



European Food Safety Authority

Management Board Meeting

24 January 2006

PRELIMINARY DRAFT BUDGET 2007
&
FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK 2007 - 2013

The preparation of the yearly budgets of the European institutions is guided by the Financial framework which is a multi annual spending plan that translates into financial terms the Union's policy priorities. It sets limits on European Union expenditure over a fixed period and thus imposes budgetary discipline.

Today's priorities are different from the Agenda 2000 which covered the period 2000 - 2006. This Financial framework focused on preparing for the historic enlargement of the Union that took place in May 2004, bringing in the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and increasing the effectiveness of the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund in the poorer regions and Member States.

The Financial framework over the period 2007 – 2013 is aimed at making a success of the enlargement and at increasing the Union's competitiveness, boost the European economy and create more and better jobs, realise the concept of European citizenship by completing the area of freedom, justice and security and to strengthen the Union's role in the world.

The Financial framework groups EU activities into broad categories of expenditure, called "Headings", and lays down maximum amounts for each heading for each year. The EU annual budget has to respect those maximum amounts or ceilings. The Heading 3B (other internal policies) regrouping in particular health and consumer protection, culture, youth and audiovisual matter is the relevant heading as far as EFSA is concerned.

The European Council reached a common position on the Financial framework 2007 – 2013 during the 15-16 December summit.

For what concerns Heading 3B, according to the Council common position, the level of commitments is kept constant over the period, without increase. This represents in reality a substantial reduction compared to what was submitted by the President of the Council last June.

MB 24.1.2006 - 13 PDF 2007 and Financial Framework information note

HEADING 3b (Million euros, 2004 prices)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
June 2006	550	580	610	640	670	700	740
December 2006	520	520	520	520	520	520	520

The Common position of the Council has been forwarded to the European Parliament and to the Commission. The negotiations between the European Parliament, Council and the Commission, on the Interinstitutional Agreement and the Financial Framework 2007 - 2013 will now be launched with the Austrian Presidency.

The Committee on Budgets, as the Committee responsible for negotiating these two instruments will develop these negotiations within regular, consistent and mutual co-operation and information with the legislative committees.

In this context, there are still uncertainties pertaining to the preparation of the 2007 Preliminary Draft Budget for EFSA which is to be submitted to the Management Board in March.

EFSA intends to start discussions with the Commission and the relevant Committees at the European Parliament on the matter. In the future, the Management Board may wish to express its concern about this development to the appropriate bodies in the EU.

Enclosure : Comprehensive presentation of the financial perspectives 2007 – 2013 by Commissioner D. Grybauskaite after Council common position