



External Evaluation of EFSA 2012: Consultation process on E&Y Report

Management Board meeting
Parma, 17 October 2012

On 5 September EFSA published online Ernst & Young's report on EFSA's External Evaluation and launched a consultation on its outcomes targeting:

- EFSA staff
- Advisory Forum
- Scientific Committee
- Stakeholder Consultative Platform

- General agreement on the overall positive findings
- Too much focus on survey and interview over desk analysis
- Lack of cost-benefit analysis
- Lack of long-term vision (growth, sustainability of the organisation):
 - Business model
 - L/T financial resources

Specific comments - Risk Assessment

- Ensure that focus is maintained on **generic health issues** and emerging risks next to the work on regulated products
- Improve **data collection** including the harmonisation of EFSA's data systems with those of the Member States
- Focus on Multi-annual and Medium-term resource planning and monitoring
- Build further on efficiency initiatives, promote **staff flexibility** through training and **career development** and ensure EFSA remains an attractive working place

Specific comments - Risk Communication

- Continue building around **simplicity and clarity** of messages further explaining EFSA's role and how it applies its core values
- Communicate more on **risk assessment process** including Independence process and policies
- **Reduce the complexity** of EFSA's website to allow better accessibility
- Build further **coordination** of messages with the Member States and European risk managers

Specific comments - Scientific Cooperation

- Build further on **cooperation with Member States and international bodies**
- Bring more cohesion to the European risk assessment community building more **joint multi annual planning** and promoting targeted **joint initiatives** with national authorities
- **Streamline** the use of existing scientific cooperation tools (scientific networks, Art. 36, Information Exchange Platform, etc.)

Specific comments - Independence, Openness and Transparency

- Build further initiatives in these areas while ensuring that risks and benefits are weighted so that the **scientific excellence and independence aspects are adequately protected**
- In scientific outputs **develop more comprehensively the transparency on** issues such as: origin of data, reasons for considering data, uncertainties and assumptions
- Improve access to and **explanation of EFSA's operations and activities**, communicate clearly that EFSA has a comprehensive system in place involving **monitoring and ensuring compliance**