

# TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE EFSA SCIENTIFIC NETWORK ON CHEMICAL MONITORING DATA COLLECTION

## Objectives

The role of the Network on chemical monitoring data collection is to advise and assist the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in cooperation with the European Commission on all scientific and practical matters related to the collection, analysis and reporting of data on the results of chemical monitoring in food and feed where EFSA compiles the data and assess the results of monitoring programmes conducted by the Member States and performs exposure assessment. This applies to the reporting within the framework of the following provisions:

- Articles 23 and 33 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002
- Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 on maximum residue levels (MRL) of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin. In particular Article 31 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005.
- Regulation (EC) No 257/2010 ad-hoc calls for food additive data.
- Council Directive 96/23/EC monitoring of veterinary medicinal products residues (VMPPR) in live animals and animal products.
- Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs.
- Directive 2002/32/EC on undesirable substances in animal feed.

The network is specifically asked to advise and assist EFSA on matters related to:

## Data

- Advise on issues and opportunities for standardisation of reporting of occurrence data on chemical contaminants, residues and other regulated substances in food and feed
- Update the data model, related catalogues and reporting specifications for Member States and other reporting countries
- Define the most optimal ways to analyse the data collected
- Participate in the process of enhancing data quality on chemical substances in food and feed for the purpose of intake/exposure and compliance assessment
- Exchange of information and analytical results from chemical monitoring between Member States and EFSA
- Coordinate activities related to data access and publication
- Act as national reference points for planning and organising of data collections for chemical substances in food and feed.

## Science

- Review of EFSA outputs related to the network e.g. annual reports, scientific reports, guidance documents, reporting manuals and online reports
- Share experience in programme design, laboratory methods, exposure assessment, compliance assessment and follow-up actions.

## Members of the scientific network

Members of the network shall be appointed in accordance with Articles 2 and 3 of the Decision of the Management Board of EFSA on the establishment and operation<sup>1</sup> of networks.

The network is composed of national representatives with expertise on chemical monitoring data reporting. The members are expected to act as a communication point for relevant organisations and stakeholders within their Member States, ensuring the exchange of scientific information between national organisations and the EFSA Evidence Management unit.

Since this network consolidates three existing networks, responsibilities for collecting and managing chemical monitoring data can be within the remit of different competent authorities in the Member States. Therefore, a maximum of three representatives per Member State shall be reimbursed for network attendance depending on the topics to be discussed.

## Working language

English will be the working language of the network.

## Working methods

The network will meet annually, usually in the first quarter, and can be consulted on specific issues in writing or by teleconference. In addition, the network will use other means of collaboration such as:

- EFSA digital collaboration platforms
- Web conferences/webinars
- E-mails for specific questions or issues.

Members States' representatives in this network shall commit to liaise as appropriate at national level before and after each network meeting in order to make sure all the necessary information is shared without prejudice to Article 10 of the Decision of the Management Board concerning the establishment and operation of European Networks of scientific organisations operating in the field within the Authority's mission.

## Timeline

The terms of reference will be renewed after 3 years with network activities commencing in 2019.

---

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/networksoperation.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/networksoperation.pdf)

### **Expected deliverables**

The minutes of the network meetings.

### **Publication plan**

Publication of the meeting minutes on the EFSA website.