



***EFSA's work on Emerging Risks Identification:  
An Update***

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

## REGULATION (EC) No 178/2002 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 28 January 2002

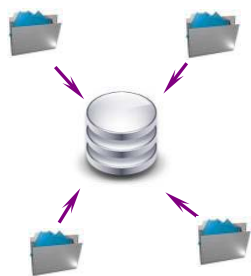
Laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety

### Article 34

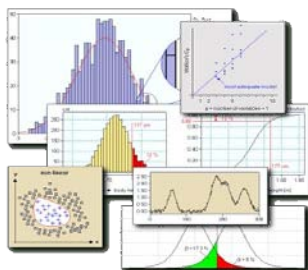
#### Identification of emerging risks

1. The Authority shall establish **monitoring** procedures for systematic searching for, **collecting**, **collating** and **analysing** information and data **with a view to the identification of emerging risks** in the fields within its mission.

Collecting and collating



Analyse and filter



sharing

# Milestones and main outputs (1)

## *Development of an approach:*

- EMRISK Project, 2006 (procurement)
- Scientific Committee Opinion, 2006
- EFSA Definition of “Emerging Risk”, 2007 (Scientific Committee)
- Establishment of the EMRISK unit, 2008
- ESCO WG on Emerging Risks, 2009
- EMRISK Technical Report on the Emerging Risks 2010
- EFSA Colloquium on Emerging Risks 2010
- Working Group on data sources for emerging risk identification, July 2011
- WG on Methodology for emerging risk identification (end 2011) – criteria for analysing potential signals of emerging risks.

# Milestones and main outputs (2)

## *Implementation:*

- Technical Reports 2009-2011
  - Development of tools for data monitoring (Media, RASFF, Trade)
  - Databases (Bioactive compounds, inventory of hazard DBs)
  - Outsourced project MODMAP – (end 2011) effect of climate change on mycotoxin production in cereals.
- Networking established in 2010
  - Emerging Risks Exchange Network (MS)
    - Report on 2010 activities published
    - MS experience of identifying emerging risks (end 2011)
  - Stakeholders consultative group on emerging risks (report on stakeholder activities published June 2011)
- Data monitoring established
  - Food and feed 2010
  - Plant health 2011
  - Animal health possibly in 2012
- Data filtering
  - Emerging risks internal collaboration group established in 2010, report due end 2011

## *Lessons learnt*

- Holistic monitoring for signals of emerging risks is not very efficient (resource demanding, producing a modest number of signals; 12 forwarded by the primary filter over 16 months)
- Expertise is a vital part of the process, particularly for filtering signals
- The monitoring priority should be on non-regulated areas and not previously assessed hazards rather than changing exposure to known hazards.

## *Future developments*

- Monitoring to be focused on areas rich in emerging risks
- Filtering to be assisted by a standing working group of the Scientific Committee.
- Improved traceability through the emerging risk identification system by further refining filtering criteria at each step of the process.

## *Data sources:*

- Chemical hazards database – With a view to better sharing data on chemical hazards with other institutions (OECD echem portal, ECHA, WHO), summary toxicological data from all EFSA chemical opinions will be gathered into a database – pilot due for end of 2011.

## *Specific issues:*

- Energy drinks consumption data – call relaunched start July 2011, following a request by the AF (report due end 2012)
- Internal task force on chemical mixtures – to review the state of the art of risk assessment of mixtures (due May 2012).
- A review of omics and food safety risk assessment (procurement proposals under assessment– final report due July 2013).