



Management Board Meeting
Lisbon, 13 December 2007

PROGRESS REPORT

Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle

- **AFC**
 - Additives: opinion on NEOTAME sweetener
 - Flavourings: 5 opinions covering about 88 substances (5 groups)
 - Food contact materials: 9 substances (16th list)
 - Preliminary discussion on UK FSA study on food colours. WG composed of experts on additives, psychology, statistics and allergy
 - Re-evaluation of ITX opinion: publication of statement
- **AHAW**
 - Animal Welfare: - 3 opinions (fattening pigs, pigs tail biting and welfare of sows and boars);
 - opinion on Seals killing and skinning with more than 30 organisations;
 - Animal health: opinion on aquatic diseases-fish vectors
 - Adoption of “Framework of EFSA’s AHAW risk assessment” (self-mandate)

- **BIOHAZ**
 - opinions on:
 - feeding animal proteins to farm animals (EP mandate);
 - monitoring and surveillance of Toxoplasma;
 - monitoring of verotoxigenic Escherichia coli;
 - health risks associated with reptile meat consumption;
 - Adoption of the protocol for ante-mortem TSE tests in ruminants
- **FEEDAP**
 - 14 opinions
 - Mandate for 2 new self-tasks:
 - revision of the scientific basis for the “zootechnical additives” functional groups;
 - production of a guidance document on the assessment of compatibility of microbial additives with substances showing antimicrobial activity (for public consultation)
 - Conference with stakeholders (Toulouse 24-25 October) with more than 120 participants

- **GMO**
 - Opinions on GA21 Maize, LLRice62, on Danisco Xylanase (in collaboration with FEEDAP)
 - Report on “the safety and nutritional assessment of GM plants and derived food and feed – the role of animal feeding trials” (self-task)
 - JRC workshop (EP project)
- **NDA**
 - Food allergies: 7 opinions on ingredients/substances granted permanent exemption from mandatory labeling (EC adoption if whole list on 25 November)
 - Novel food: opinion on the safety Allanblackia seed oil
 - Health claims: scientific colloquium on nutrient profiles
 - Population Reference Intakes
- **PLH**
 - 10th EFSA scientific colloquium on “pest risk assessment - science in support of phytosanitary decision making in the European Community”

- **PPR**

- Opinion on Q10 coefficient to describe effect of temperature on transformation of pesticides in soil
- Two opinions on toxicity of TBSA (tritosulfuron metabolite) and of buprofezin
- Guidance document on risk assessment for birds and mammals
- Self-task:
 - on risk assessment for cumulative exposure of triazoles.
 - agreement on the mandate and work-plan for the revision of the Guidance document on pesticide persistence in soil

- **CONTAM**

- Adoption:
 - 2 opinions on cross-contamination of non-target feedingstuffs with coccidiostats.
 - Chlordane in animal feed
- 4 new requests received (WGs established, except for WG uranium)
- 7 opinions proposed for adoption (26-28 November) on cross-contamination with coccidiostats, glucosinolates in animal feed, nitrate in vegetables, okadaic acid - group toxin

- **Scientific cooperation unit**
 - Development of EU experts database
 - Update and validation of database on organisations approved to support EFSA under art. 36
 - Signature of 18 Focal Point agreements
- **DATEX**
 - Support to CONTAM on ethyl carbamate opinion
 - Finalization of data collection from MSs on nitrate in vegetables and resultant exposure assessment submitted to CONTAM
- **PRAPeR**
 - Peer review completed for 10 active substances
 - Finalisation of report covering about 3400 proposed MRLs for 93 active substances

- **Assessment methodology unit**
 - Support to various units and panels (SC, AFC, PPR, BIOHAZ, Zoonoses, among others)
- **Zoonoses unit**
 - Finalization of the Community Summary report on Zoonoses, Antimicrobial Resistance and Foodborne Outbreaks in collaboration with ECDC (after consultation of MSs and stakeholders).
 - Adoption of the report on the harmonization of reporting foodborne outbreaks in the EU (in collaboration with ECDC)
 - Adoption of report on technical specification for a EU- baseline survey on Methicillin-resistant S. Aureus and baseline survey to be carried out in 2008
 - Adoption of the final report on analyses of the Salmonella baseline survey in broilers

- **PLH:** inventory of data sources for phytosanitary pest risk assessment in the European Community
- **PPR:** preparatory work for the development of a guidance document on exposure to pesticides
- **DATEX:**
 - assistance to MSs in finalizing the data collection for the concise food consumption database.
 - two calls submitted on chemical occurrence data submission to EFSA and on furan formation in foods
- **Zoonoses:** harmonized monitoring and reporting scheme for zoonotic parasites (December)

TOTAL = 10 calls in 2007

- Opinion on Qualified Presumption of Safety (QPS) approach for simplified safety assessment of selected microorganisms.
- Public consultation of Guidance document on the safety assessment of botanicals and botanical preparations intended for use as food supplements.
- draft opinion on animal cloning (19 December)
- New WG on nanotechnology to work on opinion on the risk arising from nanotechnologies

- Special meeting of EFSA's Advisory Forum with GMO experts from National regulatory risk assessment bodies on approaches to GMO risk assessment at national and European levels
- Seven ESCO WGs established (harmonization on risk assessment approaches, botanicals, folic acid, MSs networks on chemical occurrence data and on food composition, experts database, emerging risk)
- Aspartame discussion

Relationship with EU institutions:

1. European Parliament

- participation of EFSA representatives in Committees and Plenary sittings, notably to follow developments on pesticides and Budget 2008
- CGL at the ENVI Committee to present EFSA WP 2008
- Questions session with MEPs during 5th anniversary
- Newsletter

2. European Commission

- regular bilateral meetings between CGL and RM
- meeting with Commissioner/Cabinet of Health, Environment and Agriculture

3. Council of the EU

- CGL met with Portuguese Agriculture Minister Jaime Silva to discuss food safety dossiers being examined under Portuguese Presidency
- EFSA participation in CVO and COPHs meetings
- Liaison with the 2 coming 2008 Presidencies

Relationship with Stakeholders

- EFSA Stakeholder Consultative Platform was held in October in Brussels. Highlights: EFSA 2008 activities, food improvement agents package, contact material.
- CGL participated to COPA-COGECA Board (EU farmers) and to BEUC General Assembly (EU Consumers)

International Relations

- Technical meeting with FDA on QPS, nanotechnology, cloning and aspartame.
- Meeting with Food Safety Commission of Japan and New Zealand

Pre-Accession Programme for Turkey and Croatia

- From September to end November, 6 training seminars

(all staff)

	2007	2006	Δ
• Temporary agents	273	173	
• Contract agents	21	24	
• Auxiliary agents	5	24	
• Seconded national experts	9	7	
• TOTAL	308	228	+ 80 (+ 35%)

(Officials and Temporary)

2007

- Staff employed
- Staff authorized end 2007

(execution of Establishment Plan)

273 (91%)
300

2006

- Staff employed
- Staff authorized end 2006

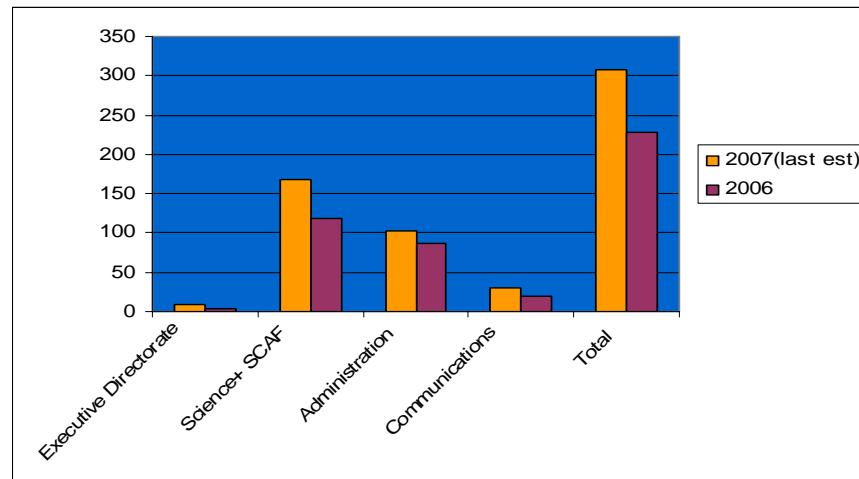
173 (69%)
250

+ 100

Staff Allocation by activity

	2007 (last est.)	2006
• Executive Directorate	9 (3%)	4 (2%)
• Science & SC-AF	168 (55%)	118 (52%)
• Administration*	101 (32%)	86 (37%)
• Communications	30 (10%)	20 (9%)
• Total	308	228

(including ER MB)*



- 2007 (est.): **48.9 M€ (94 %)**
- 2006: **36.4 M€ (90 %)**
- 2006/2007 = **+ 34 % (+ 12.5 M€)**

Publications – Recently published



“Five years with EFSA – taking stock, looking forward”

5-year Anniversary brochure for decision-makers and EFSA's key partners

“Cumulative RA of pesticides to human health: the way forward”

Summary of the EFSA's 7th Scientific Colloquium



“Moving Together – News on European food safety co-operation”

Newsletter promoting EFSA and the Advisory Forum's co-operation and networking strategy

EFSAnews 16

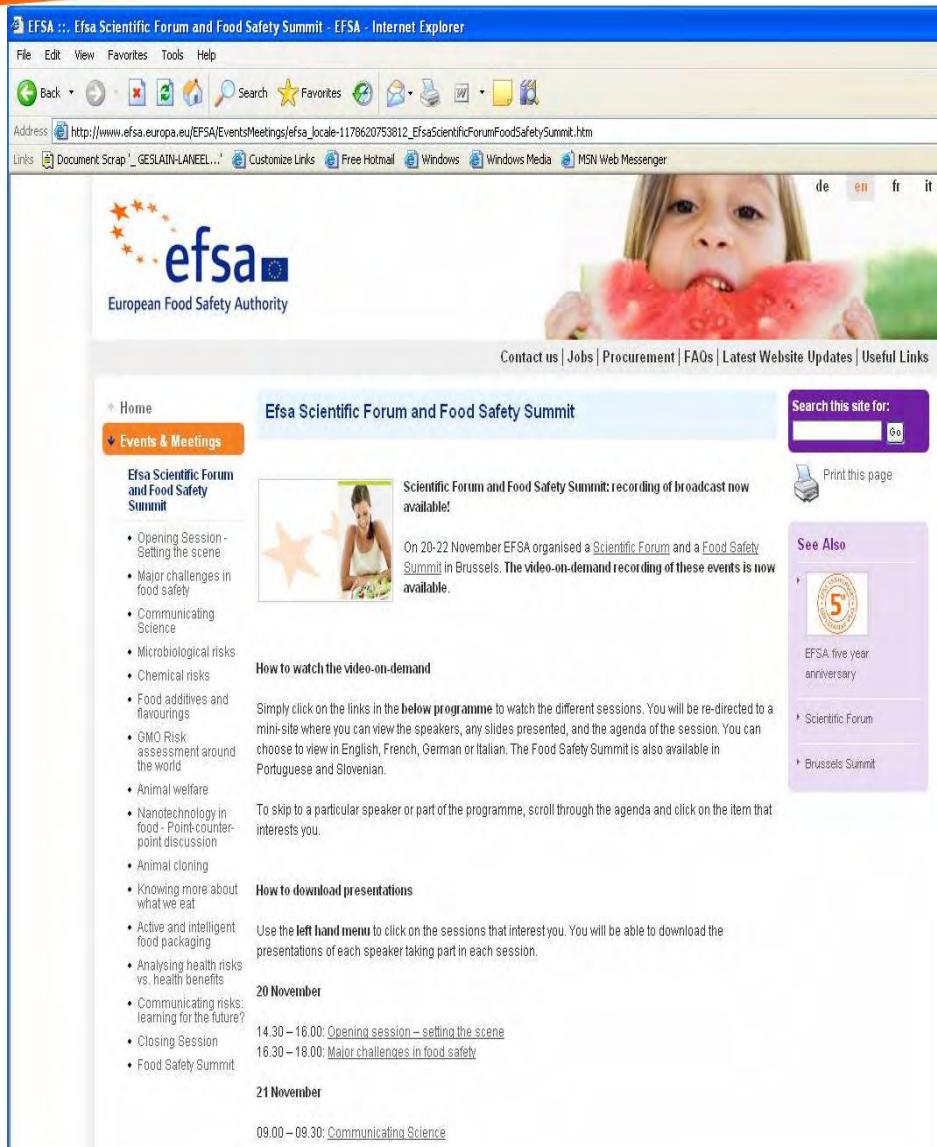
EN available – FR/GER/IT in production

“EU agencies: whatever you do, we work for you”

2007 edition of the EU Agencies' joint publication (contribution)



Website



EFSA :: Efsa Scientific Forum and Food Safety Summit - EFSA - Internet Explorer

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Address http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/EventsMeetings/efsa_locale-1178620753812_EfsaScientificForumFoodSafetySummit.htm

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See Also

- EFSA five year anniversary
- Scientific Forum
- Brussels Summit

Scientific Forum and Food Safety Summit: recording of broadcast now available!

On 20-22 November EFSA organised a [Scientific Forum](#) and a [Food Safety Summit](#) in Brussels. The video-on-demand recording of these events is now available.

How to watch the video-on-demand

Simply click on the links in the **below programme** to watch the different sessions. You will be re-directed to a mini-site where you can view the speakers, any slides presented, and the agenda of the session. You can choose to view in English, French, German or Italian. The Food Safety Summit is also available in Portuguese and Slovenian.

To skip to a particular speaker or part of the programme, scroll through the agenda and click on the item that interests you.

How to download presentations

Use the **left hand menu** to click on the sessions that interest you. You will be able to download the presentations of each speaker taking part in each session.

20 November

- 14.30 – 16.00: [Opening session – setting the scene](#)
- 16.30 – 18.00: [Major challenges in food safety](#)

21 November

- 09.00 – 09.30: [Communicating Science](#)

- Live broadcast of Scientific Forum and Summit in Brussels, 20-22 November
- 5 year anniversary video available on homepage
- New web sections created for Scientific Cooperation & Assistance dept.
- More news stories and key topics section added (eg. acrylamide)

EFSA 5 year anniversary

“Parma week”: 1-7 October 07



- **Inauguration activities – Monday 1st October** : Palazzo Ducale event and reception in Parma town hall
- **EFSA Exhibition on main Parma square “Piazza Garibaldi”**: 1,850 visitors + lectures for more than 500 local school pupils
- **Porte aperte – EFSA open doors for local people**: 610 participants
- **Scientific Symposium on Food Safety, Nutrition and Nanotechnology in co-operation with University of Parma**: 260 participants from Italian (and European) academic world
- **Local press coverage**: Good local coverage – regional television coverage + 56 articles in local (national) press

Forum-Summit on the Berlaymont



Key figures:

- Participants: over 500 for Forum and over 300 for Summit
- Webcast: well over 2000 visits from 38 countries + many more visits expected from video on demand over coming months
- Satisfaction surveys: 88% of respondents satisfied or very satisfied with outcome of Scientific Forum and 90% for Summit
- 43 journalists attended the Forum and Summit resulting in coverage in 21 publications/media from 14 Member States and at the Pan-EU level

EFSA Scientific Forum

20-21 November 07



Key outcomes:

Productive scientific debate bringing together all major scientific and institutional players at the EU and national level

- Raising of EFSA's visibility as reference body for scientific risk assessment in food safety amongst European scientific community and stakeholders
- Raising of EFSA's scientific profile
- EFSA as a responsive, proactive organisation working on future challenges in scientific risk assessment in food safety

European Parliament Exhibition 19-22 November 2007



- Inaugurated by
Hans-Gert Pöttering,
President of European
Parliament

Meeting point for MEPs and EP staff with EFSA representatives

European Food Safety Summit

22 November 2007



Key outcomes:

- Opportunity for EFSA stakeholders and EU and national representatives to reflect on EFSA's achievements during its first 5 years
- EFSA's role in providing independent scientific underpinning to risk management decisions – generating confidence in EU food safety system
- Acknowledgement of key scientific challenges for EFSA over the coming years, such as new technologies and nutrition

- **Main achievements:**

- The separation of risk assessment and risk management works
- The principles of operation of EFSA are essential to achieve its mission: scientific excellence, independence, transparency, openness, responsiveness – and inclusiveness
- Co-operation with Member States and competent authorities in MSs is crucial
- Involvement of all interested parties – meeting the needs and expectations of risk managers and of stakeholders

- **New challenges – addressing new challenges and adapting to a new policy environment**
 - EFSA has to be flexible and adapt to changing conditions and new challenges, i.e. international trade, tourism/movement of people, climate change, new detection methods, ...
 - Addressing the workload will be a great challenge for EFSA in the future as risk managers will continue to ask for more risk assessments – adjusting priorities
 - Increased role of science – new areas: nutrition, animal health – environment RA of GMOs – Risk benefit analysis

- **Building up on the networks created - reinforcement of co-operation**
 - Strengthening the interactions between risk assessors and risk managers – understanding each others' roles and responsibilities
 - Optimizing the co-operation between EFSA and the national authorities, i.e. further collaborative work to harmonize risk assessment methodologies
 - Strengthening the presence of EFSA in the international arena
- **Risk communication**
 - Communicating science with clear, understandable and simpler messages
 - Addressing uncertainties and communicating the uncertainties
 - Close co-operation with risk managers and national food safety Authorities in relation to communication
 - Importance of responsiveness in building trust