



European Food Safety Authority

EFSA - NAS - FLEP

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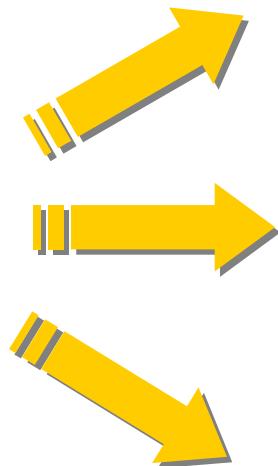
This presentation will look at:

Who is EFSA

EFSA's role in food safety

EFSA HAS THREE MAIN GOALS

It must make a significant contribution to:



Improving EU food safety

Re-building consumer confidence in EU food safety

Re-building confidence of trading partners in the EU food supply

why EFSA

- ✓ Food scandals of the late 1990
- ✓ BSE, Dioxin
- ✓ 1997 – Commission separated functions into 2 DGs
- ✓ White Paper on Food Safety-12th January 2000
- ✓ 84 new legislative acts envisage
- ✓ WTO – SPS Agreement – differ from International standards – need robust scientific risk assessments

Regulation 178/2002

- ✓ **General Food Law**
- ✓ **Crisis Procedures / RASFF**
- ✓ **Creation of the European Food Safety Authority**
- ✓ **Creation of new Standing Committees**

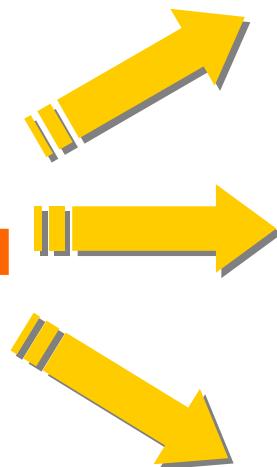
WHAT EFSA CAN DO

Contribute to improved EU food safety by:

- Improving the way that EU risk assessment is carried out
- Increasing consumer confidence in EU risk assessments
- Ensuring close collaboration between national bodies and EFSA

WHAT EFSA CAN DO

Contribute to improved EU food safety by:



Enabling improved collaboration between the many different stakeholders and coordinating their input

Providing the right information to consumers at the right time

Providing the right information to government, industrial, NGO and other stakeholders at the right time

WHAT EFSA **CANNOT** DO

- ✗ Be responsible for food safety policy and legislation
- ✗ Take charge of food safety controls, labelling or other such issues
- ✗ Act as a substitute for national authorities

WHAT EFSA CAN DO

- ✓ Act as a centre of scientific information and data for the control authorities across the EU
- ✓ Be the point of reference of food and feed safety matters for food control officials
- ✓ Provide information to support the work of veterinarians, and other control officials



Management
Board

Advisory
Forum

EFSA STRUCTURE

Executive
Director and Staff

Scientific
Committee and
Panels

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE & PANELS

EFSA's risk assessments carried out by Scientific Committee and 9 Scientific Panels

- Food additives, flavourings, processing aids, materials in contact with food (AFC)
- Additives and products in animal feed (FEEDAP)
- Plant Protection Products (PPR)
- Plant Health Panel (PLH)
- Genetically modified organisms (GMO)
- Dietetic products, nutrition and allergies (NDA)
- Biological hazards (BIOHAZ)
- Contaminants in the food chain (CONTAM)
- Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)

EFSA APPROACH

- ✓ Scientific excellence
- ✓ Independence
- ✓ Transparency/openness
- ✓ Close collaboration with Member States
- ✓ Building consumer confidence
- ✓ Strong Stakeholder relations



EFSA RISK ASSESSMENT TASKS

- ✓ Providing scientific opinions
- ✓ Developing risk assessment methodologies
- ✓ Identifying and characterising emerging risks
- ✓ Providing support in food safety crises
- ✓ Collection, collation and analysis of scientific data

EFSA RISK COMMUNICATION TASKS

- ✓ Initiation and coordination of dialogue between stakeholders at appropriate times
- ✓ Provision of the right information to consumers, government, industry, NGO and other stakeholders at the right time
- ✓ Provision of effective support to risk managers during food safety crises
- ✓ Ensuring effective use of information and communications tools

EFSA's Relationships

Member States National Agencies

- ✓ Part of our Networks
- ✓ Members of the Advisory Forum
- ✓ Undertaking Work on our behalf in some cases
- ✓ Ask us to look at scientific questions
- ✓ Try and resolve scientific differences of opinion
- ✓ Linked by Videoconferencing
- ✓ Linked by IT Extranet

EFSA's Relationships

European Commission

- ✓ We provide the scientific opinions to the Commission and its role is to make proposals for legislation
- ✓ Ask us the Majority of scientific questions
- ✓ Work together in a food or feed crisis

EFSA's Relationships

European Parliament

- ✓ Has asked us some scientific questions
- ✓ Major say in EFSA's budget
- ✓ Involved in legislative process (especially Co-Decision procedures)
- ✓ EFSA maintains constant presence in EP

EFSA's Relationships

Stakeholders

(food chain, industry consumers, distributors)

- ✓ EFSA Stakeholder Consultative Platform
- ✓ EFSA Consultations – web or meetings
- ✓ EFSA Stakeholder Colloques
- ✓ EFSA scientific Colloques
- ✓ Regular Bi-laterals with key EU based stakeholder organisations – CIAA, BEUC, Copa Cogeca, NGOs

Where to find our work :

All our scientific Opinions

All our statements

All our press releases can be found on

www.efsa.eu.int

www.efsa.europa.eu



EFSA's role in food safety

Who is responsible for what?

EFSA- scientific risk assessments at EU level

EU Commission make the legislation

National food agencies – implement legislation

National and local authorities - inspect and enforce the legislation

BUT WHO MAKES THE FOOD SAFE

Food business operators – making/providing safe food- ultimately responsible