



TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE EFSA SCIENTIFIC NETWORK FOR ZONOOSES MONITORING DATA

Objectives

The role of the Scientific Network for Zoonoses Monitoring Data 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, reporting and analysis of data on monitoring of zoonoses, zoonotic agents, microbiological contaminants and antimicrobial resistance in food, feed and animals, on food-borne outbreaks as well as on transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE) in bovine animals, small ruminants and species other than bovine animals and small ruminants in the European Union. This applies in particular to the reporting within the framework of following provisions:

- Directive 2003/99/EC¹,
- Commission implementing Decision 2013/652/EU²,
- Regulation (EC) No 999/2001³.

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

Data

- The identification of priorities for the harmonisation of fit-for-purpose monitoring approaches and for the collection of data on zoonoses of European and international significance.
- Issues and opportunities for harmonised monitoring and reporting specifications for Member States and other reporting countries.
- Updates of data models, related catalogues and reporting specifications for Member States and other reporting countries, in particular in the case of new data reporting requirements of the legislation.
- The participation in the process of enhancing data quality.
- The review and use of data collected and participation in activities related to data access and publication.
- The exchange of information and data between EFSA and Member States.
- Issues and opportunities for development and use of electronic reporting and analysis tools and databases for the data collected.

¹ Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, amending Council Decision 90/424/EEC and repealing Council Directive 92/117/EEC; OJ L 325, 12.12.2003, p. 31–40.

² Commission Implementing Decision 2013/652/EU of 12 November 2013 on the monitoring and reporting of antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and commensal bacteria. OJ L 303, 14.11.2013, p. 26–39.

³ Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. OJ L 147, 31.5.2001, p. 1–40

- National reference points for planning and organising of data collections.

Science

- The collation, analyses, and summarisation of relevant scientific and technical data in its fields of competence.
- The review of EFSA outputs related to the Network e.g. annual scientific reports, scientific reports, guidance documents, reporting manuals and online reports.
- The sharing of experience in monitoring and/or surveillance programme design and in laboratory methods.
- Sharing and discussing cross-cutting issues with other animal and public health networks of EFSA and EU Agencies (e.g. ECDC).
- The strengthening of international and inter-institutional collaboration and transdisciplinary knowledge transfer in the area of One Health Surveillance data integration and interpretation.

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 operations of networks⁴.

The Network is composed of national representatives - experts on zoonoses, on food-borne outbreaks, on antimicrobial resistance and/or on transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. The members are expected to also act as a communication point for relevant organisations within the Member State, ensuring the exchange of scientific information between these national organisations and EFSA.

Working language

English will be the working language of the Network.

Working methods

The Network has the possibility to hold up to two face-to-face meetings a year and can occasionally 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.

Access to meetings

Experts from Scientific Zoonoses Monitoring Data Network shall be invited to the Network meetings. Representatives of the European Commission are entitled to attend meetings of the Zoonoses Monitoring Data Network as observers. EFSA may invite representatives of other agencies, bodies or institutions of the European Union, third countries or international organisations to attend meetings of the Zoonoses Monitoring Data Network as observers. EFSA may invite scientific experts from regulatory or academic bodies of the European Union or third countries, or from international organisations, as speakers, to update the Zoonoses Monitoring Data Network on developments in the field on their remit.

⁴ Decision concerning the establishment and operation of European Networks of scientific organisations operating in the fields within the Authority's mission, EFSA 2010.

Timeline

The terms of reference will be renewed after 3 years in 2022.

Expected deliverables

Minutes of the Network meetings.

Publication plan

Publication of the meeting minutes on the EFSA website.