

76th Meeting of the EFSA's Management Board

Minutes of the Public Session

Parma, 21 March 2018 – 9:00-13:15

| Members of the Management Board Present | |
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| Jaana Husu-Kallio (Chair) | Stella Michaelidou-Canna |
| Robert van Gorcom (Vice-Chair) | Jan Mousing |
| Raymond O'Rourke (Vice-Chair) | Michael Scannell |
| Aivars Bērziņš | Andrej Simončič |
| Zita Čeponytė | András Székács |
| Iñaki Eguileor | |

Apologies: Didier Houssin, Giuseppe Ruocco, Piet Vanthemsche and Michael Winter

| Staff of the European Food Safety Authority | |
|---|-------------------|
| Bernhard Url (Executive Director) | Marta Hugas |
| Gian Luca Bonduri | Juliane Kleiner |
| Peter De Pauw | James Ramsay |
| Guilhem de Seze | Alberto Spagnoli |
| Dirk Detken | Hans Verhagen |
| Barbara Gallani | Selomey Yamadjako |

Also attending:

Anthony Hardy, Chair of the EFSA's Scientific Committee

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SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

The Board adopted:

- The renewed composition of the EFSA Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels;
- The EFSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2017;
- The amendments to the EFSA budget 2018, which incorporated the bank interests accrued in 2017;
- The amendments (1 new entry) to the Art. 36 list of competent organisations designated by Member States which may assist EFSA within its mission.

In addition, the Board noted:

- The update from the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Prof. Anthony Hardy;
- The report on the outcome achieved by the EU Network of Agencies during EFSA's chairmanship (Mar. 2017 – Feb. 2018);
- EFSA's Reputation barometer report;
- EFSA's update on the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Approach;
- The feedback from the Chair of the Audit Committee.

Item 1: Welcome by the Chair

1. The Chair opened the 76th Management Board meeting by welcoming the Board members, Executive Director, Chair of the Scientific Committee, EFSA Management Team and 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: Feedback from Raymond O'Rourke on the visit of the delegation of the ENVI Committee at EFSA (18-19 Dec. 2017); Feedback from Robert Van Gorcom on the Risk Assessment Research Assembly – RARA (Utrecht, 7 Feb. 2018).

Item 3: Board members' Annual and Oral Declaration 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 ED assessment of the Declarations of Interests submitted by three 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. No interest was declared.

Item 4: Appointment of EFSA's Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels

5. Juliane Kleiner (Senior Science Coordinator) introduced the item highlighting the procedural steps of the process for the selection of the experts proposed for appointment in the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels. For the first time, the terms of the Scientific Committee and all Scientific Panels were synchronised and in application of the amended art. 28 of EFSA's Founding Regulation the new FAF, CEP and NDA Panels will implement revised mandates. It was also the first time that the new rules on independence had been applied in screening the Declarations of Interests of EFSA's experts. Juliane Kleiner went through the main phases of the selection procedure and highlighted the outcome at each step. She provided an overview on the composition of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels in terms of expertise, average age, gender and nationality of applicants and selected experts. Concluding, she outlined the actions planned to be carried out closely after the Management Board appointment which, among others, include the publication of the name of the appointed experts in May 2018. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.
6. The Board noted the presentation and congratulated all those who contributed to the selection procedure (EFSA staff, external reviewers and observers) for the diligence in complying with the regulatory framework governing EFSA's Panel renewal. Pleased for the smooth application of the new Policy on independence, the Board noted the achievement of excellent results in terms of engagement in EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels of highly skilled scientists. Nonetheless, concerns were expressed on the medium- long-term sustainability of the current Panel system, which would benefit from an overall review in light of the outcome of the fitness check of the General Food Law. The Board regretted the low number of applications from a number of Member States and invited EFSA to elaborate measures aimed at addressing this aspect.
7. The Board adopted the Decision on the appointment of the members of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels, as well as the reserve list for the Scientific Committee and the Scientific Panels. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 5: Update from the Scientific Committee

8. The Board noted the update provided by Prof. Anthony Hardy, Chair of the Scientific Committee, who presented the activities carried out in the areas of uncertainty in scientific assessments, combined exposure to multiple chemicals and nanomaterials. 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: EFSA activity report 2017

9. The Executive Director (ED), Bernhard Url, and Selomey Yamadjako (Business Service Department) introduced to the Board the draft "EFSA activity report 2017", which describes the results achieved in implementing EFSA's 2017 work plan and the progress made in pursuing the Strategy 2020 objectives. Among others, the report highlights the roll-out of the stakeholder engagement approach, the adoption of new rules governing EFSA's independence system, the delivery of more than 750 questions, the scientific work carried out in sensitive areas like bee health, *Xylella fastidiosa* and antimicrobial resistance, as well as the results achieved in the area of budget management. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.
10. The Board adopted the EFSA activity report 2017 and asked the ED to convey their gratitude and congratulations to EFSA's staff and experts for the excellent results achieved. The Board commented, revised and eventually adopted the assessment of the annual report, which draft was submitted by the Audit Committee. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 7: EFSA coordination of the EU Agencies Network 2017-2018

11. Alberto Spagnolli, Senior Policy Adviser, reported on the outcome achieved by the EU Network of Agencies (EUAN) during EFSA's chairmanship, which was held from March 2017 to February 2018. Among others, he highlighted the activities carried out in the IT, performance management and procurement areas. At the end of February, EFSA handed-over the EUAN chairmanship to Frontex. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.
12. Noting the presentation, the Board expressed appreciation in particular for those activities aimed to enhance cooperation among agencies and pursue efficiencies through shared services. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 8: Reputation barometer

13. The Board noted the presentation of James Ramsay (Engagement and Cooperation), who introduced the results of the EFSA Reputation barometer: a study conducted in 2017 to measure EFSA's reputation and identify opportunities to improve it. The study assessed how different aspects of EFSA's activities are perceived by different audiences, e.g. policy-makers, NGOs, industry and scientists. 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 9: Update on the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Approach

14. Barbara Gallani (Communication, Engagement and Cooperation) presented the outcome of an interim evaluation of the Stakeholder Engagement Approach (SEA) aimed to assess its effectiveness during the first 18 months of its implementation.

The evaluation results indicate that stakeholders perceive SEA as an overall effective process addressing its general aims, although some elements suggest the review of the representativeness of the current stakeholder categories. A [PowerPoint presentation](#) is available online for a detailed description.

15. The Board noted the presentation and encouraged EFSA to continue investing in collaboration activities with its stakeholders. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at the following [link](#).

Item 10: Amendment to the EFSA budget 2018

16. The Board adopted the amendment to the EFSA budget 2018, which incorporated the bank interests accrued in 2017. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 11: Amendments to Art. 36 list

17. The Board adopted the amendment (one new entry) to the [Art. 36 list](#) of competent organisations designated by Member States which may assist EFSA within its mission. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 12: Feedback from the Audit Committee

18. The Chair of the Audit Committee updated the Board on the outcome of the meeting held on 20 March 2018. Among others, he reported on the outcome of the 2017 ISO surveillance audit, EFSA's business continuity plan and OHSAS certification obtained by EFSA. Appreciations were expressed for the structure and content of the EFSA assurance report 2017. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

Item 15: Any other business

19. The Board noted the feedback from Raymond O'Rourke and Robert Van Gorcom, who participated in the meeting between EFSA and the ENVI Committee (18-19 Dec. 2017) and the meeting of the Risk Assessment Research Assembly (7 Feb. 2018) respectively. The audio-file on the presentation and discussion of this agenda item is available online at this [link](#).

END