



# The Commission Roadmap on the follow-up to the Common Approach

What follow-up for EFSA?

# Context

- Common Approach endorsed by EP, Council and Commission in July 2012
- Commission Roadmap adopted in Dec. 2012
- Main Commission objectives for the implementation phase:
  - **Improved governance**
  - **Enhanced efficiency**
  - **Enhanced accountability**
  - **Improved coherence**

# Commission tools to implement the Common Approach

1. Initiatives listed in the Roadmap
2. No revision of EFSA founding act is foreseen at the moment

# The Commission Roadmap

- 90 initiatives to be taken by all the concerned actors, with deadlines when relevant
- 5 priority areas identified by the Commission:
  - **Conflicts of interest**
  - **Activity Based Budget/Activity Based Management and key performance indicators**
  - **Evaluations**
  - **Headquarter agreements**
  - **Annual work programmes**
- Close cooperation with agencies

# What is expected from EFSA?

## 15 building blocks

1. Working conditions
2. International activities
3. Communication activities and websites
4. Annual and multi-annual work programmes
5. Annual report
6. EU classified information
7. Conflict of interest
8. Relations with national agencies & stakeholders

# What is expected from EFSA?

## 15 building blocks

9. Evaluations
10. Internal audit and control
11. Follow-up to evaluations and audits
12. Anti-fraud activities
13. Implementation of financial regulation rules
14. ABB/ABM
15. Resources planning and budget execution

# Working conditions

## [Building Block 1]

- Give feed back to the Commission on services provided to the agency
- Consider sharing services with other agencies (e.g. IT systems, audit services etc.)

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# International activities

## [Building Block 2]

- Adequate coordination with partner DG: working arrangement + early mutual information
- Adopt an international relations strategy, possibly part of [multi-]annual work programme
- Specific initiatives to be approved by the Management Board

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# Communication activities

## [Building Block 3a]

- Ensure EFSA's strategy is coordinated with the strategy of Commission & other institutions
- React if interested in access to a specific framework contract under preparation (e.g. DG COMM framework contract)

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# Websites

## [Building Block 3b]

- As multilingual as possible
- With sufficient info for financial transparency
- With an adequate reference to "EU Agency"

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# Annual Work Programme

## [Building Block 4a]

- Reinforced and systematic link between human and financial resources and specific actions
- With adequate key performance indicators

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# Multi-Annual Work Programme

## [Building Block 4b]

- Systematic and comprehensive
- Linked with multi-annual resource planning and with successive annual work programmes
- Report to Management Board on implementation, **(already in practice in EFSA)**

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# Annual Report

## [Building Block 5]

- Consolidate reporting, as far as possible

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# EU Classified Information

## [Building Block 6]

- Adopt a decision on the handling of such info.
- Participate in network when set up by the Commission

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# Conflicts of interest

## [Building Block 7]

- Adopt and implement a clear policy (**already done by EFSA – need to implement and monitor**)
- Review selection procedures for members of scientific committees
- Follow-up to Commission guidelines (expected by end 2013)

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# Relations with national agencies and other stakeholders

## [Building Block 8]

- Maintain appropriate relations
- Define respective roles (already defined in EFSA's founding regulation)
- Coordinate with all relevant stakeholders (already done through EFSA's stakeholder platform)
- In line with: mandate, institutional division of tasks in international relations, EU policy and Commission actions

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# Evaluations

## [Building Block 9]

- Scope to include accessibility of the agency and selection procedures for / independence of members of Scientific Committees Reviews to cover rationale, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of EFSA
- Management Board to consider need for ex-ante evaluations

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# Internal audit and control

## [Building Block 10]

- Management and IAC to coordinate audits plans with IAS
- IAC to comply with international standards

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# Follow-up to evaluations and audits

## [Building Block 11]

- Directors to prepare follow-up action plan and report on progress bi-annually to the Commission
- Management and/or executive boards to be adequately informed and involved (done via the Audit Committee in EFSA)
- To be covered by multi-annual work programmes
- Partner DG and DG BUDG to be informed of results of audits by Court of Auditors + follow-up measures

# Anti-fraud activities

## [Building Block 12]

- Protect whistleblowers
- Raise awareness of ways to report wrongdoings
- Publicise anti-fraud measures taken
- Report on and review exceptions or deviations from procedures in last month of financial year
- Contracts, procurement notices and grant award procedures to refer to OLAF
- Inform newly recruited staff about OLAF's role
- Full info to OLAF on possible cases and no self-investigations

# Implementation of financial regulation rules

## [Building Block 13]

- Encourage training of new administrative staff
- Better exploit possibility to use joint procurement procedures with national authorities. (to be considered for big projects since experience showed that it is a complicated instrument to be used. It could also affect EFSA's independence)

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# Activity Based Budget/Activity Based Management

[Building Block 14]

- Exchange best practices with other agencies and contribute to joint initiatives

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# Resources planning and budget execution

## [Building Block 15]

- Adequately justify if Commission's opinion on draft Staff Policy Plan (SPP) not fully taken into account
- Adequately justify budget requests
- Improve planning and revenue forecasting
- Improve management of commitments
- Inform budget authority of modification to budgets that do not require approval + justify (appears as done by EFSA via regular information in MB on transfers)

# The alert/warning system

- **Activated by Commission** if "serious reasons for concern" that a Board's decision:
  - may not comply with mandate,
  - may violate EU law, or
  - manifestly contradict EU policy objectives
- **In practice:**
  1. Formal Commission intervention in Board meeting (+ request to suspend implementation?)
  2. Information of European Parliament and Council
  3. Possible joint reaction of the 3 institutions

# Any questions?



# Thank you for your attention!