



Management Board Meeting
Lisbon, 13 December 2007

PROGRESS REPORT

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- **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 Methicilin-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%)

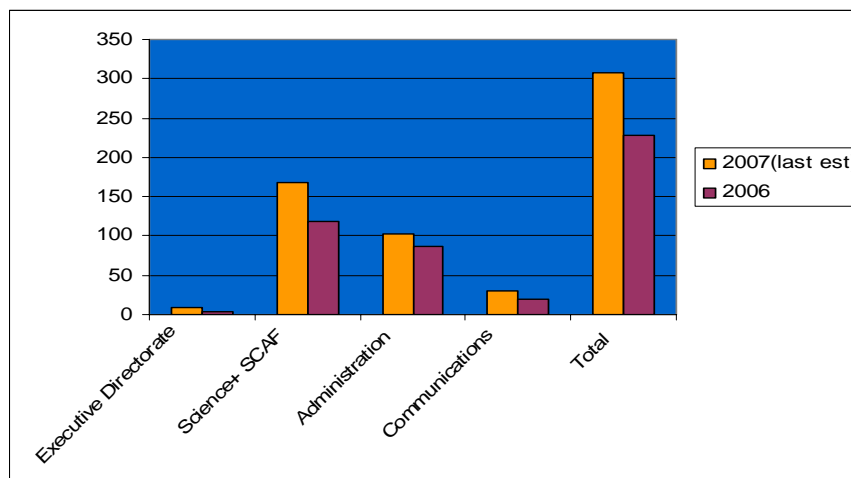
250

+ 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”

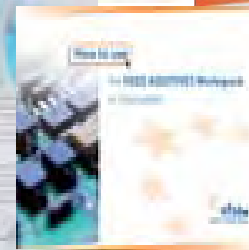
Newsletter promoting EFSA and the Advisory Forum's co-operation and networking strategy

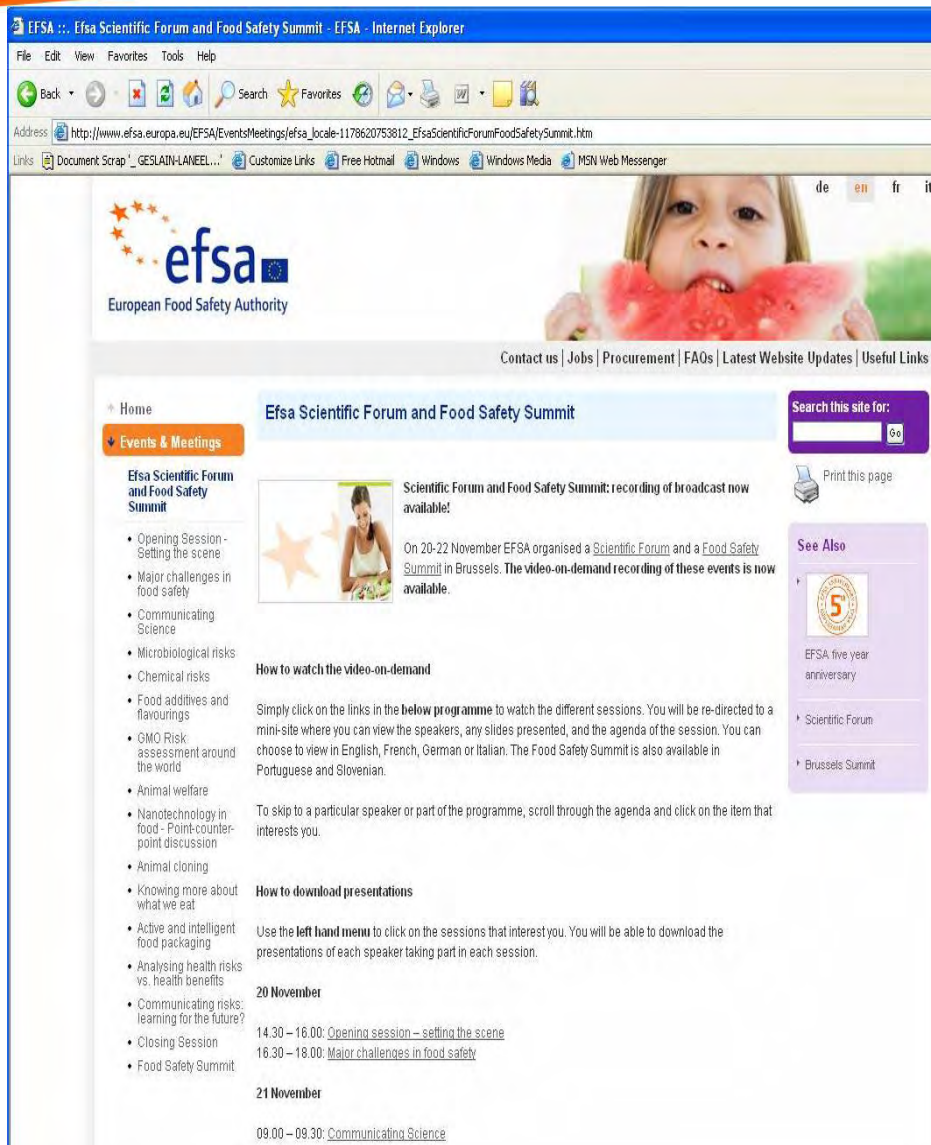
EFSAnews 16

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)





- 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

“The Summit”: looking ahead-direction for the future - actions for EFSA

- **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