84th Meeting of the EFSA's Management Board

Minutes of the Public Session

Parma, 15 October 2020 – 10:30-13:00

Members of the Management Board Present	
Raymond O'Rourke (Chair)	Georgi Georgiev
Aivars Bērziņš (Vice-Chair)	Ulrich Herzog
Michael Winter (Vice-Chair)	Didier Houssin
Claire Bury (acting Chair until agenda item no. 3 included)	Eleni Ioannou-Kakouri
Geronimo Brănescu	Giuseppe Ruocco
Herman Diricks	András Székács
Libor Dupal	Annette Toft
Iñaki Eguileor	

Apologies: None

Staff of the European Food Safety Authority	
Bernhard Url (Executive Director)	Marta Hugas
Gian Luca Bonduri	Juliane Kleiner
Peter De Pauw	Claudia Paoletti (for item no. 8)
Guilhem de Seze	Alberto Spagnolli
Dirk Detken	Selomey Yamadjako
Barbara Gallani	

Also attending:

Simon More, Chair of the EFSA's Scientific Committee

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European Food Safety Authority

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

It was the first meeting of the renewed Management Board, who welcomed Eleni Ioannou-Kakouri, Georgi Georgiev, Ulrich Herzog and Claire Bury (appointed as from the 1st of July 2020 as Deputy Director-General for Food Safety in SANTE).

The Management Board elected Raymond O'Rourke as Chair of the Board, as well as Aivars Bērziņš and Michael Winter as Vice-Chairs.

Also, the Audit Committee was renewed, which is composed of the following members: Herman Diricks (Chair), András Székács (Vice-Chair), Geronimo Brănescu (member), Annette Toft (member) and Claire Bury (member representing the European Commission).

The Board **adopted:**

- The renewed list of Art. 36 competent organisations designated by Member States.

In addition, the Board **noted:**

- The Performance Report, which provided information on the implementation of the Single Programming Document 2020-2022 reporting on the activities and the outcome achieved until August 2020.
- The update from the Scientific Committee, provided by its Chair Prof. Simon More.
- The update on the work that is being carried out to implement the Transparency Regulation.
- The feedback from the Chair of the Audit Committee, who reported on the meeting held on the previous day.
- The feedback from Mr O'Rourke on his participation, in representation of the Management Board, in the meeting of EFSA's Stakeholder Bureau on the 15th of September 2020.

Item 1: Opening of the meeting

1. The meeting was opened by Claire Bury, European Commission representative, who chaired it until the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Management Board. She conveyed a particular welcome to Eleni Ioannou-Kakouri, Georgi Georgiev and Ulrich Herzog who participated in the Board meeting for the first time following their appointment as members of the EFSA Management Board as from the 1st of July 2020. She thanked the previous Management Board Chair, Jaana Husu-Kallio, whose term of office expired on the 30th of June 2020, for her considerable contribution to the work of the Board and of EFSA over the past eight years and beyond. As well, she thanked the former Board members whose term of office expired on the 30th of June 2020 too, in particular Zita Čeponytė and Andrej Simončič, who also served as Chair of the Audit Committee from 2018 to 2020.

Item 2: Board members' Annual and Oral Declarations of Interests

1. Pursuant to Article 13 of the Management Board Rules of Procedure adopted on 27 June 2013, the Board took note of the Executive Director's assessment of the Declarations of Interests submitted by ten of its members and confirmed it.
2. The acting Chair invited the Board members to declare possible interests in addition to those already declared in their Annual Declaration of Interests. Georgi Georgiev informed the Board that among the organisations proposed to be included in the Art. 36 list there was the University of Forestry in Sofia, an organisation with which he entertains a working relationship. For that reason, he declared that he will abstain from voting the inclusion of that organisation in the Art. 36 list.
3. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following link.

Item 3: Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Management Board

4. The Board members expressed their vote online through the platform "Forms".
5. The acting Chair invited Dirk Detken (Legal & Assurance Services) to describe the procedure for the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs in accordance with the provisions of the Management Board Rules of Procedure.
6. The Board nominated Dirk Detken and Gian Luca Bonduri as tellers for the voting procedure.
7. The Management Board elected Raymond O'Rourke as the Chair and Aivars Bērziņš and Michael Winter as the Vice-Chairs. Details on the votes cast are provided in the annex below.
8. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following link.
9. Raymond O'Rourke took over the chairmanship of the Management Board meeting.

Item 4: Nomination of the members, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee

10. The Board agreed on the composition of the new Audit Committee as follows: Herman Diricks (Chair), András Székács (Vice-Chair), Geronimo Brănescu (Member) and Annette Toft (Member). In addition, the representative of the European Commission sits at the Audit Committee with the position of Member. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following link.

Item 5: Adoption of the agenda

11. The Chair asked the Board if they wished to add any items to the agenda. The agenda was adopted with the addition of the following item under Any Other Business: (a) Feedback from Raymond O'Rourke (Chair) on his participation in the meeting of the EFSA Stakeholder

Bureau held on 15 September 2020. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following link.

Item 6: EFSA Performance Report

12. Bernhard Url (Executive Director) introduced to the Board the performance report covering the period from the 1st of January to the 31st of August 2020. The document included information in all aspects of the EFSA performance measured during the reporting period against the annual and multiannual work programmes as presented in the Single Programming Document 2020-2022. Selomey Yamadjako (Business Services Department) brought to the Board's attention data on the management and consumption of resources. The Management Board congratulated EFSA's scientific experts and staff for the quantity and quality of the work carried out and commended EFSA's resilience and commitment in this period of COVID-19 pandemic. A PowerPoint presentation is available online for a detailed description. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following link.

Item 7: Update from the Scientific Committee

13. The Board noted the update from the Scientific Committee, provided by its Chair, Prof. Simon More, who presented the Scientific Committee's activities performed since the last update to the Board. Reminding that the Scientific Committee recently held its 100th plenary session, he provided an overview of the scientific activities that the Committee had implemented and will carry out in the coming future. In particular, he highlighted the work of the Scientific Committee in the areas of synthetic biology, risk/benefit assessment of fish consumption and bee health. A PowerPoint presentation is available online for a detailed description. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this link.

Item 8: Implementation of the revised EU General Food Law

14. The Board noted the update on the work that is being carried out to implement the Regulation (EU) 2019/1381 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Transparency Regulation). Despite some slight delays in few areas, activities are advancing at the planned pace and these are expected to be finalised by the date of application of the Regulation (i.e. 27 March 2021). A PowerPoint presentation is available online for a detailed description. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this link.

Item 9: Amendments to the Art.36 list

15. The Board adopted the renewed list of Art. 36 competent organisations designated by the Member States, which now includes 12 new organisations designated by Bulgaria (1), France (4), Greece (1), Italy (2), Norway (3) and Portugal (1). Mr Georgiev abstained from voting the inclusion in the Art. 36 list of the University of Forestry in Sofia (see agenda item no. 2 above). The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following link.

Item 10: Feedback from the Audit Committee

16. The Chair of the Audit Committee updated the Management Board on the outcome of the meeting held on 14 October 2020, when the Audit Committee noted the audit Report of the Internal Audit Service of the European Commission (IAS) on the assessment and adoption of scientific outputs in the food ingredients and packaging (FIP) domain, as well as EFSA's financial report on outsourced services. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this link.

Item 11: Any other business

17. The Board note the feedback from Mr O'Rourke on his participation, in representation of the Management Board, in the meeting of EFSA's Stakeholder Bureau held on 15 September 2020.

18. The Chair informed the audience that the Board had also addressed a couple of items (information from EFSA to the Board) via written procedure:
    - EFSA and its scientific experts: mutual assessment
    - IPA programme – cooperation with the pre-accession Countries

    The documents supporting that exchange of information were published on EFSA's website (on the page dedicated to the MB meeting) and are available to anyone interested.

19. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion around the items above is available online at this link.

Summary of actions

None

ANNEX

Election of the Management Board Chair and Vice-Chairs: figures of the vote cast.

Election of the Management Board Chair – 1st Round

Candidates	Votes cast
Herman Diricks	9
Raymond O'Rourke	5
Giuseppe Ruocco	1

Election of the Management Board Chair – 2nd Round

Candidates	Votes cast
Herman Diricks	3
Raymond O'Rourke	12

Election of the first Management Board Vice-Chair – 1st Round

Candidates	Votes cast
Aivars Bērziņš	8
Giuseppe Ruocco	2
Michael Winter	5

Election of the first Management Board Vice-Chair – 2nd Round

Candidates	Votes cast
Aivars Bērziņš	10
Michael Winter	5

Election of the second Management Board Vice-Chair – 1st Round

Candidates	Votes cast
Giuseppe Ruocco	2
Michael Winter	13