

AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLE 36 LIST OF ORGANISATIONS

SUMMARY

Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004¹ foresees that the “*Authority’s Management Board, acting on a proposal from the Executive Director, shall draw up the list of competent organisations*” (Art.2(2)) and that “*the list shall be updated regularly, on the basis of proposals from the Authority’s Executive Director, taking account of reviews or new designation proposals from the Member States*” (Art.2(4)).

Organisations are “*designated by the Member States on the basis of criteria*”². In accordance, new designations of competent organisations to be included on the Article 36 List, as well as substantial changes to organisations already included on the List, need to be endorsed by the Management Board.

The Management Board is presented with the updated Article 36 List, for possible adoption (Annex I), following:

- Member States’ designation of **1** new organisation for inclusion on the List.

In addition, the Management Board is informed of:

- technical changes adopted by the Executive Director in his Decision dated 6/03/2018 (Annex II).

The updated Article 36 List, including all changes, is herewith presented for the adoption of the Management Board.

¹ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004 of 23 December 2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 with regard to the network of organisations operating in the fields within the European Food Safety Authority’s mission (OJ L 379, 24.12.2004, p. 64–67)

² The criteria the designated organisations have to meet can be described as follows, ref. Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004, Art.1(1):

- A. They must “carry out scientific and technical support tasks in the fields within the mission of the European Food Safety Authority”;
- B. They must be “legal entities pursuing public interest objectives” and be able to ensure that the “tasks entrusted to them by the Authority will be performed with independence and integrity”;
- C. They must “possess a high level of scientific or technical expertise in one or several fields within the Authority’s mission”;
- D. They must “have the capacity to operate in a network on scientific actions”.

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The Article 36 List was initially drawn up by the Decision of the Management Board of 19 December 2006, following the procedure set out in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004. The Article 36 List is regularly reviewed by the Member States for new designation proposals, deletions and changes to organisations included on the List.

I. New designations for the Article 36 List

The Permanent Representation to the EU of Belgium has officially notified EFSA of new designation proposal for inclusion in the Article 36 List of the following competent organisation:

Belgium (1):

VITO NV

Type of organisation: private organisation of public interests objectives and non-for-profit character.

Note: Art. 29 of the Belgian Official Gazette (6.7.2009): VITO's object is to undertake strategic basic research in the areas of energy, the environment, materials and earth observation with a view to stimulating sustainable development and strengthening the economic and social fabric in Flanders.

It also defined the responsibilities of VITO and states that it falls under the supervision of the Flemish Government, also in the field of good governance.

As a reference lab for the government, VITO helps to define the policies.

Mission of the organisation and task corresponding to EFSA's remit: VITO is a leading European independent research and technology organisation in the areas of clean-tech and sustainable development, elaborating solutions for the large societal challenges of today.

VITO's research agenda tackles the major societal challenges we are facing today. VITO focuses on five different research programmes: sustainable chemistry, energy, health, materials management and land use.

The unit "Environmental Risk and Health" combines progressive science with the development of technologies which makes that social actors can take more well-founded decisions about health risks caused by environmental pollution. This research includes knowledge about environmental monitoring, exposure and risk assessment of complex environmental health problems, embedded in a broader context of socio-economic aspects, social perception and risk communication. In this way, socially relevant research is used to support and implement Flemish, Belgian and European environmental and health guidelines (e.g. REACH), and is useful for industrial research into risk assessments of chemicals. In his research VITO puts further efforts into disease prevention through new monitoring technologies and biomolecular research. The innovations developed provide an improvement of the environment, health and safety in the industrial sector.

VITO offers analyses of and exposure and risk assessment services for chemical substances, endocrine disruptors and nanomaterials in food, in food contact materials and food processing, e.g. own developed *EN-forc* model (ENVironmental FOod tRansfer model for Chemical substances) offers predicted chemical concentrations in a hundred basic agricultural products and more than thousand different processed and/or packaged food

products, a ranking of food groups according to their contribution to dietary exposure and dietary exposure & risk assessment. In VITO's in-vitro toxicology lab alternative testing strategies for animal toxicological testing are developed and validated. Based on the outcome of the risk assessment safety measures can be formulated.

Financial information: The annual budget is covered by 58.50% from governmental sources (federal and local Flemish government) and by 41.50% from non-governmental sources (incl. 11.9% from EU projects and 29.6% from projects for companies, e.g. independent clean-tech and sustainable development projects).

EFSA has ensured that the organisation designated by the Member State complies with the criteria set out in Article 1(1) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004. The brief abstract from the organisation's profile above is based on the information submitted via the Art36-Database. Member State concluded that the organisation meets the criteria and has designated it for inclusion in the Article 36 List.

II. Conclusion

The Management Board is presented for adoption the **updated Article 36 List** of competent organisations.

The updated Article 36 List has **one** newly designated organisation added by Belgium (1). Details of each organisation on the Article 36 List, including specific fields of competence, are available in the Search Tool of the Article 36 Database to: all Article 36 organisations, EFSA national Focal Points, EFSA Advisory Forum members and alternates and to EFSA staff.

The updated Article 36 List will be published on the EFSA website and notified via the Official Journal of the European Union.