



83rd Meeting of the EFSA's Management Board

Minutes of the Public Session

Web-conference, 17 June 2020 – 11:00-12:25

Members of the Management Board present	
Jaana Husu-Kallio (Chair)	Iñaki Eguileor
Raymond O'Rourke (Vice-Chair)	Didier Houssin
András Székács (Vice-Chair)	Sabine Jülicher
Aivars Bērziņš	Giuseppe Ruocco
Geronimo Brănescu	Andrej Simončič
Zita Čeponytė	Annette Toft
Herman Diricks	Michael Winter
Libor Dupal	

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. 3)
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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SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

The Board **adopted by written procedure:**

- The opinion on EFSA's accounts 2019.
- The decision on the appointment of two new members in the Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR).
- An addendum to the EFSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2019.
- The following implementing rules of the Staff Regulations:
 - Commission Decision C(2019)6855 of 4 October 2019 on procedures for dealing with professional incompetence (application by analogy)
 - Commission Decision C(2004)1318 of 7 April 2004 on the duties of Commission drivers (application by analogy)
 - Commission Decision C(2019)7822 of 30 October 2019 amending Commission Decision C(2004) 1318 of 7 April 2004 on the duties of Commission drivers (application by analogy)
 - Commission Decision C(2020)1559 of 16 March 2020 amending Decision C(2013)9051 of 16 December 2013 on leave (application by analogy)
- The amended list of Art. 36 competent organisations designated by Member States.

In addition, the Board **noted:**

- The EFSA Performance Report & COVID-19 impact assessment.
- The update on the implementation of the Transparency Regulation.



Item 1: Welcome by the Chair and adoption of the agenda

1. The Chair opened the 83rd Management Board meeting by welcoming the Board members, Executive Director, Chair of the Scientific Committee, external observers and the EFSA staff members.
2. The Chair informed the audience that due to the movement restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board decided to hold its meeting partially via written procedure and partially in web-conference. She highlighted that the documents addressed by the Board in written procedure had been made available to the public on EFSA's website [at this link](#). The agenda of the web-conference was adopted as proposed by the Chair. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 2: EFSA Performance Report & COVID-19 impact assessment

3. Bernhard Url (Executive Director) and Selomey Yamadjako (Business Services) introduced to the Board the EFSA's Performance Report covering the period from the 1st of January to the 30th of April 2020. The report, in addition to information on the implementation of EFSA's Single Programming Document 2020-2022, highlighted the performance constraints linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, which impact is being assessed in close collaboration with DG SANTE. The specific circumstances linked to the pandemic suggest a re-assessment of the Authority's work-plan priorities and the re-prioritisation of activities like, inter alia, EFSA's Strategy 2027 (work is being carried out to assess the impact of COVID-19 in the medium-long-term work of the Authority too), EFSA's anti-fraud strategy, and the Accountability Policy and Delegation of Authorities. All activities related to EFSA's core business in the scientific and communication areas, as well as those aimed at implementing the Transparency Regulation maintain the highest priority. From a resource consumption point of view, Selomey Yamadjako highlighted that preliminary estimations suggest an impact of COVID-19 ranging between 4 and 7.5 million in terms of commitment under-execution, and between 4 and 6.2 million in terms of payment under-execution. By mid-July 2020, EFSA will review the estimations of the COVID-19 financial impact with the aim to propose to the Management Board the adoption (via written procedure over the summer) of a budget amendment in the context of the global transfer procedure of the European Commission.
4. Simon More, Chair of the Scientific Committee, said that the work of the Committee, Scientific Panels and Working Groups continued to be carried out almost at the same level as before the pandemic. Such an outcome has to be attributed both to the commitment and resilience of the scientific experts and to the technological support provided by EFSA.
5. The Management Board noted the EFSA Performance Report and thanked the EFSA scientific experts and staff for the extraordinary efforts made to guarantee the business continuity of the Authority during the first half of the year. Concluding, the Chair reflected on the opportunities that the contingent situation provides in reviewing and improving the way of working by embracing the positive elements offered by the technology and the virtual communication.
6. 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 3: Update on the Transparency Regulation implementation

7. 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). Claudia Paoletti, programme manager, in particular highlighted that activities aimed at implementing the Transparency Regulation are being carried out as planned, with the exception of few actions which were re-prioritised in view of the constraints related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Those actions (e.g. the revision of EFSA's organisational structure)



will however have no impact on the implementation of the new processes and tasks assigned by the legislation to EFSA by the set deadline in March 2021.

8. Barbara Gallani (Communication and Cooperation) shared with the Management Board information on the activities that the Authority is carrying out in close coordination with DG SANTE with regard to the scientific communication aspects addressed by the Transparency Regulation. She also referred to the information event that EFSA is planning to organise in November 2020 to update its stakeholders on the novelties brought by the Transparency Regulation in EFSA's activities and way of working. She took the opportunity to anticipate that a Board member would be invited to take part in that event in representation of the whole Management Board.
9. 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 4: Any other business

10. It was the last meeting of the Management Board in the composition described at the top of these minutes. The term of office of Jaana Husu-Kallio (Chair), Zita Čeponytė and Andrej Simončič will reach their end on the 30th of June 2020. As of the 1st of July 2020, Raymond O'Rourke, Vice-Chair, will take the role of acting Management Board Chair until the election of the new Chair in October 2020.
11. On behalf of EFSA's staff and scientific experts, the Executive Director thanked the outgoing Management Board members for their contribution to the growth of the Authority over the past years.

Summary of actions

Action reference	Action	Deadline	Status
June 17, 2020 - 1	EFSA to invite a Management Board representative at the information event for Stakeholders that is planned to be held in November 2020.	Autumn 2020	OPEN