

Committed to ensuring  
that Europe's food is safe



# **Update on the EFSA's activities in the field of regulated products and of the Applications Desk**

Management Board Meeting  
Parma, 27 June 2013

### Mission:

1. Evaluate substances, products and claims submitted for authorisation in the EU
2. Develop guidance and specific methodologies
3. Provide specific advice on safety issues

Invites the scientific community and stakeholders in addressing its mission

International cooperation

Vision: Predictable workload and outputs, dialogue with stakeholders, clarity of expectations and needs, support sustainable innovation

1. Increasing workload, peaks of work, accumulated work in some areas
2. Highly complex work vs. standardised / routine
3. Linked to innovation / growth, political priorities
4. Industry driven – close scrutiny by other stakeholders
5. Strong economic interest by industry – need to enhance level of service – provide legal certainty or predictability

1. Good administrative practice for regulated products
2. Transparency (access to data/process)
3. Optimisation of use of resources (staff, experts and MS bodies)
4. APDESK

## Timelines for risk assessment

- legal deadlines
- negotiated deadlines

EFSA interacts with applicants for various reasons before, during and after risk assessment for any given product

Ongoing work to streamline and harmonise the stop-the-clock mechanism

Mapping shows a need to develop, clarify and harmonise current working practise

Ongoing work to streamline and harmonise internal workflows (APDESK)

## High level of transparency at EFSA

- Process
- Data/Information

## Key issues

- Type of information to be published
- What/when to publish during the process

Feedback mechanism will help making EFSA's work fit for purpose,  
i.e. efficient and effective

## Regulated products

Food Contact Materials

Flavourings

Food enzymes

Feed additives

GMO

Food additives

Redistribution of work between: staff, experts and Member States' scientific bodies:

- An important share of the procurements and grants budget will be allocated to **pre-assessments supporting EFSA's activities in the area of evaluation of products**, substances and claims subject to authorisation to support the Panels and their Working Groups.
- Some "routine" tasks can be taken over by EFSA staff

Lead a front office and support desk for all stakeholders with respect to Applications for regulated products



Unit from dream to team

Front office and support desk

- Centralise and harmonise workflow on applications
- APDESK webform
- EFSA Info Sessions on Applications

Stakeholders' surveys

- 2012: survey on EFSA Stakeholder' needs
- 2013: launch survey on EFSA Stakeholder' satisfactions

## Address the key challenges by intensifying dialogue and transparency

### Enhance current services to stakeholders

- Enhance communication
- Simplify and harmonise workflows
- Simplify submission of applications
- Provide dedicated support for innovation and growth

=> Positive feedback from stakeholders (mainly applicants)

Address the key challenges by developing APDESK consultative stakeholders surveys

- Understand stakeholders' needs
- Identify better the applicants
- Monitor closely stakeholders' satisfaction
- Monitor more closely applicants' satisfaction

=> Positive feedback from stakeholders (all)

APDESK will clarify the needs, assess the feasibility of potential services, implement services and monitor the outcomes as we develop further the quality of our interactions

## Implementation of some updated services to Stakeholders

- Enhance communication
- Clarify requirements
- Support applicant before-during-after submission of an application
- APDESK dedicated SME team and guidance team
- Develop a “mutual expectation document” with defined opportunities for meeting/interacting