European Food Safety Authority

PROGRESS REPORT SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2006: HIGHLIGHTS

Implementing the recommendations of the Management Board

1. This report highlights many of the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the Management Board of the external evaluation of EFSA. The recent meeting of the Advisory Forum saw the agreement of the Forum to the Strategy on Scientific Cooperation and Networking, which is presented to the Board for endorsement at this meeting. Together with the draft list of competent organizations designated by Member States to assist the Authority the Strategy represents an important step towards implementing the Board's recommendation on developing active networking and stronger cooperation with Member States.

2. On 4 October the Executive Director appeared before the European Parliament Committee for Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and presented the Management Board's recommendations following the external evaluation. In her speech, the Executive Director underlined the commitment of EFSA to work closely with the Advisory Forum and national authorities as full partners to build strong networks, share data and information and provided information on how each of the recommendations would be implemented.

3. The Conference on Nutrition and Health Claims which took place in Bologna on 8-10 November provided EFSA with a broad basis on which to further develop its strategy on nutrition which will be shared with the Board in the future. In October a reorganisation of EFSA took place in order to reflect better the structure of the work in the Authority. The Communication Strategy, adopted by the Board at the September meeting, outlines the way EFSA will work to further develop the effectiveness of Communications. The Communications section below describes other steps taken to improve access to information about EFSA.

4. Finally, this meeting will see the discussion and provisional adoption of EFSA's Work Programme, an important aspect of EFSA's short and medium term planning. The aim is to have a broad consultation, starting in 2007, to integrate views from many sources into EFSA's annual and multi-annual plans.

Science

Conference on Nutrition and Health Claims 8-10 November, Bologna

5. The EFSA Conference on nutrition and health claims which took place on 8-10 November 2006 provided an opportunity for EFSA to exchange views and dialogue with experts from interested parties and stakeholders to achieve a better understanding of the fundamental scientific role of EFSA in the context of the newly adopted European Regulation on nutrition and health claims made on foods. About 200

participants from 21 European countries, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and USA participated to the Conference. Close to 1000 people watched the final morning live on the web and over 3000 more subsequently saw it on recording.

6. The Conference was an important event for EFSA and forms part of EFSA's increasing activities in the field of nutrition. EFSA is currently developing a strategy document outlining its role and future perspectives in nutrition and intends to share it with the Management Board at one of its forthcoming meetings.

7th Scientific Colloquium, 28-29 November, Parma

7. EFSA's 7th scientific colloquium "*Cumulative Risk Assessment of Pesticides to Human Health: the Way forward* took place in the StarHotel du Parc, Parma on 28 and 29 November 2006. It was attended by some 100 participants from nearly all Member States, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, USA, and Australia. The meeting proved very successful with useful considerations for the PPR Panel as well as for cumulative risk assessment (CRA) outside the pesticides remit. The participants agreed that it was important to get started with CRA in a step-wise approach. The first priority will be substances that share a common mode of action (dose addition) for which data are already available in the US. Good models do exist and could be used. Pesticides that were prioritized for work on CRA (dose-addition) are: oligophosphates, carbamates, conazoles, pyrethroids, dicarboxyamides, spindle inhibitors, ptalimides, and dithiocarbamates. Methodologies are not yet defined and may vary regarding compound and type of exposure (acute, chronic). Guidelines will be needed for probabilistic modelling and cumulative exposure and cooperation between Member States, other bodies and EFSA will be necessary to establish these.

Bluetongue

8. In October the European Commission requested EFSA to provide scientific assistance to the Commission by preparing regular reports on the bluetongue disease situation as well as an analysis of epidemiological data in relation to the ongoing outbreak.

a. Regular update

- The mandate was received on the 5th of October,
- the 1st working group meeting took place on the 6th,
- the regular updates were implemented within three weeks thereafter
- the project was subsequently presented to the Chief veterinary Officers (CVOs) at a meeting organized by the Commission.

The updating is done through weekly posting on the EFSA website. The CVOs confirmed that the updating needs to be done weekly.

The number of new cases is now finally decreasing. Hence, despite the continued growing interest in the webpage, the weekly updates will be phased out in December and the focus will be on the overall epidemiological analysis

b. Global epidemiological analysis

The conduct of a global epidemiological analysis requires a willingness to share data between the affected member states, a need to collected these data, and standardize

them so as to be able to incorporate them in a single analysis dataset. This activity has required quite an effort and is in many ways novel.

EFSA has assisted in this process by building on the work of a group of epidemiologists in the affected countries. This group had already been created for the purpose of the analysis of the data in the affected member states. EFSA also tried to sensitise the group of experts to the need to share information with experts from other member states.

In order to make sure financial support is adequate, EFSA has launched a tender through the negotiated procedure with the experts in the institutes that have the de facto monopoly on the outbreak data.

As the outbreak is still on-going and as indicated in the EFSA response to the Commission, the January 31 timeline is very tight. EFSA has insisted that the experts clearly indicate what deliverables will be achieved by January 31. However, the workload involved is considerable. Hence, we plan to continue to support the analyses through 31 March. This is consistent with the Commission mandate which states that this mandate be kept under review.

Scientific Committee

9. The Scientific Committee adopted a guidance document on uncertainties in dietary exposure assessments at its December plenary. The document reviews the types of uncertainties that may affect dietary exposure assessment and suggests some approaches for the EFSA Scientific Panels to identify and characterise uncertainties. The Scientific Committee has also started two new working groups on emerging risks and experimental animal welfare. The first group will propose a system allowing EFSA to identify emerging risks at an early stage. It comprises the creation of a dedicated Unit that will operate an effective working procedure for collecting, collating and identifying relevant information on emerging and re-emerging risks for detailed assessment and validation by appropriate expert groups within and external to EFSA. The second working group aims at improving the welfare of experimental animals in relation to EFSA's activities without compromising the quality of the safety evaluations. Finally, the Scientific Committee has initiated the second phase of its activity on transparency in risk assessment, looking now at scientific aspects, and is planning a public consultation to review the validation exercise done for the Qualified Presumption of Safety (QPS) approach as a tool for a simplified safety assessment of microorganisms deliberately added to food and feed.

Advisory Forum

10. At its last meeting in Helsinki on 30 November the Forum agreed on a Strategy for Cooperation and Networking. This has also received input from the Scientific Committee. The Strategy document is presented to the Board at this meeting and the draft annexes thereto will be further considered and discussed at a later stage.

Risk assessment

BIOHAZ Panel

11. The Panel has in this period received several new mandates, a quantitative microbiological risk assessment (QMRA) on public health risk of *Salmonella* from slaughter and breeding pigs will need a strong effort from the Panel and its supporting Unit. It is foreseen to effectively make use of Art 36 so to outsource part of the quantitative work to be done, especially the model development.

12. In the area of BSE, the panel has been tasked by the European Parliament to reply to a question related to the risk for BSE of feeding fishmeal to ruminants. Questions from the EC include the review of the protocols for TSE testing in ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats), the mandate on back-calculations for the removal of the specified risk materials in cattle and the BSE risk related to meat and meat products of sheep in case BSE is present under natural conditions in this species. As a self task, the BIOHAZ panel has provisionally adopted the revision of the GBR methodology, which is currently open for public consultation after which a final revision will be prepared for early 2007.

13. At the plenary to be held on 13-14 December, the Panel expects to discuss and possibly adopt three opinions on: Cattle SRM related back-calculations, BSE in fishmeal and Quantitative Risk Assessment for residual BSE risk in sheep.

CONTAM Panel

14. The CONTAM Panel met twice in plenary and adopted three opinions. These opinions were linked to hexachlorobenzene, hydrocyanic acid and DDT as undesirable substances in animal feed. The CONTAM Panel was asked to provide a opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of significant levels of iodine in seaweed at a European level, and the Panel expressed its conclusion in a statement.

FEEDAP Panel

15. FEEDAP participated in the WG of the Standing Committee aiming at establishing new guidelines for the assessment of additives for use in animal nutrition;
- EFSA was requested by the European Commission to take the necessary steps to suggest a single MRL for monensin sodium for two products, Elancoban® and Coxidin®. On 21 November 2006, the FEEDAP Panel adopted an opinion proposing the same provisional MRLs for both products;
- During the period of reference, FEEDAP participated in two technical hearings: one on flavourings for animal feed with Industry (EFFA) and another on a new feed-additive bacteriophage product with Elanco.

GMO Panel

16. Meetings:

- Three Plenary meetings were held in Parma (Sep, Oct & Dec.). Five working group meetings took place within the framework of self tasking activities "Guideline for the assessment of genetically modified plants used as production platform for non-food or non-feed products"; "the assessment of Allergenicity of GM foods"; "Strategies for Statistical Analysis of Data Generated for the Comparative Food Safety Evaluation of GMOs"; and "the

use of animal feeding trials for the safety and nutritional evaluation of whole GM food/feed" as well as five working group meetings for the molecular characterization, the food/feed safety and the environmental risk assessment of applications for the placing on the market of GMOs took place.

- Meetings with the Competent Authorities of France and Germany took place in the context of the Environmental Risk Assessment to be carried out by the Member States for two applications comprising a scope of cultivation of GM crops, submitted to EFSA under Regulation (EC) 1829/2003.

- GMO-PHARE meeting on 12-13 December for scientists from Romania and Bulgaria, with seminars given by scientists of the EFSA GMO unit covering all the aspects of our GMO risk assessment work.

17. Reports/opinions

- The EFSA GMO Panel provided more detailed justifications on how scientific comments, provided by the Member States during the three-month consultation period for five GMO applications (EFSA-GMO-UK-2004-01, EFSA-GMO-DE-2004-03, EFSA-GMO-UK-2004-05, EFSA-GMO-UK-2004-06 and EFSA-GMO-BE-2004-07) were considered by the Panel during the risk assessment and in the final opinions. These were adopted in the Plenary meeting of 13-14 September 2006 and are now published as annexes to the original scientific opinions.

- The EFSA GMO Panel provided scientific support to the European Commission on the issue of the inadvertent release in the United States and potential export into the EU of rice containing a genetically modified (GM) rice line LLRICE601 that has not been authorized for release into the US or EU markets. The Statement of the Panel was adopted in the Plenary meeting of 13-14 September 2006.

- EFSA responded to the European Commission (DG ENV) on a letter from the Hungarian government with scientific arguments for the Hungarian safeguard clause on MON810 maize, for which the Panel has already adopted a scientific opinion on 8 June 2005. The letter was sent from EFSA to DGENV on 15 September 2006.

- An opinion on the safeguard clause invoked by Greece to ban the placing on the market of MON810 maize varieties according to Article 23 of Directive 2001/18/EC and to Article 18 of Directive 2002/53/EC was adopted on 7 November 2006.

- The EFSA GMO Panel provided to the Commission clarifications on the opinions issued by EFSA on the notifications for the placing on the market, under Part C of Directive 2001/18/EC of 1507 maize (C/ES/01/01) and Bt-11 maize (C/F/96/05.10) . These clarifications were adopted in the plenary meeting of 7 November 2006 and published as attachments to the original opinion.

- EFSA responded to the Commission (DG ENV) on a letter concerning a report funded by the Austrian government in relation to the Austrian safeguard clause on GM maize MON810 and T25 for which the Panel has already adopted a scientific opinion on 8 July 2004 and reconfirmed its assessment in a second scientific opinion adopted on 29 March 2006. EFSA studied this report, in order to determine whether the information of Austria can be considered as new information. The letter from EFSA to DGENV was sent on 23 november 2006.

- The Overall opinion (including EFSA scientific opinion and other annexes (b) to (g)) on genetically modified potato EH92-527-1 (EFSA-GMO-UL-2005-14 application under Regulation 1829/2003) with altered starch composition, was published on 10 November 2006

- The scientific opinion on Sugar Beet H7-1 (EFSA-GMO-UK-2004-08 application under Regulation 1829/2003), as well as the Table with MS comments and individual answers, is presented for adoption during the Plenary meeting of 5-6 December 2006.

- The Overall opinion (including EFSA scientific opinion and other annexes (b) to (g)) on Sugar Beet H7-1 (EFSA-GMO-UK-2004-08) is expected to be published by the end of 2006.

- The scientific opinion on LLCotton25 (EFSA-GMO-NL-2005-13 application under Regulation 1829/2003) as well as the Table with MS comments and individual answers, is presented for adoption during the Plenary meeting of 5-6 December 2006.

18. Guidance
    - Guidance for the renewal of GMO products already on the market was published on the EFSA website for public consultation. It is now ready for adoption during the plenary meeting of 5-6 December 2006.

    - EFSA has compiled the comments from some Panel members and ad hoc experts on the draft guidelines for the conduct of food safety assessment of foods derived from recombinant-DNA animals and of foods derived from recombinant-DNA plants modified for nutritional or health benefits of the Codex Alimentarius Task Force on Foods derived from Biotechnology. These comments were sent to the Commission who is member of the Codex. The Commission took into account the comments from EFSA before sending the European Community comments to the Codex Alimentarius.

    - The report on the use of animal feeding trials for the safety assessment of GM foods/feed is presented at the GMO Plenary meeting of 5-6 December for agreement to publish it on the web for public consultation.

19. Others
    - 5 request for public access (amongst them LLRICE601, which involves a decision on confidential business information and a confirmatory request for public access) were processed.
    - 12 questions from the public on GMO's were processed

NDA Panel

20. The NDA Panel did not meet in plenary in the above mentioned period. Its working groups on population reference intakes and food allergy are currently addressing the requirements for macronutrients, such as carbohydrates, fat, energy, water, as well as evaluating a number of dossiers submitted for permanent exemption of allergen derivatives from mandatory labelling, for which 19 new requests for scientific opinion have been made to EFSA. In addition, the working group on claims has started to deal with the tasks allocated to EFSA in the forthcoming Regulation on nutrition and health claims and, in particular, is addressing guidance to manufacturers on presentation of dossiers for health claims as well as scientific substantiation of health claims.

PLH Panel

21. The Panel continued its work on the questions accepted at 1st plenary. In result six draft opinions have been prepared for adoption at 3rd plenary due on 14-15 December.

The 2nd plenary meeting took place on 12-13 October in Parma. Thirty new questions were accepted on pest risk assessments made by France for its overseas departments. EFSA took care of translating the submitted documents into English and it is expected that approximately half of the PRAs will become available for the working groups by the time of 3rd plenary meeting.

The Panel initiated development of a concept of pest risk assessment in the European Community. In depth discussion and proposal for a topic for self-tasking will be made at the 3rd plenary meeting.

In order to establish itself as a reference point in pest risk assessment the Panel undertook additional topics related to its remit. A meeting with COPHS[1] in October aimed at exchange of views on the role of PLH Panel in the field of pest risk assessment. In November a meeting between EFSA and representatives of the European Plant Protection Organisation

PPR Panel

22. Three plenary meetings took place in October, November and December and 12 Working Groups. In October the opinion on the safety of aldicarb MRLs (question from Commission) was adopted and mid-December the opinion on the Guidance Document on FOCUS landscape and mitigation (self-tasking). The updating of the Guidance Document on the risk assessment of Birds and Mammals and the preparation of the opinion on the acute dietary exposure assessment of pesticide residues in fruit and vegetable are in progress. The three opinions on the revision of the Annexes II and III of the Directive 91/414 for the fate and behaviour in the environment; for the toxicological and metabolism studies and for the ecotoxicology (questions from Commission) are in progress and should be adopted early 2007. In November the Commission asked two new questions on MRL for dieldrin and on an acute reference dose for imazalil. The outcome of the 7th EFSA colloquium held on 28-29 November on "cumulative risk assessment of pesticides to human health: the

[1] Chief Officers of Plant Health Service

way forward" will constitute a good basis for the self-tasked question on the subject, nine Panel members participated.

Scientific Cooperation and assistance

Data collection and exposure

23. As part of the CONTAM Panel's work on an opinion on aflatoxin maximum limits in almonds, hazelnuts and pistachios, an extensive data set comprising more than 40,000 results has been collated and analysed by the data collection and exposure unit and presented to the Panel. Work has started in setting up a database for furans in anticipation of submissions of analytical results from Member States with a call for data open from December 2006. The call for data on polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) closed in November and EFSA received 1,447 results with a few outstanding submissions still to be received. The data set is currently being collated and analysis will start shortly.

Zoonoses Task Force

24. The Task Force on Zoonoses Data Collection held one meeting in October. At the meeting the reports on design of field studies and technical specifications for *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* baseline survey in broiler meat were adopted. A new working group for drafting a survey protocol for a *Salmonella* baseline study in breeding pigs was established on request of the Commission. Also the revision of the reporting manual for 2006 data collection was started, as well as the analyses of the *Salmonella* baseline survey in broiler flocks. At the same time the work on harmonisation of reporting on foodborne outbreaks and antimicrobial resistance was continued. In December, EFSA's 2. Community Summary Report on Zoonoses was published. This report was prepared in close collaboration with ECDC and the Member States.

Pesticide Risk Assessment (PRAPeR) Unit

25. The peer review of the second stage had been completed in October by placing on the EFSA website the conclusions of the risk assessment for the last substances which were finalized and submitted to the EU-Commission in July. As for all other substances previously, the information on the website also provides the public versions of the respective background documentation to the conclusions. Additionally, the finalization of the second stage was communicated by a press release on 6 October.

The peer review of the 3rd stage continued by distributing additional 18 draft assessment reports (reports of initial assessments by designated rapporteur Member States) to the respective applicant(s) and Member States. Additionally, the draft assessment report for one new active substance has been distributed. The public version of the reports has also been produced and made available on the EFSA website, initiating a 40-day public consultation period.

The first round of the PRAPeR meetings of experts was organised in September. A meeting regarding physical-chemical properties was held on the week 36, two

meetings on environmental fate and behaviour as well as ecotoxicology were held parallel in week 37. The last 2 meetings of the first round on mammalian toxicology and residues were held at the end of September (week 39). A second round of 5 expert meetings with the same of order of meetings was organized during November during weeks 45, 46 and 48. Additionally a meeting with representatives from Member States was held in Parma from 4-6 December.

External Relations Department

PHARE Programme

26. The closing conference of the PHARE programme took place in Bucharest, Romania on 16 November. The theme of the conference was Trust in food – Trust in science and attracted some 140 participants with. The PHARE programme is further reported in a note to the Board presented at this meeting (see MB 19.12.2006 – 9).

Pre-Accession Programme

27. The first seminar in the framework of the Pre-accession programme for Turkey and Croatia took place in Croatia on 5 December. The subject of the seminar was "Risk Communication" and 3 officers from EFSA participated at the meeting, which was introduced by the Croatian Director General of the Croatian Food Safety Agency, Mr Antunović.

EFSA's Stakeholder Consultative Platform - meeting on 6 December in Brussels

28. The fourth meeting of EFSA's Stakeholder Consultative Platform took place on 6th December in Brussels. This was the first meeting of the Platform after the renewal of its mandate that was agreed by the Management Board at the meeting on 12th September. The Platform proceeded to the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Platform for the new 3-years term. As a result of the written procedure, Sue Davies, Annette Toft and John Wood were re-appointed Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Platform respectively.

29. Under the chairmanship of Sue Davies the Platform discussed various procedural matters for the new term, such as working methods and the possibility to set up working groups to specific topics, as well as EFSA's future work and priorities and EFSA's stakeholder policy in the context of the Management plan for 2007 and the actions foreseen for next year. In the afternoon, the Platform had focused discussions on two key topics: nutrition and pesticides. EFSA's scientific officers contributed with overviews of the work of the NDA Panel and of the PRAPER Team. On both topics presentations were made by stakeholder organisations that contributed with their views about EFSA's work on nutrition and pesticides. The meeting of the Platform ended by a presentation on recent and up-coming EFSA's communication activities.

30. The Platform will now proceed with the decision on topics to work on within the working groups and with volunteers to take part in these working groups. It was agreed that the working groups should have an equal representation of interests and that should prepare the work that will be further discuss at the Platform in plenary. On an initial phase, the Platform agreed that the number of working groups should be limited to two or three so this would allow more dedicated contributions from

Platform members. Equally, it was agreed that the working groups will mainly work by e-mail and that the Platform as plenary will meet twice a year. The dates for the meetings of the Platform in 2007 will be decided in the next weeks.

Communication Department

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

1. Media Relations:

31. Since the last Board meeting, EFSA has issued eleven press releases, nine announcements and a Frequently Asked Questions document addressing its work on Nutrition and Health Claims. (A detailed list of communications activities is attached).

32. On 18 October Brussels-based journalists were invited to a media breakfast in Brussels in order to meet the new EFSA Executive Director. The journalists were briefed about her priorities, upcoming scientific issues and in particular on EFSA 's future role in nutrition. Some 13 correspondents from UK, USA (AP), the Netherlands, Germany, France and others writing for news agencies, national dailies and specialised press also used the opportunity to address questions.

33. The briefing created overall positive coverage in European press (some 10 articles) explaining EFSA's tasks and quoting Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle on priorities for EFSA, as well as scientific and corporate dossiers.

34. Moreover, on the occasion of the EFSA Conference on Nutrition and Health Claims, 8-10 November 2006, Bologna, Italy, we organised a press briefing and other press activities which have generated more than 15 articles/broadcasts this far. Activities included: a press lunch with 8 journalists, Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle, Herman Koëter and Albert Flynn; one-to-one interviews with Catherine Geslain-Lanélle and Herman Koëter; web cast of the conference wrap-up session, with over 4000 to date.

2. Publications:

35. Since the last Board meeting in September, the following activities were carried out:

- The 13th edition of EFSAnews was published in 4 languages, on- and off-line.
- The Guidance Document of the GMO Panel for the risk assessment of genetically modified micro-organisms (GMM) was published in English, on- and off-line.
- The summary report of the EFSA Scientific Colloquium series no. 4 on “Food Producing Animals” was published in English, on- and off-line.
- The summary report of the EFSA/WHO/ILSI international conference on risk assessment of compounds that are both genotoxic and carcinogenic (GENTOX) was published in English, on- and off-line.

3. Web:

Since the last board meeting on September 13, the following main activities have been carried out:

EFSA website redesign begins

36. Following the selection of a UK-based web communications company to assist EFSA in the redesign its website, work began on the project last quarter 2006. The project focuses on building a new website that meets user needs and showcases more effectively EFSA's key standards and values. Launch of the new website is programmed for June 2006.

Selection of a new search engine

37. In partnership with the IT Department the selection of a new search engine is being finalized. The search engine will enable EFSA website users to find information more efficiently, and carry out advanced searches.

User satisfaction survey on the EFSA Highlights service

38. A user survey to understand how subscribers view the EFSA Highlights survey, and how EFSA can improve the service based on their suggestions was completed in September with 244 respondents.

New web sections

BLUETONGUE

- **Serotype 8 epidemic bulletin:**

39. In partnership with the EFSA Epidemiology Working Group, a new section for the Bluetongue serotype 8 epidemic bulletin was launched. This enables key stakeholders and decision-makers to view latest updates on the bluetongue epidemic.

- **'Focus on the Issues' section:**

40. New pages detailing EFSA's work in Bluetongue which gather latest news, press releases and factsheets on the disease were launched

PUBLICATIONS SECTION

41. A new publications section was added to the main menu of the EFSA website. The new section contains key reports and documents such as the annual report and annual Zoonoses reports.

EFSA's 5th Anniversary

42. The Planning for the 2007 EFSA 5 year anniversary is ongoing. Celebrations could be prepared along the following lines:

The participation could be twofold: 1) raising ideas and providing help for the Brussels week and 2) organising activities in the MS themselves.

Ideas were put to the Member States at the 30 November Advisory Forum meeting and they suggested two: 1) a clear and factual story for consumers to make clear what EFSA is and what it is doing and 2) a more challenging scientific presentation to raise the awareness of scientists not daily involved in the work of EFSA.

Human Resources/Recruitment

43. Temporary / Officials / Auxiliary / Contract Agents / END's

Quarter 2

	Recruitment	Departures/ Resignations*	"Net" Result	Total staff number end Q1, 2006
AT + Officials	11	2	9	154
AUX	2	1	1	23
CA	12	0	12	12
END	0	1	-1	9
Total	**25**	**4**	**21**	**198**

Quarter 3

	Recruitment	Departures/ Resignations*	"Net" Result	Total staff number end Q2, 2006
AT + Officials	12	5	7	161
AUX	3	3	0	23
CA	9	0	9	21
END	1	2	-1	8
Total	**25**	**10**	**15**	**213**

* Includes internal staff members changing contract type/category

Annex I

List of press releases and public statements September - December 2006

DATE	COMM	TITLE	SUBJECT
September			
06.September 2006	**Press Release**	EFSA re-assesses safety of noni juice	NDA
11. September 2006	**Announcement**	Inaugural meeting of EFSA's new Management Board - 12 september 2006, Parma - webcasted live on the Authority's website	EFSA
12.September 2006	**Press Release**	Inaugural meeting of EFSA's new Management Board	EFSA
15.September 2006	**Press Release**	EFSA's GMO Panel provides reply to European Commission request on GM rice LLrice601	GMO
25.September 2006	**Press Release**	EFSA and Member States to work closely in sharing knowledge on Bluetongue	AHAW
29.September 2006	**Press Release**	National food safety authorities commit to closer collaboration with EFSA	EFSA
October			
6.October 2006	**Press Release**	EFSA completes second stage of EU - wide pesticides peer review process	PRAPeR
10.October 2006	**Announcement**	Visit of a Kosovo food control delegation to EFSA - 10/1 October 2006	EFSA
11.October2006	**Announcement**	EFSA hosts the ERA seminar on European food law - 12/13 October, Parma	EFSA
12.October 2006	**Announcement**	EFSA: European plant health experts meet in Parma - 13 October 2006	PLH
18. October 2006	**Press Briefing**	Press Breakfast in Brussels	EFSA
19.October 2006	**Announcement**	EFSA's Executive Director meets the undersecretary Enrico Letta in Rome - 19.10.2006	EFSA
24.October 2006	**Announcement**	EFSA: results and perspectives - 24 October - Parma University - 17.00 hrs	EFSA
25.October 2006	**Announcement**	EFSA conference on Nutrition and Health Claims 8-10 November 2006	NDA
26.October 2006	**Announcement**	EFSA: conference on Nutrition and Health Claims 8-10 November, Bologna (*to Italian audience)*	NDA
November			
3.November 2006	**Announcement**	Liaison Committee between EFSA and local authorities - 6 November 2006 - Parma - 11.00 hrs	EFSA

8.November 2006	**Press Release**	EFSA exchanges views and experience on nutrition and health claims with experts from EU Member States and stakeholders	NDA
8.November 2006	**FAQ**	Nutrition and health claims	NDA
8. November 2006	**Press Briefing**	Media Lunch - Nutrition and Health Claims Conference, Bologna	NDA
9.November 2006	**Press Release**	EFSA reccomendations on the prevention and reduction of animal disease transmissible to humans (zoonoses)	AHAW/BIOHAZ
14.November 2006	**Press Release**	EFSA animal health and welfare recommendations on the import of wild birds	AHAW
21. November 2006	**Press Release**	Geographical BSE risk: EFSA consults on revision of assessment methodology	BIOHAZ
30.November 2006	**Press Release**	EFSA and European national food authorities plan action for increased collaboration	EFSA