



82nd Meeting of the EFSA's Management Board

Minutes of the Public Session

Parma, 18 December 2019 – 9:00-15:30

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
Zita Čeponytė	Andrej Simončič
Herman Diricks	Annette Toft
Libor Dupal	Michael Winter

Apologies: Geronimo Brănescu

Staff of the European Food Safety Authority	
Bernhard Url (Executive Director)	Barbara Gallani
Gian Luca Bonduri	Marta Hugas
Peter De Pauw	Juliane Kleiner
Guilhem de Seze	Claudia Paoletti (for item no. 6)
Dirk Detken	Alberto Spagnoli
Paul Devalier (for item no. 12)	Selomey Yamadjako

Also attending:

Simon More, Chair of the EFSA's Scientific Committee



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SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

The Board **adopted**:

- The Programming Documents covering the period 2020-2023. In particular, these include the “Final programming document 2020-2022”, the “Budget 2020” and the “Draft programming document 2021-2023”.
- An amendment to the Art. 28 of the decision on the “Establishment and operations of the Scientific Committee, Scientific Panels and their Working Groups”.
- The renewed list of Art. 36 competent organisations designated by Member States.
- The opt-out from a Commission Decision on the maximum duration for the recourse to non-permanent staff in the Commission services.

In addition, the Board **noted**:

- The Executive Director’s feedback from the workshop held by EFSA and its Management Board on EFSA’s Strategy 2027.
- The update on the work that is being carried out to implement the Transparency Regulation.
- The EFSA Performance Report, which provided information on the implementation of the Single Programming Document 2019-2021.
- The update from the Scientific Committee, provided by its Chair Prof. Simon More.
- The outcome achieved with the implementation of EFSA’s IT operational strategy 2014-2020.
- The report on the review of EFSA’s Stakeholders Engagement Approach (SEA).
- An update on the activities around the EFSA Journal and the outlook on its future developments.
- The feedback from the Chair of the Audit Committee.



Item 1: Welcome by the Chair

1. The Chair opened the 82nd Management Board meeting by welcoming the Board members, Executive Director and the EFSA staff members.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

2. 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 items under Any Other Business: (a) Feedback from Raymond O'Rourke (Vice-Chair) on his participation in the meeting of the EFSA Stakeholder Bureau; (b) Update from the European Commission on the procedural steps for the next partial renewal of the EFSA Management Board. The audio-file on this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 3: Board members' Annual and Oral Declarations of Interests

3. 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.
4. The Chair invited the Board members to declare possible interests in addition to those already declared in their Annual Declaration of Interests. Didier Houssin informed the Board that he was recently elected Chair of the dialogue group on ethics of ALLICE, a union of French and Belgian cooperatives holding interests in the area of animal reproduction and selection. He will update his Declaration of Interest including this new activity.
5. The Board confirmed EFSA's assessment of the updated Declaration of Interest of the Executive Director and delegated Selomey Yamadjako (Head of the Business Services Department) to process it in the electronic tool on their behalf.
6. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 4: EFSA Performance Report

7. Bernhard Url (Executive Director) introduced to the Board the performance report covering the period from the 1st of January to the 31st of October 2019. 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 2019-2021. Selomey Yamadjako (Business Services Department) brought to the Board's attention data on the management and consumption of resources, highlighting that EFSA remains committed to achieve the annual targets. 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](#).
8. **Action:** In 2020, EFSA to provide the Board with an update on the cooperation activities performed and planned to be carried out in collaboration with the Pre-accession Countries.

Item 5: Update from the Scientific Committee

9. 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 Board meeting. In particular, he presented the work in the areas of synthetic biology, bee health, botanicals, microplastics and nanoplastics. 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 6: Implementation of the revised EU General Food Law

10. 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). In particular, the future elements of novelty in the way EFSA will work with citizens, Member States, applicants and the European Commission were highlighted. 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 7: EFSA Strategy 2027

11. The Executive Director outlined the outcome of the workshop held with the Management Board on EFSA's Strategy 2027 on the previous day. An in-depth discussion was developed around EFSA's foundations (i.e. the set of elements that provide direction and purpose to the Authority's day-to-day activities, planning and monitoring), as well as EFSA's strategic directions (i.e. the overarching goals that will be used to evolve the Authority strategic objectives) and the Board provided indications on the way forward to develop the next strategy cycle. A follow up workshop will be organised in occasion of the next Board meeting, with a view to adopt the new EFSA Strategy in June 2020. 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: Programming documents 2020-2022 and 2021-2023

12. Following the introduction provided by the Executive Director and Selomey Yamadjako (Business Services Department), the Management Board adopted the EFSA Programming Document 2020-2022, the Budget 2020 and the Draft Programming Document 2021-2023. The Board acknowledged the challenges that EFSA is called to address in the coming future, in particular with regards to the implementation of the Transparency Regulation. In January 2020, the programming documents will be notified to the competent EU institutions and made available online. 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](#).
13. **Action:** EFSA to notify the programming documents 2020-2023 and its budget 2020 to the relevant EU institutions and make those documents available online.

Item 9: Amendment of the decision on the establishment and operations of the Scientific Committee, Scientific Panels and their Working Groups

14. The Board adopted an amendment to the decision on the establishment and operations of the Scientific Committee, Scientific Panels and their Working Groups, in particular in its Article 28, the change of which will allow the application of a revised experts' indemnity regime as of January 2020. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 10: Amendments to the Art.36 list

15. The Board adopted the renewed list of Art. 36 competent organisations designated by the Member States. In close collaboration with the Focal Points, EFSA streamlined the procedure for managing the list, which is now supported by a new tool. The Member States have checked the compliance of their countries' organisations and have consequently newly designated or withdrawn organisations from the list. As part of the revised procedure for managing the Art. 36 list, and with the aim to make the use of that list more agile, the Board agreed to adopt updates of the list by written procedure whenever needed between Board meetings. 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 11: Implementing rules of the Staff Regulations

16. The Board adopted the decision to opt-out from a Commission “Decision on the maximum duration for the recourse to non-permanent staff in the Commission services”, since this results *de facto* not applicable by EFSA. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 12: Update on business transformation and technology

17. The Board noted the outcome achieved with the implementation of EFSA’s IT operational strategy 2014-2020, which is going to be replaced by the new EFSA strategy cycle and whose work-plan will be re-framed in the context of the implementation of the Transparency Regulation. 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](#).
18. **Action:** Management Board Secretariat to share with the Board members EFSA’s presentation on business transformation and technology provided to the Audit Committee on the previous day.

Item 13: Stakeholder Engagement Approach

19. The Board noted the report on the review of the Stakeholders Engagement Approach (SEA), which informed on the effectiveness of the principles and measures established under the SEA for the period since its establishment (2016-2019). The Board endorsed EFSA’s recommendation to maintain the SEA for the coming years with a view to adjust it around the requirements of the Transparency Regulation, e.g. by setting-up a stakeholder Sounding Board and by shifting approach from an engagement of stakeholders by category to an engagement of experts and contributors in specific matters. Barbara Gallani (Communication Engagement and Cooperation Department) informed the Board that the Stakeholder Bureau will be renewed in March 2020. 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](#).
20. Raymond O’Rourke, gave a feedback on his participation in the meeting of the EFSA Stakeholder Bureau held in Brussels on 24 September 2019.
21. Barbara Gallani took the opportunity to outline the activities that EFSA plans to carry out in 2020 in the context of the international year of plant health.

Item 14: EFSA Journal: future developments

22. The Board noted the update on the activities around the EFSA Journal and the outlook on its future developments. Among others, the following initiatives will be explored in the coming years: plain language summaries, language outreach, improved readability and transparency, and an enlarged publication platform for Member States. 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 15: Feedback from the Audit Committee

23. The Chair of the Audit Committee updated the Management Board on the outcome of the meeting held on 17 December 2019. Among others, he reported on EFSA’s progress in addressing the IAS’ audit observations, the achievements of EFSA’s IT operational strategy 2014-2020, report on EFSA’s ISO 9001 re-certification and the outlook on EFSA’s resources



in view of the Transparency Regulation implementation. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 16: Any other business

24. The representative of the European Commission, Sabine Jülicher, shared information on the procedural steps of the on-going process for the partial renewal of the EFSA Management Board. She underlined that, in view of the Transparency Regulation (see item 6 above), the term of office of the newly appointed members of the Management Board will be of two years only, from the 1st of July 2020 to the 30th of June 2022. The shortlist of candidates is being finalised by DG SANTE and it will be notified to the Council by the end of January 2020. Following consultation with the European Parliament, the Council is expected to adopt the appointing decision towards the end of May 2020. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion around the items above is available online at this [link](#).

Summary of actions

Action reference	Action	Deadline	Status
Dec. 18, 2019 - 1	EFSA to provide the Board with an update on the cooperation activities performed and planned to be carried out in collaboration with the Pre-accession Countries.	March 2020	DONE
Dec. 18, 2019 - 2	EFSA to notify the programming documents 2020-2023 and its budget 2020 to the relevant EU institutions and make those documents available online.	January 2020	DONE
Dec. 18, 2019 - 3	Management Board Secretariat to share with the Board members EFSA's presentation on business transformation and technology provided to the Audit Committee.	January 2020	DONE