



European Food Safety Authority

Management Board

15 December 2005

Scientific Committee and panels – Increase of the special indemnity

Whereas,

When establishing the structures of EFSA, the Management Board decided, in adopting the decision concerning the establishment and operations of the scientific committee and scientific panels (MN 17.10.2002-3), to set the level of the special indemnity for Scientific Committee members, panel members and external experts to 300 €/ day.

Article 21.2 of the above decision states:

“Members and external experts shall be entitled to an indemnity of 300 € for each full day of meeting attendance to defray other costs derived from their contribution to and participation in the work of the Scientific Committee or Panel”.

EFSA believes there are legitimate reasons to align such amount to that in place with other comparable organizations or entities having recourse to external expertise, e.g. Commission DG Research. Furthermore, the increasing workload of EFSA-originating work for these experts, in addition to general increased personal commitment arising notably from traveling to and from Parma, justifies adequate compensation and alignment to established practice.

Now therefore,

It is proposed to increase from 300 € to 450 € the daily rate of the special indemnity thereby amending the decision previously adopted by the Management Board.

The impact on EFSA budget and in particular on Chapter 30 (Scientific activities) is estimated at EUR 830.000 in 2006. This impact is expected to be counter-balanced by a reduction in the costs of flights estimated at EUR 400.000 and by the already agreed move from Title III to Title II of the expenditure related to the shuttling services between Parma and the airports. Hence, an estimated net effect of EUR 430.000.

It is in addition proposed to standardise the daily indemnity for the expert meetings by adopting what is applied by other European institutions i.e. to apply one single daily rate (€ 150) disregarding the place where the meeting is taking place instead of applying a daily rate in function of the place where the meeting take place. The daily indemnity covers accommodation, meals, local transport and telecommunication. The € 150 rate represents the average of the daily indemnity per country.