



Stakeholder Consultative Platform

EFSA Stakeholder Strategy

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EFSA has to be Open, Transparent and inclusive

- Food Scares late 1990s
- Rebuilding confidence in food safety
- Rebuilding confidence in the system of food safety regulation at the EU level
- Rebuilding confidence of trading partners



EFSA has to be Open, Transparent and inclusive

- EFSA Regulation 178/2002
- Tremendous political support
- Support of stakeholders for the establishment of EFSA
- Stakeholder involvement right from the start



Succes of EFSA's Stakeholder Strategy depends on

- meaningful stakeholder input into the work of EFSA
- creating a collaborative and mutually beneficial relationship with stakeholders
- collaborative relationships with stakeholders that can increase confidence in a complex environment
- the opportunity to deepen mutual understanding about the issues at hand and to explore and integrate ideas together that may not have been considered individually
- the opportunity to identify and resolve areas of conflict
- being able to ensure the long-term fruitful relationships to achieve mutual goals

Two-ways engagement!



Legal and Institutional basis

- EFSA's founding Regulation – references to the importance of an effective relationship with stakeholders (Articles 42 and 61)
- EFSA's internal decisions adopted by the Management Board - decisions on transparency and openness
- Overall „Governance process“ – EFSA as part of the EU institutional framework

Past, Present and Future (I)

- Stakeholder annual colloques (Oostende 2003, Berlin 2004, Parma 2005)
- Public consultations (GMOs, feed additives, genotoxic and carcinogenic substances)
- Technical hearings (GMOs - May 2004, Allergens – May 2005)
- Scientific colloquiums (December 2004, April 2005, December 2005)

Past, Present and Future (II)

- Bilateral meetings with stakeholders groups at their request – EFSA to become more proactive in this respect
- Assessment of the image of EFSA – Interviews with interested parties (April/May 2004) by an independent consultant
- Establishment of a Stakeholder Consultative Platform (institutionalized forum for discussions)
- Paeps report 2004



Implementing stakeholders' demands (I)

- Setting up of the Stakeholder Consultative Platform
- Consulting on EFSA's Work programme
- Opening the proceeding to the public of the Management Board, Stakeholder Consultative Platform
- Publishing the agendas and minutes of the meetings and documents of Management Board and Advisory Forum documents

Implementing stakeholders' demands (II)

- Publications of the scientific questions and possibility to submit scientific contributions by third parties
- Establishing networks with national (Advisory Forum, Article 36 network) and international public authorities
- Communicating in a timely, coherent and consistent manner on food safety issues
- Further work on risk communication and in particular on consumer risk perception (Advisory group on risk communication) - Eurobarometer

Future

- Developping criteria for topics for consultations:when, who, on what, how.
- Developping a horizontal approach across Scientific Committee and Panels
- Receiving input for self-tasking activities
- Increasing awareness about stakeholder concerns
- Phare project seminar on stakeholder involvement in Romania and Bulgaria



Future

- Article 61 Review
- Stakeholders interviewed
- 9/10 November Stakeholder Colloque at which we will discuss further the review and the future of EFSA

Future

- EFSA benefiting from stakeholder expertise, e.g. data collection, food processes, analytical methodology
- Informing each other of (new) emerging risks
- Disseminating advice and information from EFSA via the network of stakeholder organisations

Two-ways co-operation

- All these initiatives cannot be done in isolation
- The Stakeholder Consultative Platform should serve as an interface to move forward these initiatives
- Concrete proposals and input from stakeholder groups are needed – especially on Work Programme, Scientific issues

**Two-ways engagement = all parties involved
winning!**



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