

NOTE TO THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Update on the implementation of the Transparency Regulation

Regulation (EU) 2019/1381 on the transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain (TR) is in effect since 27th March 2021. The new era of transparency in risk assessment began with the following new processes: Notification of studies, Pre-submission advice, E-submission, Public consultation, Access to data, Confidentiality request, Verification of studies.

One of the new EFSA's portal Connect.EFSA is developed for notification of studies, request pre-submission advice, participate in public consultation, request public access to documents or just to ask a question.

Another new portal OpenEFSA is the single public interface for all information related to EFSA's scientific work. Follow the risk assessment process from receipt of the dossier to adoption of the opinion: status of assessment, dossier and studies (non-confidential versions), meeting agendas and minutes, info and experts, etc.

Around the date of the coming into force of the Transparency Regulation, EFSA had series of communication activities including press release and EFSA's news, factsheet, animated video and the publication of questions and answers on EFSA Practical Arrangements. On 30th March a celebratory event was organised jointly with DG SANTE. On the same day the portal OpenEFSA was launched.

EFSA implemented a complete training programme related to TR measures for stakeholders. The last two training courses are planned for next quarter. Training material and recording of webinars are available on EFSA's website.

The Sounding Board - one of the stakeholders' engagement measures in the frame of the Transparency Regulation - has completed its mandate in the end of March. Technical groups (IUCLID and NoS) are continuing their activities to address applicants' needs for IT tools improvement. EFSA is also planning targeted initiatives, such as webinars for applicants for the various sectors of regulated products and SMEs (small and medium enterprise) event. EFSA continues regular engagement initiatives with MSs via Advisory Forum, Focal Point and CEN meetings and with stakeholders via Roundtables or similar.

In 2021 EFSA's main focus in relation to Transparency Regulation is the enhancement of new IT tools, implementation and integration of redaction software, establishment of organisation competency identification and the completion of the organizational design.