



# **Draft Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-making Processes of EFSA**

Management Board meeting 16.06.2011, Budapest

- **Scheduled review of the Policy on Declarations of Interests of EFSA's (2007)**
- **Identified need for a Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making of EFSA's (MB meeting March 2011)**

- **Discussion of Reflection Paper at MB in March 2011**
- **External review of implementation of DoI Policy (2010)**
- **Benchmarking analysis (2010)**
- **Audits (2008 – 2009)**
- **EFSA's experience of implementing policy (EFSA experts and staff)**

# What is the difference?

- **Give full effect to the institutional independence of EFSA compared to an exclusive focus on the individual independence of EFSA experts**
- **The core values of EFSA (scientific excellence, openness, transparency, responsiveness, independence) are to be viewed in the broader context of the quality of EFSA's outputs and scientific decision-making processes**

***“Overarching policy that ensures the continued and visible implementation of its core values in its scientific outputs and decision making processes.”***

## Art. 37

- “... shall make a **declaration of commitment and a declaration of interests** indicating either the absence of any interests which might be considered prejudicial to their independence or any direct or indirect interests which might be considered prejudicial to their independence.”

## Art. 22

- Paragraph 7 “The Authority shall carry out its tasks in conditions which enable it to serve as a point of reference by virtue of its **independence, the scientific and technical quality of the opinions** it issues and the information it disseminates, the **transparency of its procedures and methods** of operation, and its **diligence** in performing the tasks assigned to it.”

# How is this translated into the draft policy

- **Organisational governance**
- **Scientific decision-making processes**
- **EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels**
- **Quality assurance**
- **Enhanced contribution of scientific staff**
- **Organisational culture**
- **The public interest**

- **Management Board Policy on Independence and scientific decision-making process**
- **Implementing acts**
- **EFSA code of conduct**
- **Rules of Procedure of the Management Board, of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels**
- **Decision on the selection of scientific experts**

- **Draft Policy discussed at this MB meeting**
- **Resulting draft submitted for public consultation beginning July**
- **Stakeholder meeting in September**
- **Possible adoption by MB in October 2011**