



Cooperation with the Member States

**Management Board meeting
Parma, 20 October 2011**

- “Strategy for Cooperation and Networking between the EU Member States and EFSA” endorsed by MB in 2006
- Interim Review on progress carried out in 2008
- In 2009 further developments with the paper on “Moving ahead from cooperation between EFSA and MS to boosting capacity of risk assessment in Europe” leading to the document on Cooperation between EFSA and MS: Taking Stock and Looking ahead
- This, combined with EFSA’s strategic plan 2009-2013 and Communications Strategy 2010-2013, will serve as the framework for future cooperation with MS

*There is recognition that the **needs of Risk Assessment** must be taken into account at **national and EU level** and agreement that there is a **need to ensure continued and adequate research activities** in the area of food safety risk assessment.*

- Medium term planning provides overview of activities and allows MS to plan contribution to EFSA RA activities in specific areas
- Input directly in DG Research and Innovation in last three years and discussion paper on research priorities to be presented to AF in November
- Liaison with other research institutions such as the JRC

*There is an ongoing **need for dialogue with Risk Managers** at national and EU level in **order to set priorities for Risk Assessment** taking into consideration aspects such as health burden.*

- Draft Science Strategy 2012-2016 recognises the need to strengthen risk monitoring and risk ranking
- Ongoing discussions with the EC to establish medium term planning of risk assessment tasks
- Publication of brochure on scientific cooperation between EFSA and MS to raise awareness in MS of the close scientific cooperation needed to meet future challenges

*The use of **scarce resources needs to be optimized** to ensure sustainability of the risk assessment system which has been built up by, amongst other things, making **best use of available experts**, preparing the development of the next generation of experts with the support of the European Commission and increase the contribution of National Risk Assessment Bodies in EFSA's work.*

- Medium term planning and IEP enhances opportunity to avoid duplication of effort and sharing of risk assessments
- Article 36 projects actively promote cooperation
- Science strategy proposals for managing application dossiers and striving to best use use of experts time
- Training needs examined and course to be developed through Better Training for Safer Food initiative

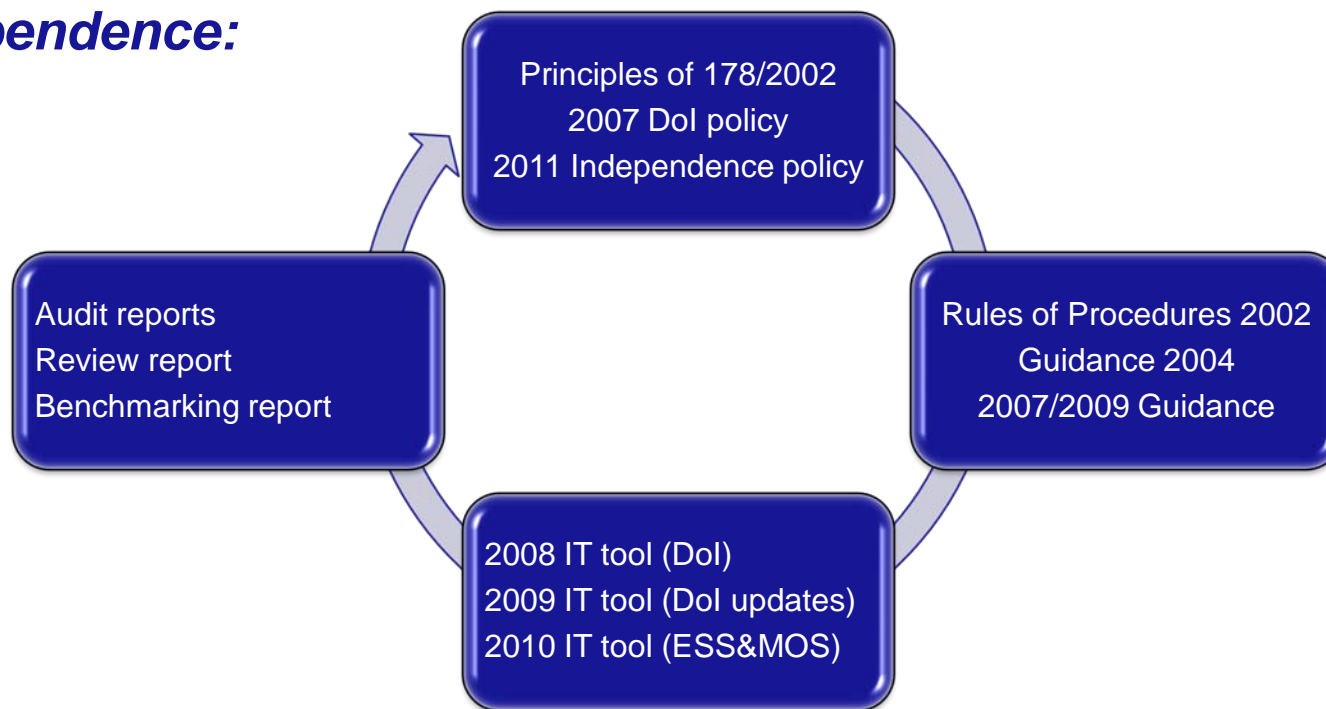
Action point 4

*There is a recognized need to ensure **best use of mechanisms and tools** that have been developed such as the EFSA Networks, the Information Exchange Platform, Focal Points and Article 36 activities.*

- Scientific Committee network on harmonisation of risk assessment methodologies established
- Emerging Risks Exchange Network work ongoing
- Continued promotion and use of the IEP by experts

Best practice on Independence and Transparency

Independence:



Transparency: Regular public consultations and stakeholder workshops on key Opinions and Guidance

Data collection activities must be reinforced to ensure that there can be comparison between Member States and the data can be used at national level for exposure assessments.

- Food classification working group
- Total diet studies ongoing in MS (important for exposure assessments)
- EU Menu project starting with strong support within AF
- Discussion paper on data collection discussed by AF September 2011

*EFSA must continue to **build its international context** by reinforcing the importance of **EFSA as a European voice during crisis** even at national level and **contributing to Risk Assessment on the global scene**.*

- Strategic approach on international activities adopted by MB in 2007
- Pre-accession and European Neighbourhood Programmes, International Food Chemical Liaison Group, bilateral agreements with Japan and US
- Science strategy 2012-2016 recognises strategic importance of liaison with WHO, OECD, WOAHA which will be handled within new Directorate

*The **developing communications strategy** must take account of the need for **simpler more relevant communications** and of the opportunity for **greater outreach in Member States**. One proposal is to implement a thematic approach to support this. EFSA is currently developing an approach for **possible use of social media in the future**. This could be used in ad hoc situations such as crises.*

- Communications Strategy 2010-2013
- Proposed implementation of communications in key thematic areas
- Risk Communication Guidelines drafted for completion by end of 2011
- Ongoing discussions in AF Working Group on Communications on use of social media