB 6.11.2002 – 3)

The Board decided that this item needs further discussion and reflection.

8. Prepaid tickets and reimbursement of Management Board members expenses – current situation

Stuart Slorach thanked the Secretariat for arranging prepaid tickets for those members who wish to do so.

Jochen Brodersen explained that the reimbursement of the first Management Board meeting was finalised and that of the second and third meeting is being processed.

9. Any Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Stuart Slorach closed the meeting by thanking the EFSA Implementation team for the preparatory work, the interpreters, the team responsible for the web streaming and all the members of the Board.