

Annual Report 2006

EUROPEAN | FOOD | SAFETY | AUTHORITY



Contents

Message from the Chairman of the Management Board	5	Stakeholders	30
Message from the Executive Director	7	Open consultations	31
I. EFSA's core values: openness and transparency, independence, scientific excellence and responsiveness	9	BSE	32
I.1 Openness and transparency	9	Integration into the local environment	33
Improving transparency in risk assessments	9	II.3 Making risk communication work	33
I.2 Independence, scientific excellence and responsiveness	10	Understanding public risk perception: special Eurobarometer survey on risk perception and food safety	34
I.3 The Management Board recommendations	11	Greater visibility in the media	35
EFSA's external evaluation	13	Clearer website with key enhancements	36
II. Key Highlights in 2006	14	Informing the public: EFSA's assessment of the aspartame study	38
II.1 Risk assessment in co-operation with EU Member States	15	Coherence in risk communications	39
Avian Influenza in Europe	15	II.4 EFSA's focus and enhanced role in nutrition	40
Pesticide peer review: Second stage successfully completed	16	EFSA's role in nutrition	40
EFSA Scientific Colloquium No. 6	18	New Regulation on nutrition and health claims	40
EFSA's Scientific Panels	20	EFSA conference on nutrition and health claims	41
Identifying emerging risks	22	Addressing nutritional concerns	42
Steps for enhanced co-operation and networking	23	II.5 EFSA's enhanced organisation	43
Successful collaboration between EFSA and EU Member States in response to the Bluetongue epidemic	25	Changes in EFSA's bodies	43
Strengthening co-operation with Member States: the example of EFSA's action plan on GMO risk assessment	26	EFSA's revised structure	46
Integrating new EU Member States	27	III. Outlook	49
II.2 Relationships with EFSA's institutional partners and stakeholders	28	IV. Financial Report	51
Relations with the Institutions of the European Union	28	Annex I : EFSA organigramme	57
Co-operation with other EU agencies and international organisations	29	Annex II: EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels Membership	59
		Annex III: List of acronyms	71
		Annex IV: List of EFSA scientific publications	73





MESSAGE
FROM THE CHAIRMAN
OF THE
MANAGEMENT BOARD



••• Professor Patrick Wall, chairman of the EFSA Management Board

Evolution and transition

2006 was a busy and productive year for the European Food Safety Authority as well as an important period of change and transition. EFSA is a resource for all EU citizens, and by providing scientific evidence to underpin policy, it facilitates better risk management decisions by the Commission, the Member States and all sectors of the food industry. With other stakeholders, EFSA is playing its part in ensuring that protecting consumers' health through a safe food supply remains paramount and consumer confidence is maintained by robust science, transparency, accountability and clear communication.

Throughout last year we consistently provided risk managers with a high standard of scientific advice, increasing our output and communicating proactively on a range of key risk issues. Meanwhile, we have adapted to a changing policy environment in Europe, taking on new tasks and enhancing our ability to react quickly and focus on priority issues. We expanded our role in the field of nutrition, and we modified our internal structures to improve our effectiveness and reflect our evolving priorities.

New strategic orientations were set by the EFSA Management Board in a series of recommendations based on an independent evaluation of the Authority's work to date carried out in 2005. Many initiatives have been taken in 2006 to implement these recommendations and improve the performance of EFSA. These include the signing of a strategy on closer scientific co-operation with the EU Member States and the launch of a recruitment drive with streamlined procedures to help support EFSA's growing output.

We also re-constituted several of EFSA's core structures in 2006. This renewal process is required by our Founding Regulation to help ensure we remain an independent organisation. The Management Board and our Scientific Committee and Panels have said goodbye to some former members and I thank them for their efforts and commitment during their time with EFSA. We have welcomed new Board members and scientific colleagues who have brought new expertise and experience to the organisation. A big challenge for us going forward is to manage the increasing workload of our Scientific Panels, which are populated by volunteer scientists from throughout the EU and further afield, who undertake risk assessments for EFSA in addition to busy day jobs. Several initiatives have begun to ensure we get the maximum return from this valuable resource. We renewed the mandate of our Stakeholder Consultative Platform for a further three years, which is the main vehicle for regular contacts between EFSA and our key stakeholders.

On behalf of myself and my fellow Board members I thank our Executive Director, Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle, for her leadership and commitment and I thank all the staff of EFSA, both scientists and administration staff, who are contributing to making EFSA an organisation that every EU citizen can be proud of. I acknowledge the work and dedication of the scientists on the Scientific Committee, Panels and working groups and also the contribution of the members of the Advisory Forum to taking EFSA's agenda forward. The protection of public health through a safe food supply will continue to be paramount for EFSA and all its collaborators in the year ahead.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick J. Wall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



MESSAGE
FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Responsiveness and co-operation



••• Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle,
EFSA Executive Director

As Executive Director of EFSA since July 2006, I feel privileged to head up an organisation with the role of assessing risks with regard to food and feed, animal health and welfare and a growing responsibility in the fields of diet, nutrition and health as well as plant health and plant protection.

I am proud to say that in 2006 we not only showed our commitment to the highest scientific standards in our opinions but also proved to be a responsive and reliable source of support for risk managers: the European Commission, EU Member States and the European Parliament. These decision-makers count on us to deliver complete and timely analytical information on which to base their policies and decisions.

To highlight just a few examples from last year, EFSA delivered comprehensive scientific advice on Avian Influenza, closely liaising with risk managers to identify their needs and priorities. We proceeded by assessing the possibility of the virus becoming endemic in wild birds, evaluating measures to avoid the virus spreading to domestic poultry, and continuously monitoring the potential risks with regard to food and feed in the light of evolving evidence and experience.

The outbreak of Bluetongue in North European ruminant populations tested our ability to co-ordinate a response efficiently with national authorities in the EU Member States. Our success in setting up a co-operative network with risk assessors across the EU and sharing information on epidemiological data allowed risk managers to apply an international response to the problem based on a complete, harmonised and regularly updated set of data.

Strengthening our co-operation with national agencies is indeed a top priority for EFSA, and we have agreed a pan-EU strategy for the exchange of scientific information and data. By sharing information and being well informed about each other's activities we can move towards a more common understanding of risks at national and EU level, be able to assist risk managers in developing co-ordinated policies, avoid duplication and

improve the coherence of risk communications across the Community. I would also like to mention our work on reviewing a newly published study on aspartame as well as our advice following the detection of an unauthorised GM Rice in Europe. These are good examples of our ability to respond promptly by adapting our work programme to newly available information on potential risks and the evolving priorities of European decision-makers.

EFSA is becoming increasingly active in the field of nutrition, where we will play a greater role in 2007 and the years to come, particularly by assessing whether certain nutrition and health claims made on foods are scientifically justified and by delivering scientific advice to the European Commission on establishing Europe-wide nutrient profiles.

Meanwhile we continue to assess risks in fields with an established history of legislation and management measures. This covers our work on specific regulated substances, such as additives in food and feed, GMOs and pesticides. We continue to monitor closely and evaluate the risk of BSE in countries worldwide through our work on Geographical BSE Risk assessment. Our ongoing work with Member States to assess the active substances used in plant protection products is also moving forward, to support risk managers when deciding whether to retain or withdraw market authorisations.

As this brief and incomplete overview shows, we have been busy carrying out a great deal of tasks covering a wide range of potential risk issues with regard to the food chain. I would like to say a personal thanks to the experts on our Scientific Committee, Panels and Working Groups and to EFSA's staff, who have worked hard to deliver often under tight deadlines. I invite you to find more details in this Annual Report and in our Activity Report for 2006.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CG', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.



EFSA'S
CORE VALUES:
OPENNESS AND
TRANSPARENCY,
INDEPENDENCE,
SCIENTIFIC
EXCELLENCE AND
RESPONSIVENESS



I. EFSA's core values: openness and transparency, independence, scientific excellence and responsiveness

EFSA's vision is to become globally recognised as the European reference for risk assessment in the fields of food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, nutrition, plant protection and plant health. The Authority is committed to working openly and transparently as an essential part of good governance, as these values are fundamental to EFSA's corporate philosophy and are enshrined in its regulatory framework.

I.1 Openness and transparency

Accordingly, throughout 2006 EFSA consistently published the opinions of its Scientific Committee and Panels, the agendas and minutes of their plenary meetings, declarations of interest of its scientific experts, and other relevant information to ensure the transparency of its procedures. EFSA continued to use its website to maximise transparency and increase public access to its activities, for instance by web casting all meetings of its Management Board, publishing meeting papers including for its Advisory Forum, and publishing conference materials such as key papers, presentations, speeches and reports.

The Authority also proactively sought input from its stakeholders and from Member States by holding open consultations through its website, in face to face meetings and in multilateral discussions at scientific conferences and seminars. This enabled interested parties to provide constructive input into EFSA's processes and work programme.

Improving Transparency in Risk Assessments

As one of its core principles, transparency is of paramount importance to EFSA. This applies both on a procedural and a scientific level. EFSA's Scientific Committee launched a project to enhance transparency across the board by applying a common set of principles in the work of all EFSA's Panels. Process-related aspects were the subject of a guidance document endorsed by the Scientific Committee in April, which recommended several concrete measures to maximise the transparency of EFSA's processes and procedures. The science-related issues will be covered in a separate guidance document, which is currently in development and will be presented in 2007. Moreover, in December the Scientific Committee adopted an opinion addressing uncertainties in exposure assessment thus providing further transparency in its risk assessment approaches.



••• EFSA Scientific Committee, September 2006



1.2 Independence, scientific excellence and responsiveness

The Authority's most critical commitment is to provide objective science-based advice of the highest standards, working independently from the political process. EFSA seeks to deliver the best science in the most appropriate way and at the right time. Responsive to existing and emerging risks, EFSA is a standard bearer for scientific excellence in Europe and world-wide.

EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels constitute a pan-European network of scientists selected because they are leading experts in the field of risk assessment. They are appointed on the basis of proven scientific excellence, experience in carrying out scientific risk assessment and/or providing scientific advice in relevant fields, and experience in peer reviewing scientific work and publications.

The robustness of EFSA's scientific work depends not only on the quality of the data and competence of EFSA experts, but also on their integrity and ability to work independently of external influences.

EFSA is an independent EU Agency mandated to provide objective scientific advice on all matters with a direct or indirect impact on food and feed safety. It is functionally separate from all other European Institutions and is governed by a Management Board whose members do not represent any government, organisation or sector and are appointed on the basis of their expertise and competence.

EFSA's Founding Regulation places a legal obligation on EFSA experts to act independently of any external influence. The members of EFSA's Management Board, Advisory Forum, Scientific Committee, Scientific Panels and Expert Working Groups thus fall under this legal obligation.

To safeguard the independence of its scientific work, the Authority applies a set of internal rules and mechanisms. All the final Opinions of EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels result from collective decisions, each member having an equal say with any minority views recorded, which reinforces the impartiality and balance of EFSA's outputs. Scientific experts involved in the activities of EFSA are required to sign a declaration of interests which is updated annually (or whenever there is a change to their declared situation) and made public on the EFSA website.

EFSA sought to respond rapidly to urgent requests for scientific support in 2006, and the efforts made to enhance working methods and structures (see section III.5) aim to help reinforce the Authority's overall ability to react rapidly and efficiently. In 2007, the Authority will initiate specific procedures to ensure that it is able to provide a quick response in case of emergency situations and urgent requests.

1.3 The Management Board recommendations

In 2005, after only two years of operation, EFSA underwent an external evaluation to assess its work and achievements thus far. The report pointed out that, while EFSA had performed well and achieved much considering its recent beginnings, EFSA needs to assess carefully its internal structures and procedures as a young and growing organisation. Based on the evaluation report, the Management Board provided important and constructive recommendations in 2006 on EFSA's future priorities. These recommendations are now being implemented and are rooted in six fields:

- **Strengthening co-operation with Member States.** While remaining independent, close co-operation on scientific activities and reinforced dialogue with national authorities are important for EFSA to gain support for its outputs and conclusions. To strengthen its reputation for scientific excellence, the Authority takes account of available experience and expertise, and shares best practices with scientific organisations and institutes across Europe. EFSA's Advisory Forum and its working groups, made up of experts from the Member States, will play a crucial role in furthering the progress already made in 2006.





- **Strengthening EFSA's relationships with its institutional (EU and international) partners and stakeholders.** EFSA is in a regular dialogue with the European Commission, European Parliament and Council of the EU to ensure that risk managers have all the scientific information they need to make decisions. To incorporate viewpoints and input from all interested parties, EFSA continued to build solid working relationships with other European agencies active in related fields as well as with stakeholders throughout 2006. EFSA also enhanced its relations with international organisations (such as WHO, OIE, FAO, etc.) and with non-European counterparts including the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Japan.

- **Enhancing the effectiveness and impact of EFSA's risk communication activities.** This underlines several recommendations in respect to improved dissemination, visibility, simplicity and coherence of communications. Closer co-operation with national food safety authorities and stakeholders, which play an essential role in disseminating information and messages to European consumers, is critical to achieving these goals.
- **Further developing its activities in health and nutrition.** With increasing awareness of the importance of nutrition and diet to the health of the European population, the Management Board recommended that EFSA take a leading role in providing the scientific basis for policy and risk management activities in this area. In order to develop a long term strategy on nutrition, the Authority will seek the views of the European Commission, European Parliament, Member States and interested stakeholders.

- **Adjusting organisational structures to reflect evolving priorities** and EFSA's growth and development from a small team to a medium-sized organisation with a growing range of tasks.
- **Developing a medium and long term vision** and playing a key role in food safety policy through the consultative support offered to risk managers. EFSA needs to be able to adapt continually to an evolving policy environment, as well as to respond rapidly to new issues such as crisis situations, emerging risks, changes in consumer attitudes and behaviour, new technologies and scientific risk assessment approaches. The systematic review of past activities was also recommended.



EFSA's external evaluation

In 2005 EFSA commissioned an independent external evaluation designed to assess the Authority's achievements, working practices and impact.

The final report was submitted to the Management Board, which put it to public consultation in February. All interested parties were invited to submit comments and suggestions on the report and on its recommendations. Issues raised during the public consultation were very much in line with the report's findings. The evaluation report was also discussed with the Scientific Committee, the Advisory Forum, the Stakeholder Consultative Platform and EFSA staff. The Management Board then produced a comprehensive document

with recommendations for EFSA. The evaluation report concluded that EFSA has done well considering that it has been operational for only a few years:

- EFSA's structures, management and organisation are functioning satisfactorily
- EFSA is succeeding in establishing itself as an independent centre of scientific excellence
- EFSA's scientific work is seen as added value and is perceived positively by stakeholders
- Risk communication has improved compared to the situation before EFSA
- EFSA has established good relationships with stakeholders

- EFSA has met most of the basic regulatory provisions

However, some weak points were identified and recommendations have been made, focusing on six priority areas:

- strengthening co-operation with Member States
- strengthening EFSA's relationship with its institutional partners (EU and international) and stakeholders
- enhancing the effectiveness and impact of EFSA's communications
- further defining EFSA's role in the area of nutrition
- consolidating EFSA's organisation
- defining EFSA's medium and long-term vision



KEY HIGHLIGHTS
IN 2006

II. Key Highlights in 2006

II.1 Risk assessment in co-operation with EU Member States

EFSA's independent advice concerning risks associated with the food chain provides the main scientific basis for the European food safety system and aids the formulation of food safety policies in the EU. Its Scientific Expert panels support the European Commission, the European Parliament and Member States with a sound scientific basis on which legislation and policies are formulated and applied. In 2006, EFSA issued 136 opinions, 7 scientific reports on zoonoses and assessment methods and approaches and 31 comprehensive pesticide peer review conclusion documents. The Authority received a total of 206 new questions and requests for authorisations and scheduled the work on 121 questions it had already received in 2005.

EFSA's scientific activities are based on four principal mandates:

- **General requests for scientific opinions and advice**

In response to formal requests from the European Commission, the European Parliament, and from individual EU Member States, EFSA prepares scientific opinions, reports and guidance documents. In addition, the Authority may decide to issue scientific advice of its own accord, known as 'self-tasking', if it identifies a particular issue for investigation and clarification.

Avian Influenza in Europe

Scientific risk assessment and effective recommendations for disease control

Animal health

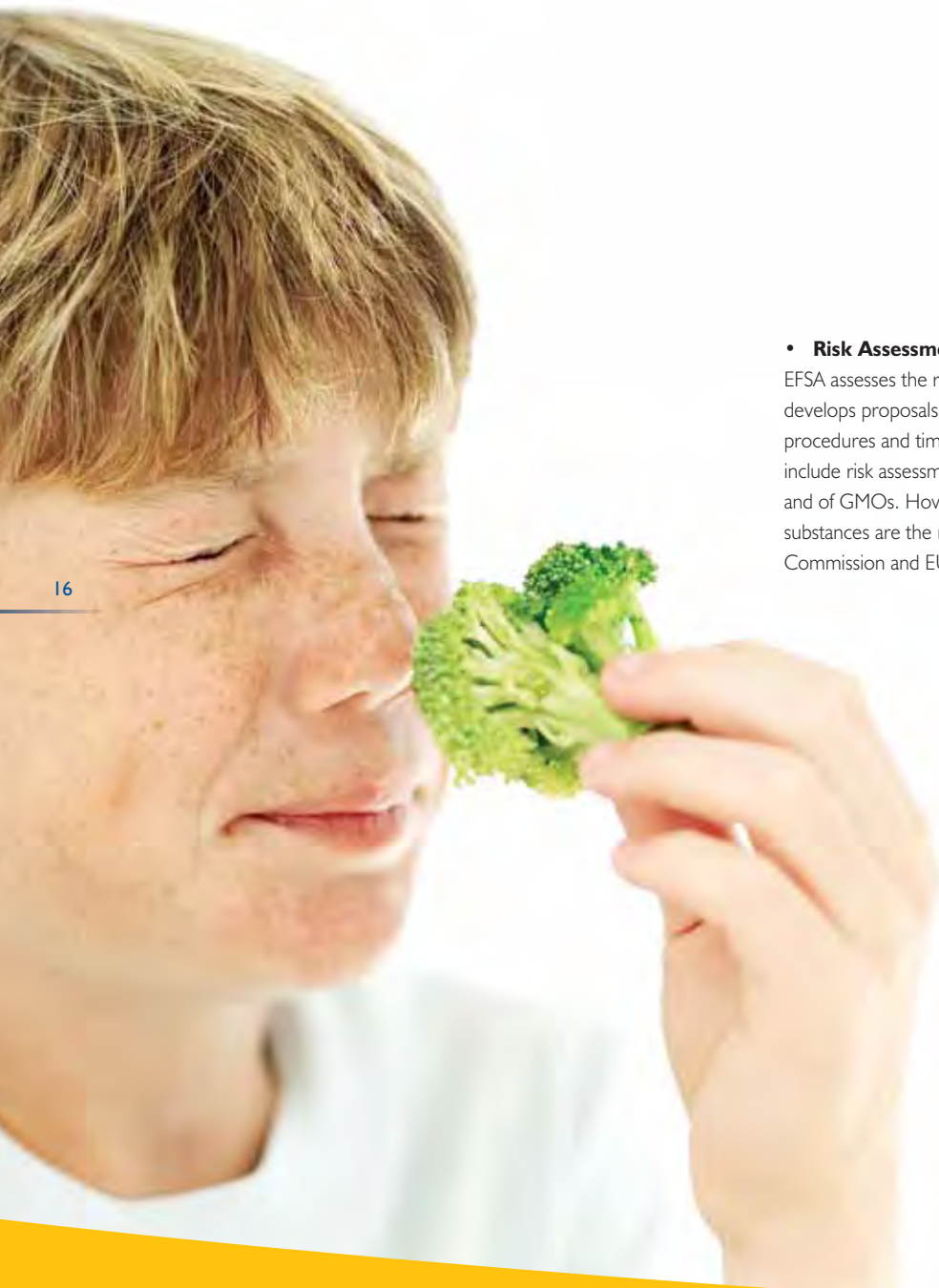
In April, in response to a request from the Commission, EFSA's Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW) issued a scientific statement on migratory birds and their possible role in the spread of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), taking into account the most recent scientific evidence and epidemiological information. The statement provided several recommendations on how to reduce the risk of HPAI spreading to domestic poultry. It supported the Commission by proposing effective, science-based control and surveillance measures. In May, the panel published a more comprehensive scientific opinion which assessed the probability of the virus becoming endemic in wild birds and the likelihood of the disease being transmitted to domestic poultry. The opinion emphasised the need for intensified active and passive monitoring for HPAI in wild birds and the need for reviews of bio security measures, and suggested control measures such as

appropriate vaccination strategies. Preliminary results of methods for controlling and preventing HPAI infections at farm level were presented at the 6th International Symposium on Avian Influenza in Cambridge in April.

Food safety

EFSA's Scientific Panel on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) continuously reviewed the possible impact of Avian Influenza on food and feed safety. In March, the panel published a scientific report analysing whether the consumption of food contaminated with the HPAI virus could cause an infection of humans or other mammals, and advised on the safe use of poultry products such as meat and eggs. EFSA confirmed that no changes to its earlier food safety advice were necessary.

To guarantee an efficient exchange of up-to-date information on Avian Influenza, EFSA remained in regular contact with the European Commission, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), national authorities and relevant international organisations.



- **Risk Assessment of regulated substances and products**

EFSA assesses the risks posed by specific regulated substances and develops proposals for risk-related factors, following legally prescribed procedures and timeframes. Examples of EFSA's work in this area include risk assessment of additives in food and feed, of pesticides and of GMOs. However, authorisation decisions for regulated substances are the responsibility of the risk managers, i.e. the European Commission and EU Member State governments.

Pesticide peer review: Second stage successfully completed

In October EFSA completed the second stage of the EU-wide pesticide peer review programme which it began to co-ordinate in 2003. In all, EFSA together with Member States has reassessed 50 active substances already used in plant protection products. The peer review process represents a genuine European undertaking, in which experts from all EU Member States have pooled their knowledge with EFSA to provide "state-of-the-art" risk assessment of representative uses to ensure that plant protection products when used in this way do not lead to any harmful effect on human or animal health nor on groundwater quality.

The conclusions on the risk assessments were published on the EFSA website along with an extensive set of background documents. They provide the Commission and the authorities of the Member States with a sound decision-making basis for determining whether the substances in question can continue to be used in the EU. In the event of a positive decision, the relevant substance can be placed on the Community's positive list and plant protection products containing that substance can be authorised within the EU. In the case of a negative decision the substance is withdrawn from the market.

Because of the scale of the task, the assessment process has been divided into four stages. The first stage, which covered 90 substances, was managed by the European Commission. The peer review of stages two to four have been transferred to EFSA, which already launched the third stage of the review process, comprising an additional 137 active substances. Expert meetings for this stage began in September. EFSA is expected to deliver the remaining conclusions on these substances before the end of 2008.

- **Monitoring and assessing specific biological risk factors for human health and animal diseases**

Zoonoses are infectious diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans, most commonly due to the consumption of contaminated food. EFSA collects and analyses information on zoonoses from all EU Member States, and collaborates with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) which provides data and analysis of human-related information. The output of this monitoring work was a report issued by EFSA in December, the *Community Summary Report on Trends and Sources of Zoonoses, Zoonotic Agents, Antimicrobial Resistance and Foodborne Outbreaks in the European Union in 2005*. It brought together the monitoring of zoonoses in Europe in order to identify the main sources of these infections and ultimately to help prevent these diseases from occurring.

- **Improving European risk assessment approaches and methodologies**

EFSA contributes to the advancement of food science by developing, promoting and applying new and harmonised scientific approaches to food and feed risk assessment. With the general aim of reaching consensus on methodologies and to generate recommendations that can be incorporated into EFSA's scientific activities, the Authority's work includes the Scientific Colloquium Series. This provides a forum for debate and exchange of experience and viewpoints between experts in specialised fields. Three colloquia were held in 2006, on "Development of Food-Based Dietary Guidelines", "Risk-Benefit Analysis of Foods", and "Cumulative Risk Assessment of Pesticides to Human Health".



EFSA Scientific Colloquium No. 6: Risk-benefit analysis of foods: Methods and approaches (13-14 July 2006, Tabiano)

Food is a key factor for human health and well-being. Today, the assessment of possible health risks associated with certain food products is not usually combined with an evaluation of their possible benefits. In addition, there are currently only few tools available for measuring the possible benefits.

There is an urgent need for holistic models that provide a balanced risk-benefit assessment of foods. New approaches would also help to quantify risks more precisely - such as chemical contaminants in fish triggering concerns among consumers. The aim is to measure the benefits resulting from fish consumption and to compare them

with the possible risks associated with contaminants. The central question is: do the possible risks outweigh the benefits? Only this kind of complete assessment will give consumers the information they need to make the right dietary choices, thereby strengthening their confidence in the overall safety of the food supply.

In the light of these considerations, EFSA decided to organise a scientific colloquium on "Risk-Benefit Analysis of Foods: methods and approaches" to push forward the international scientific debate on this topic. The conference was attended by about 100 international nutrition and toxicology experts from all over the world. Their

primary objective was to consider a common currency for assessing food benefits. A future goal is to define intake ranges for every food product - ranges within which the balance of risk and benefit will be acceptable for consumers. The experts also discussed the health impact of functional food and food fortification programmes on populations and specific subgroups such as the young, the elderly, pregnant women and immune-compromised individuals. The outcome of the Colloquium will be used to develop a comprehensive Guidance Document on risk-benefit analysis.



••• EFSA Scientific Colloquium 6, 13 - 14 July 2006, Tabiano, Italy

EFSA science activity

	Number of plenary meetings	Number of working groups	Number of working group meetings	Total number of questions received	Total number of scientific outputs: 174 of which	
					Number of opinions adopted	Number of scientific reports and pesticides conclusions
AFC	6	7	30	166 ⁽¹⁾	39	-
AHAW	7	20	82	19	10	-
BIOHAZ	9	23	48	14	17	-
CONTAM	4	11	36	5	6	-
FEEDAP	10	19	44	33	32	-
GMO	6	9	41	11	7	-
NDA	3	4	11	24	4	-
PLH	3	4	14	36	0	-
PPR	8	6	38	10	17	-
SC	6	10	36	1	3	-
Zoonoses	3	12	33	8	1	3
PRAPeR	2	-	14	-	-	31
Methodology	-	-	-	-	-	4
TOTAL	67	125	427	327	136	38



¹ 45 new questions were received in 2006 while questions on food supplements received in 2005 but not yet scheduled in that year were also scheduled in 2006.

•••• The time-frames for responding to different requests differ greatly according to the nature of the request and scientific work required.





EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels

EFSA's risk assessments are carried out by its Scientific Committee and nine Scientific Panels. The Panels are comprised of leading independent scientists appointed for a three-year term following a public call for expressions of interest. Working Groups are set up by the Panels when additional expertise is needed in specific areas of competence.

Scientific Committee (SC)

The Scientific Committee is responsible for the provision of scientific advice on multi-sectorial issues falling within the competence of more than two Panels or not falling within the remit of any of the Panels. The Scientific Committee is also responsible for the general co-ordination of EFSA's scientific work and consistency in the scientific opinions of the different Panels.

Panel on food additives, flavourings, processing aids and materials in contact with food (AFC)

The AFC panel deals with questions of safety in the use of food additives, flavourings, processing aids and materials in contact with food. It also deals with associated issues concerning the safety of other substances that are deliberately added to food and with questions relating to the safety of processes e.g. irradiation. One example of the Panel's work is the re-evaluation of authorised food colours (both of natural origin and synthetic) as a first priority in the re-evaluation of all authorised food additives. The process of

the re-evaluation of food colours began in 2006 and is scheduled to end in 2008.

Panel on animal health and welfare (AHAW)

The AHAW Panel provides opinions and advice on all aspects of animal health and animal welfare, primarily relating to food-producing animals, including fish. Among other issues, the Panel is working on Avian Influenza on which it has issued scientific advice with regard to animal health aspects, and Bluetongue on which it has published a weekly update since October on the epidemiology of this animal disease.

Panel on biological hazards (BIOHAZ)

The BIOHAZ Panel handles questions on biological hazards relating to food safety and food-borne disease, including food-borne zoonoses and transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, microbiology, food hygiene and associated waste management. Its work in 2006 included a scientific report on "Food as a possible source of infection with highly pathogenic Avian Influenza viruses for humans and other mammals".

Panel on contaminants in the food chain (CONTAM)

The CONTAM Panel is responsible for questions on contaminants in food and feed, associated areas and undesirable substances such as natural toxicants, mycotoxins and residues on unauthorised substances not covered by any other Panel. In 2006, the Panel's work

included the preparation of an opinion on DDT as an undesirable substance in animal feed.

Panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed (FEEDAP)

The FEEDAP Panel is responsible for questions concerning additives and products/substances used in animal feed and their safety for animals, users/workers, consumers of products of animal origin and the environment. In 2006, the Panel's work included the development of a working document on the environmental risk assessment of additives, products and substances in animal feed.

Panel on genetically modified organisms (GMO)

The GMO Panel is responsible for questions concerning genetically modified organisms, such as micro-organisms, plants and animals, questions relating to the deliberate release of GMOs into the environment and to genetically modified food and feed, including their derived products. In 2006, the Panel hosted a forum to discuss the risk assessment of GMOs with experts from the Member States and took steps to enhance existing and future co-operation (see "Strengthening co-operation with Member States").

Panel on dietetic products, nutrition and allergies (NDA)

Questions relating to dietetic products, human nutrition and food allergies as well as associated subjects such as novel foods, are

handled by the NDA Panel. The new Regulation on Nutrition and Health Claims gives the NDA Panel important new scientific work in the field of nutrition. In 2006 the Panel hosted a conference on nutrition and health claims, inviting 200 experts from Member States, the Commission, international partners and stakeholders to exchange views and experience (see "EFSA conference on nutrition and health claims").

Panel on plant health (PLH)

Created in 2006, the new PLH Panel tackles an increasing number of requests for scientific assessment of plant health risks. Numerous plant pests arrive in the European Union each year. These organisms can cause harm to plants, plant products or biodiversity and the risks need to be evaluated. The brief for the new Panel is to peer review and assess those risks. The first meeting was held in Parma on 13 and 14 June 2006.

Panel on plant protection products and their residues (PPR)

The PPR panel deals with questions concerning the safety of plant protection products for users/workers, consumers of treated products, and the environment. The PPR Panel answers scientific questions relating to pesticide risk assessment submitted by the European Commission, the European Parliament and Member States. The Panel works closely with the Pesticide Risk Assessment Peer Review (PRAPeR) Unit which is responsible for the peer review of initial risk assessments on new or existing pesticides.



Identifying emerging risks

Part of EFSA's mission is to contribute to addressing emerging risks in food and feed safety in the EU. These risks can either result from existing exposures to newly-recognised hazardous substances, or from increased exposures to known hazardous substances. The Authority's tasks include preparing for the setting up of systems to identify such future risks. This encompasses identifying and monitoring events indicative of emerging risks, which requires input from other groups and information sources. It is therefore important for EFSA to work in close co-operation with the national authorities in Member States, as was emphasised in an opinion issued by the Scientific Committee in July. This opinion stated that EFSA will need to collect information from a range of sources, including:

- the Advisory Forum, which offers established links with Member States for the exchange of information;
- the Scientific Committee and Panels, which provide expertise from an extensive range of sources across Europe;
- the Stakeholder Consultative Platform, which facilitates the broad exchange of information with stakeholders regarding EFSA's activities.

New direct and long term links with external sources were also proposed, such as with relevant research projects managed by the European Commission's DG Research, with other EU bodies, and with various international organisations.



EFSA Advisory Forum in Bern, September 2006 ●●●●

Steps for enhanced co-operation and networking

Co-operation between Member States and EFSA on risk assessment is fundamental to the overall success of the European food safety system, and is ultimately necessary to enhance safety and reinforce consumer confidence. Working together mutually benefits both EFSA and the Member States by helping to allocate appropriate resources, to avoid duplicating activities, to encourage the spread of consistent and clear information, and to provide increased coherence in scientific risk assessments. One example of a successful collaboration in 2006 was in response to the Bluetongue epidemic. See "Successful collaboration between EFSA and EU Member States in response to the Bluetongue epidemic".

One major link between EFSA and national food safety authorities in the EU Member States is through the Advisory Forum. In 2006, to maximise sharing of scientific information, prevent diverging opinions, and identify emerging risks, significant steps were taken to improve existing collaboration in a range of key fields.

A milestone in EFSA's co-operation with the Member States was the endorsement on 29 September of a Declaration of Intent on the exchange of scientific information, which corresponded with the Management Board's recommendations on this issue.

This Declaration was the result of work by the ad hoc Advisory Forum Working Group on Input from National Authorities. It committed the members of the Advisory Forum to using the legal, administrative and financial tools available to reinforce co-operation in risk assessment across the EU and conducted a review of existing networks for scientific communication. The Advisory Forum and its Working Groups began activity on an implementation plan in close co-operation with EFSA's Scientific Committee.



Another landmark in EFSA's push for increased co-operation with the Member States was its work with the Scientific Committee on developing a roadmap for scientific co-operation. The strategy, endorsed by the Advisory Forum on 8 December, identified four ways of enhancing co-operation:

- **Collecting and exchanging scientific data**

Efficient scientific co-operation requires systems enabling the rapid exchange of data between the Member States and EFSA. The Authority will establish these systems for collection of relevant data, which will be stored in databases accessible to the individual national authorities. This also will facilitate effective participation of the Member States in EFSA's activities.

- **Sharing best risk assessment practices**

The Advisory Forum identified potential projects for cooperation in risk assessment, starting with an inventory of current risk assessment practices in Member States. They also suggested establishing a programme of courses in risk assessment and study tours between Member States.

- **Harmonising methodologies for risk assessment**

Harmonised risk assessment methods will increase coherence and reinforce confidence in risk assessment findings. The strategy document outlined a number of interrelated projects, which will be initiated in 2007.

- **Promoting coherence in risk communications**

Ensuring coherence among the various authorities concerned through dialogue and collaboration when defining messages and communicating with the public on food safety issues.

Encouraged by the outcome of the strategy document, the Advisory Forum created a Working Group on Exchange of Information and met again at the end of 2006 to propose work on specific tasks. The working group drafted a corresponding implementation programme.

The Advisory Forum Working Group on Information Technology, together with EFSA's IT experts, developed key components of the technical infrastructure needed for seamless communication between EFSA and Member States. An update of the extranet platform was implemented, and the development of a generic platform for data collection was started in September. The platform will then be tailored to individual data collection projects and will enable the easy exchange of scientific data between EFSA and Member States.



Successful collaboration between EFSA and EU Member States in response to the Bluetongue epidemic

Bluetongue is an animal disease affecting ruminants. It does not affect humans and is transmitted by certain midges of the genus *Culicoides* that carry the Bluetongue virus (BTV), of which 24 distinct serotypes are recognised. Clinical signs include the name-giving 'blue tongue' and other symptoms similar to those of foot-and-mouth disease, although these signs are not apparent in all affected animals. The original sources of the disease, its routes, facilitating factors, such as environmental change, and viral evolution are still unclear. Bluetongue exists in southern Europe and has recently been identified in Northern Europe for the first time.

In August, Bluetongue serotype 8, a strain known in South Africa and India but not previously reported anywhere in the EU, was confirmed in the border area between Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands.

To address the epidemic, which rapidly spread to other regions, including areas of France and Luxembourg, EFSA quickly set up an information-sharing system with the EU Member States.

In order to provide the European Commission, which is responsible for risk management, with epidemiological analyses, EFSA asked the Member States for national risk assessments and up-to-date information on the disease. This information was used to establish a cooperative network consisting of national animal health risk assessment agencies and individual experts. In the light of a possible initial underreporting bias and low awareness of the disease in northern EU regions, EFSA's Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW) also recommended a coordinated international response. To understand the conditions associated with the spread and possible persistence of

the disease, collaboration was particularly important in the collection and analysis of epidemiological data, in the tracing of animals, in the sharing of knowledge of virus and vector biology, and in the investigation of disease sources.

The AHAW Panel has published a scientific note on the disease and, since October, has been providing data summaries and analyses in the form of a weekly bulletin that is published on the EFSA website. The bulletin is issued by EFSA's BTV Epidemiology Working Group. This group consists of invited experts representing all the Member States, and a subgroup of international experts who are responsible for the execution of specific analytical tasks.



Strengthening co-operation with Member States: the example of EFSA's action plan on GMO risk assessment

EFSA's role in the approval of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) is to provide scientific advice to the EU institutions and to Member States on the safety of GMOs. On 15 May, EFSA held a forum in Brussels with experts from the Member States, Switzerland and Norway to discuss how to strengthen scientific co-operation in the risk assessment of GMOs. EFSA gave a detailed overview of its current processes, and worked with the delegates to agree on how the input

of Member States could be better taken into account in the Authority's assessments. EFSA explained how Member States' views are taken into consideration and how this may be made more visible in its final opinions.

EFSA's GMO Panel took a number of steps in the light of the feedback from the GMO forum. In June EFSA reiterated its strategy to enhance existing and future co-operation and to develop scientific approaches in dialogue with Member States. EFSA's GMO risk assessments now include a special annex which catalogues every comment received from

Member States in the course of the assessment and gives feedback on how each has been addressed. Among the initiatives to enhance dialogue with Member States, further bilateral meetings have been held with individual Members on specific issues of concern, and a scientific colloquium on environmental risk assessment of GMOs is planned in June 2007 to discuss and develop approaches in this area together with Member States.



•••• EFSA GMO-Forum with experts from Member States in Brussels, May 2006

Integrating new EU Member States

Romania and Bulgaria acceded to the European Union on 1st January 2007. With the aim of enhancing collaboration and exchanging knowledge with these acceding states, EFSA prepared their integration into its work and structures. This was part of the Phare programme, which is one of three pre-accession programmes financed by the European Union. EFSA's external relations department worked closely with the new Member States and developed a detailed plan of action based on the countries' specific needs. The Authority organised several workshops and seminars and invited national experts from Bulgaria and Romania to participate in a variety of activities held throughout Europe (see table).

Events organised: Events organised in the framework of the EFSA Phare project

22 February	Risk Communication
23 February	Zoonoses
27 March	International and Institutional Relations
17 May	Legal framework
6 June	Crisis Communication
7 September	GMOs
20 September	Stakeholder Relations
21 September	BSE/TSE
5 October	Data Collection
7 November	Scientific Conference

Bulgarian and Romanian officials were also invited to observe EFSA meetings, including meetings of the Management Board, the Advisory Forum and the Advisory Forum's Working Groups. Scientific experts from Romania and Bulgaria took part in scientific meetings including on zoonoses, pesticides and scientific colloquia that were organised by EFSA. This comprehensive programme of activities enabled the full integration of Romania and Bulgaria into EFSA in time for accession. The programme included:

- Preparing the food and feed safety bodies in Romania and Bulgaria for co-operation with EFSA
- Exchanging scientific and technical expertise as well as regulatory information
- Including the countries in EU-wide crisis co-ordination exercises and the development of appropriate crisis management infrastructure
- Transferring knowledge on methodologies

Both EFSA and the new Member States expressed confidence that the integration was successful. EFSA also began activities with Croatia and Turkey in the framework of the pre-accession programme, which will be pursued further in 2007.



II.2 Relationships with EFSA's European and international institutional partners and stakeholders

As an independent organisation integrated within the EU institutional framework, EFSA is in close contact with food and feed risk management bodies and networks at European and national levels. EFSA has taken part proactively in various committees and meetings at EU level. The Management Board suggested prioritising continued development of closer links between EFSA and its institutional partners and stakeholders.



Relations with the institutions of the European Union

EFSA maintains an active working interface with EU risk managers, in particular the European Commission, in order to support fully those responsible for making risk management decisions. In particular, EFSA operates in structured co-operation with the Directorate General for Health and Consumer Protection (DG SANCO). Accordingly, regular bilateral meetings took place in 2006 at all levels of seniority, including between the Executive Director of EFSA and the Director General of DG SANCO. Colleagues from DG SANCO's interface unit regularly attended key EFSA meetings as observers, including those of the Scientific Committee and Panels, expert working groups, the Advisory Forum and the Stakeholder Consultative Platform. Strong relationships were also forged with other Commission services, such as DG Environment (ENV), DG Research (RTD), DG Enterprise (ENTR) and the Joint Research Centre (JRC).

Commission delegates played an active role in EFSA events, speaking for instance at the EFSA forum on GMO risk assessment in May and at the EFSA conference on nutrition and health claims in November. Similarly, EFSA staff and experts took part in Commission events such

as a DG Research conference, "Food Quality and Safety: First Results from FP6" organised in Brussels in December.

EFSA holds a permanent seat on the European Parliament's Committee for Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI Committee), and has arranged to attend relevant meetings of other committees, such as the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) and the Committee for Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO). This presence allows EFSA to offer input to the Parliament on issues within its fields of expertise. A "liaison officer" from EFSA serves as a contact point between EFSA and the European Parliament. Meetings were organised to assist MEPs and other staff within the EP with scientific and technical information they required in the context of their portfolios. In her first address to the Parliament as Executive Director of EFSA, Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle spoke before the ENVI Committee on 4 October. She emphasised that support from the Parliament, in particular from the ENVI Committee, and from other EU institutions is essential for EFSA's further development and also presented EFSA's work and priorities including the Management Board's recommendations.

••• Phare workshop on risk communication in February 2006



EFSA also discusses strategic and technical questions with other key actors at EU level, including the holders of the rotating EU Presidency and relevant working groups of the Council of the EU.

EFSA is strengthening its co-operation with existing risk management networks in the EU, such as the network of Chief Veterinary Officers (for which EFSA hosted a meeting in 2006) and EFSA is represented at meetings of the network of Heads of food safety agencies from the EU Member States.

Co-operation with other EU agencies and international organisations

EFSA has regular working contacts with the existing network of EU Agencies. EFSA took steps to strengthen ties to those agencies with related tasks and responsibilities, such as the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). In 2006, EFSA produced the Community Report on Zoonoses with support from the ECDC, which provided data on human zoonoses cases and contributed to the analysis of human-related data. EFSA will co-operate in a similar manner with the new European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) once it is fully established.

Throughout 2006, EFSA continued to build dialogue and co-operation with food agencies in different parts of the world and with international organisations. Experts from EFSA participated at the request of the European Commission in meetings organised by Codex Alimentarius (for example on principles of risk analysis and on biotechnology), and were also involved in meetings of the OIE, OECD and other international bodies. EFSA continued to build relationships with its international counterparts in particular in the USA, Canada, Australia/New Zealand and Japan. EFSA held meetings with the Japanese Food Safety Commission (JFSA), with Chinese, Korean and Afghan authorities and with the recently established Hong Kong Centre for Food Safety. EFSA experts also assisted with discussions in Malaysia on strengthening national food safety initiatives.

Contacts between EFSA and the Croatian and Turkish authorities were extensive in the context of the on going pre-accession programme, funded by the European Commission, to prepare national structures for possible future co-operation with EFSA as full members of the EU. EFSA is also actively pursuing the greater integration of EU neighbouring



countries into EFSA's work, and has co-operated for example with experts from the Ministries of Health and Agriculture in Kosovo.

The Authority is developing an international strategy to be presented in 2007 with the aim of increasing relations with third country and international organisations.

Stakeholders

EFSA recognises the importance of co-operating openly with stakeholders and has taken a series of measures to encourage their input into its work. One of the most important ways in which the Authority carries out its policy of openness is the proactive exchange of views with interested stakeholders throughout Europe. EFSA counts among its stakeholders all organisations with a legitimate interest in matters within the Authority's remit.

A semi-formal structure called the Stakeholder Consultative platform was created in 2005 to build regular contacts between EFSA and its key stakeholders. The platform held three meetings in 2006. It is composed of EU-level organisations with expertise on matters within EFSA's responsibility, such as food safety or a specific sector of the food chain. The Chair and Vice-Chairs of the platform are elected by the platform members and reflect the genuinely diverse membership of the Platform. Initially mandated for one year, positive feedback led the Management Board to renew the platform's mandate in September for a new term of three years. Its meetings are open to the public to ensure maximum inclusiveness.

Its tasks include:

- Commenting on EFSA's work programme
- Providing EFSA with feedback on the effectiveness of its policies for responding to stakeholder concerns
- Alerting EFSA to current and emerging issues
- Advising on methodologies
- Providing information and co-operation at a technical level

The mandate of the Stakeholder Consultative Platform was broadened by allowing it to form working groups on specific topics, in order to encourage additional activity between its plenary meetings.

EFSA also organises ad hoc meetings to engage with stakeholders on issues of particular interest. In February, EFSA invited environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to participate in a technical



meeting to gather feedback on EFSA's approach to GMO risk assessment. The meeting provided a chance for NGOs to set out and substantiate their scientific concerns regarding the issue. EFSA used the opportunity to explain the fundamental concepts behind its risk assessment practices.

Moreover, EFSA holds regular scientific colloquia dealing with a range of key issues where discussion among experts and interested parties defines and develops scientific approaches and methodologies. In 2006, EFSA organised scientific colloquia on the development of food-based dietary guidelines, the risk-benefit analysis of foods, and risk assessment of pesticides to human health.

With the aim of improving communication with the feed and food chain partners, EFSA also attends meetings of an independent European Food Safety Platform. This forum brings together a group of key European stakeholder associations involved with food and feed safety issues.

Open consultations

EFSA recognises the importance of consulting widely to seek views and input from all interested parties on a number of issues. To this end, public consultations are conducted via EFSA's website to gather input before finalising recommendations or proposing approaches in specific fields. In 2006, EFSA consultations covered issues including:

- A revised methodology for conducting Geographical BSE Risk assessment, by which EFSA assesses the BSE risk in different countries worldwide
- The use of animal feeding trials to assess the safety and nutritional value of GM food or feed
- A harmonised approach to assessing environmental risks posed by additives and other substances used in animal feed.



••• Second meeting of the EFSA Stakeholder Consultative Platform in March 2006



BSE

The BSE crisis in the nineties and the resulting damage to European consumer confidence in the food chain was one of the reasons behind the establishment of EFSA. Numbers of BSE cases have dropped significantly demonstrating that the current measures are effective. Nevertheless, to remain vigilant EFSA is closely observing the situation as part of its long-term risk assessment efforts. EFSA's achievements in this area in 2006 include an evaluation of rapid BSE/TSE tests, opinions on the age at which animal testing

should start and an assessment of the present EU sheep breeding programme for resistance against TSEs.

An example of EFSA's work in this area in 2006 was the public consultation on a revised methodology for Geographical BSE Risk (GBR) assessment which classifies countries according to their level of risk with respect to BSE. This illustrates the steps the Authority takes to ensure a high level of transparency in its work. EFSA has been responsible for Geographical BSE Risk assessments since 2003.

This work is fundamental for consumer protection and has implications for global trade. EFSA has so far carried out GBR assessments for 19 countries, applying a methodology originally developed in 1998. In 2006, EFSA's Panel on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) discussed a revised version of the methodology for GBR assessments taking account of new scientific knowledge on BSE and recent trends in BSE prevalence based on the most recent surveillance data. EFSA consulted widely on its proposed approach, and the final opinion will be drafted in 2007.



Integration into the local environment

With its headquarters in Parma, Italy, EFSA is keen to be integrated into the local environment and is working to involve itself closely with Italian national, regional and local structures. This work is supported by Europass, which is an association of the chambers of commerce, provinces, universities and the region of Emilia-Romagna, and serves to foster associations between EFSA, businesses, and researchers in Parma and the region. Europass helped EFSA's continuous dialogue with local actors and organised several presentations to explain the Authority's work. These attracted media interest and boosted EFSA's visibility on the local level.



••• Europass conference in Reggio Emilia, April 2006

II.3 Making risk communication work

Risk communication is one of the Authority's core responsibilities. EFSA was conceived to help enhance food and feed safety in Europe, thereby contributing to European consumer confidence in the food chain. The achievement of this goal relies on effective risk communication grounded on highest standards of scientific expertise. EFSA places strong emphasis on its communications activities, which are designed to disseminate information on food and feed safety concerns in a timely, accurate, and consistent manner.

The Management Board endorsed a new communications strategy in November to further enhance EFSA's effectiveness and impact in risk communication. This strategy is based on the Board recommendations and takes account of valuable input from parties such as the Scientific Committee, the Advisory Forum, its dedicated Working Group on Risk Communications, and stakeholders. It also integrated the findings of a

survey analysing public attitudes to risk in the food chain, which threw light on consumer perceptions of food safety issues in Europe and identified major public concerns in different countries.

The strategy prioritises three key areas of focus:

- Enhanced visibility for EFSA and its scientific work
- Heightened clarity and relevance of EFSA's communications for key target audiences and for the general public in collaboration with the Member States
- Improved coherence in communications on food and feed safety across Europe.



Understanding public risk perception: special Eurobarometer survey on risk perception and food safety

One of EFSA's core objectives is to provide effective risk communications on food and feed safety. To optimise its communication strategy and keep track of its communications impact, EFSA needs to understand consumers' perception of food safety and to monitor the findings on consumer perception on a regular basis. Therefore, EFSA and the European Commission's Health and Consumer Protection Directorate General (DG SANCO) commissioned a Eurobarometer survey on consumers' perception of health risks, and in particular those related to food safety. The survey was published in February and there are plans to repeat it on a regular basis.

The survey confirms EFSA's strategy of working with information multipliers in the Member States, like the national food safety agencies, since an analysis of the individual results reveals significant differences between different countries in Europe. For example: whereas the number one food safety concern in nine of the Member States is pesticides, the top concern in Austria is GM food, and for Scandinavians the main issue is animal welfare. These findings do not necessarily reflect the actual food safety situation in the various countries but rather indicate cultural

differences in the perception of risk. This shows how important it is to work with national bodies that have direct contact with consumers and can adapt EFSA's messages accordingly.

The report illustrates that consumer groups, doctors and scientists are the most trusted sources of information about food risks, followed by public authorities. The survey also revealed that over 40% of consumers either ignore media stories on food safety concerns or worry but remain inactive. These results highlight the need for strong direct communications between authorities and consumers, especially in more serious crisis situations where consumer response may be required. This reinforces EFSA's strategy to "influence the influencers", that is to provide science-based information to organisations in direct contact with and trusted by consumers, and who are therefore more likely to impact change in awareness, attitude and even behaviour, where required.

On the other hand, the study found that people do value the role of public authorities in protecting consumer interests. A significant proportion of consumers interviewed (61%) was aware of EU regulations on food

safety. In terms of awareness levels, this puts food safety regulations in third place behind regulations on smoking (85%) and consumer rights (66%). A majority of EU citizens (54%) agree that public authorities take citizens' concerns about health risks very seriously, although there is some scepticism regarding the prioritisation of consumer health where commercial interests are at stake. Almost six in ten people consider that public authorities use the most recent scientific evidence when taking decisions relating to food risks, and nearly one in two commend their role in informing citizens about food-related risks. These findings are an encouragement for EFSA's work.

Understanding consumers' perception of risk is critical to providing timely, clear and effective communications on food safety. The Eurobarometer findings reconfirm the importance of developing and targeting messages to meet the needs of specific groups, making use of information sources that enjoy the highest levels of consumer trust.



Greater visibility in the media

EFSA strengthened its ties with the press in Europe by organising five media briefings and conferences on issues of key interest to consumers. EFSA issued 40 press releases and statements in 2006 achieving a significant increase in media output: 4638 articles and audiovisual coverage were gathered by the end of the year referencing EFSA and its scientific work.

EFSA further expanded its media materials tool kit with additional background documents and answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), and also registered a substantial increase in the number of subscribers to its electronic and paper publications. The electronic and paper versions of EFSAnews and the Annual Report reached nearly 2,000 recipients each. New fact sheets were also released to explain EFSA's work on GMOs and describe its policy of transparency, openness, and independence. To acquaint journalists specialising in European affairs and food safety issues more closely with EFSA, a special meeting with the participation of the Executive Director was held for the Brussels press corps in October.



Clearer website with key enhancements

EFSA's website remains the principal interface between the Authority and the outside world and the main central source of information about EFSA. The website continued to provide a strong visibility platform, reporting continuous growth in terms of both content and visitors with 1.3 million visits and over 12,200 subscribers to EFSA Highlights. To focus on visitors' most pressing concerns regarding topics such as nutrition and health claims, the artificial sweetener aspartame and GM food, EFSA introduced a series of thematic web sections called "In Focus", which have experienced a steady increase in visitor numbers over the course of the year.

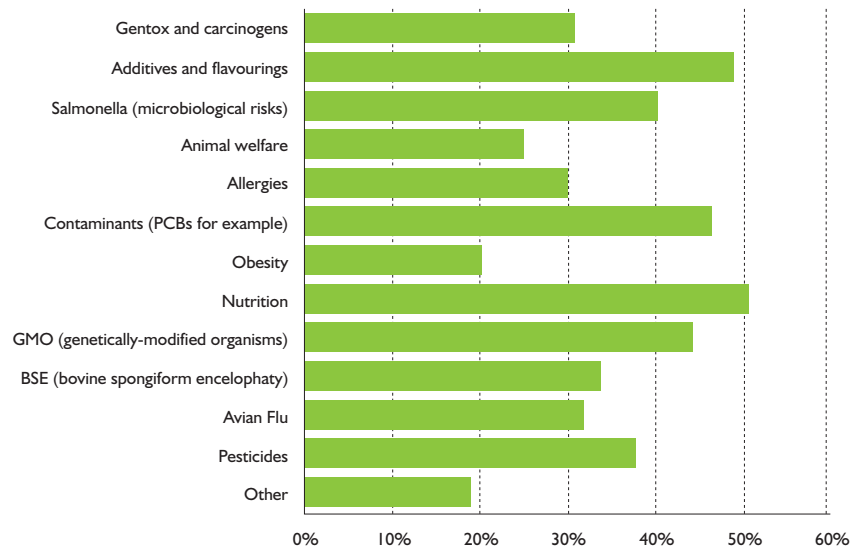
The EFSA website continues to be the chief reference point via which the public can access its core documents, including scientific opinions, agendas and minutes of meetings, presentations and speeches. To further increase transparency, EFSA increasingly turned to live web casting to broadcast important meetings such as scientific conferences, Management Board meetings and press briefings. This included a press briefing on aspartame in May and the conference on nutrition and health claims in November. The live web casts proved popular, and even more users took advantage of the video on demand service by which recordings were posted online 24 hours after the given event. Presentations and speeches were also promptly made available to the public via the web.

As part of the communications strategy, the EFSA website will soon offer an improved design featuring simplified structure and revised content. A large-scale user survey was carried out in early 2006 to collect user feedback to help support the redesign process. A new web statistics package was also implemented to gather more detailed feedback on how the website is used. These user data were invaluable for studying the features of core audience groups, user tendencies and preferences, and areas of particular interest. The Authority began implementing the changes in 2006, and plans to launch the newly designed website in summer 2007.



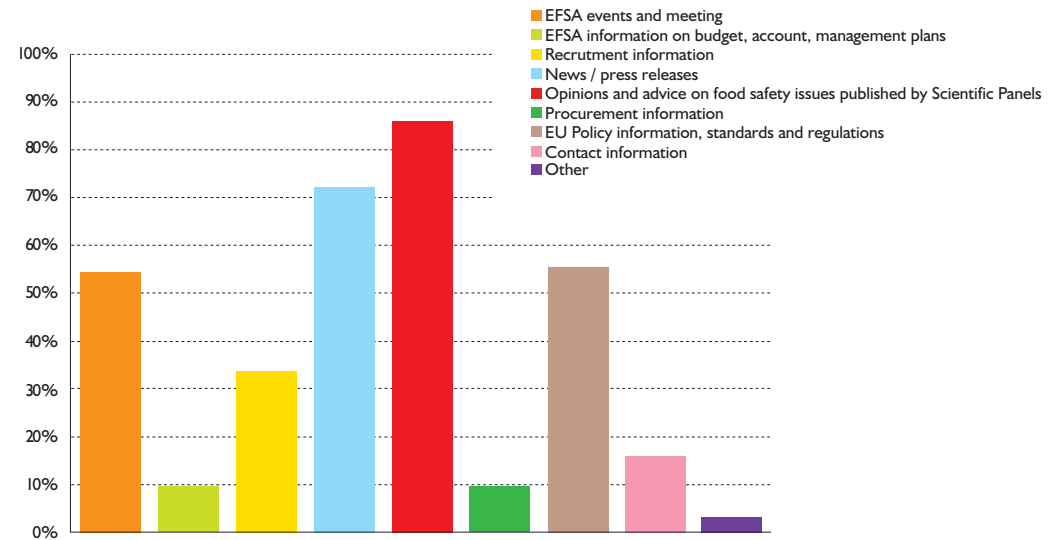
2006 Web user survey results

Topics of interest to visitors using the EFSA website for work



Source: web survey 2006

Topics of interest to 'work' users



Informing the public: EFSA's assessment of a newly available aspartame study

In 2005, the Ramazzini Foundation in Bologna, Italy, published findings of a new study on the carcinogenicity of aspartame conducted in rats. This led to considerable international media attention and raised public concerns about the safety of aspartame.

EFSA reacted immediately when informed of the study, inviting the authors to share detailed information in order to evaluate the results. EFSA also advised all national food safety authorities and stakeholders in Europe that it would undertake an assessment of the study's findings.

During the EFSA evaluation process a number of press releases kept the public up to date with the latest developments and recommendations. The communication programme culminated on 5 May in a press conference with representatives from the Panel on food additives, flavourings, processing aids and materials

in contact with food (AFC) to communicate the outcome of EFSA's evaluation. Upon EFSA's invitation, representatives of the Ramazzini Foundation also attended the press conference. All interested parties, were able to watch the web cast. It was seen by over 3,000 viewers and is still used today by those interested in the outcome of EFSA's evaluation. As a result, EFSA's opinion was widely reported in Europe's media: over 150 articles in all the major European media in the Member States referred to EFSA's recommendations. EFSA's evaluation was also widely reported on in the US media.

The background:

In order to safeguard Europe's high standards of consumer protection, and in view of the widespread use of aspartame for food and beverages consumed by all age groups, EFSA gave top priority to the evaluation of the new study.

The evaluation was conducted by an ad hoc panel working group comprising European experts on carcinogenicity, toxicological pathology and statistical analysis. All the experts involved were selected from among Europe's top food scientists according to EFSA's high standards. It was finally discussed and adopted by the AFC Panel.

In its opinion published in May 2006, the Panel concluded on the basis of all the evidence currently available, that there was at present no need to further review the safety of aspartame or to revise the previously established Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) for aspartame (40 mg/kg body weight). The Panel also noted that intakes of aspartame in Europe, with levels up to 10 mg/kg body weight per day, are well below the ADI.



Coherence in risk communications

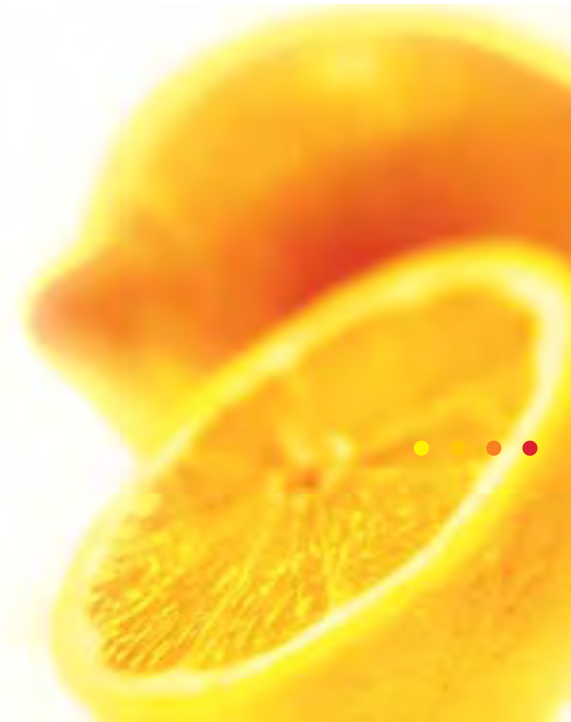
To communicate risk assessment activities to the public in a way that is consistent and clear, close co-operation is required between EFSA and national food safety authorities which are the principal source of official advice to consumers in the Member States. Moreover, EFSA needs to liaise in a timely manner with the European Commission and other parties involved in risk management in order to co-ordinate EU level advice delivered by risk assessors and risk managers.

Coherent and co-ordinated communication is at the heart of the mandate of the Advisory Forum Working Group on Communications (AFWGC), which brings together communications representatives from national food safety agencies across Europe. This contributes greatly to streamlining food safety messages disseminated by the various agencies and to building best practices in risk communications. The group met four times in 2006, with national authorities exchanging communications experiences and providing input for the planning of the web survey and other projects.

A pillar of the strategy on closer co-operation endorsed by the Advisory Forum in December is the promotion of coherence in risk communications particularly through existing structures in the form of the AFWGC. The strategy identified a number of specific tasks:

- Early mutual warning on emerging and topical communication issues in the Member States
- Pre-notifying authorities in Member States of press releases to seek additional input and to help co-ordinating the national communications activities in the Member States
- Evaluating communications activities (case study approach) to identify lessons learned and develop best practices
- Organising workshops and training sessions to capitalise on knowledge and share experiences regarding risk perception and communications

Some components of the strategy have already been implemented. For example, the Working Group on Risk Communications held a workshop on crisis communications in October, with the aim of developing a common understanding of crisis communications and message development. External communications experts and the AFWGC discussed communication tools for crisis management, EFSA's own preparedness plan for communicating on emerging incidents and crises and the Authority's role in facilitating co-ordination among Member States.



II.4 EFSA's focus and enhanced role in nutrition

While food safety was the primary impetus for the creation of EFSA, the Authority also must focus attention on major public health concerns related to diet, nutrition, lifestyle and health, notably with respect to the growing prevalence of obesity. With the increasing focus on these issues in Europe, the Management Board recommended that EFSA take a leading role in nutrition to reflect the changing emphasis in European policy. EFSA is already uniquely positioned to provide scientific knowledge to guide decision-makers in the development of appropriate risk management policies and specific actions, and will continue to build on its expertise.

EFSA's role in nutrition

EFSA is beginning to establish itself as a key European voice on nutrition, and has already provided the scientific basis for decisions and policies at EU level in various areas of nutrition. The Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies (NDA) received a total of 21 questions in 2006, and has provided to date more than 60 opinions which underpin European legislation and policy in such areas as the labelling of food allergens, fortified foods and food supplements, and the safety of novel foods.

Two of EFSA's scientific colloquia in 2006 addressed nutrition, reflecting a clearer focus on this area. One covered risk-benefit analysis of foods, while another discussed the development of food-based dietary guidelines and provided a platform for open debate on scientific approaches on the development of dietary recommendations expressed in terms of foods rather than nutrient composition. The recommendations from this event will be incorporated into EFSA's ongoing work on translating nutrient-based recommendations for a healthy diet into food-based recommendations.

To reflect EFSA's broader role and contribution to diet-related public health challenges in Europe, the Authority is currently developing an overall strategy for its role in nutrition. The first draft of this strategy will be finalised in 2007 and submitted for public consultation before being adopted by the Management Board.

New Regulation on nutrition and health claims

New legislation adopted in 2006 by European decision-makers is aimed at introducing harmonised rules in the EU, regulating claims and ensuring that consumers can rely on the truth and accuracy of information. EFSA will be strongly involved in implementing this new Regulation and will assess whether claims about the health benefits or nutritional value of foods are scientifically reliable and justified. This will see EFSA taking on a number of important new tasks in the field of nutrition.

In September, EFSA's NDA Panel set up a Working Group on Health Claims in anticipation of the new legislation. The Working Group has begun to draw up detailed advice for the Commission on providing guidance for the preparation of applications for health claims. An open public consultation has been planned, and EFSA is seeking feedback from all interested stakeholders, including national food safety authorities, the European Commission, organisations representing consumers and industry, and NGOs. The guidance document is due to be finalised in summer 2007.



EFSA conference on nutrition and health claims

In November, some 200 experts from national food safety authorities, stakeholders and international organisations exchanged views on nutrition and health claims at a three-day scientific conference organised by EFSA in Bologna, Italy. The participants were drawn from 21 European countries, but also from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the USA and included representatives from all the major European institutions. Stakeholder experts from industry, NGOs and consumer groups were also invited. EFSA was seeking broad consultation from all interested parties, in order to exchange views and different approaches, to pool existing scientific knowledge and expertise in the field and to identify problems to be solved. The conference was considered very successful, enabling EFSA to tap into a large pool of expert knowledge.

The conference was an important element of EFSA's strategy for playing a key role in nutrition and preparing for the new legislation on nutrition and health claims.

Breakout sessions offered participants a chance to discuss issues in smaller groups such as the essential criteria that should be included in the process of scientific substantiation of claims, the aim and scope of establishing nutrient profiles and how to deal with the different nutritional requirements of different subgroups of the population.

To make the discussion transparent, not only were the media invited, but the whole final day of the conference was webcasted live and made available as video on demand on EFSA's website. The web cast was watched by over 4,000 people. The Commission, regulatory bodies within the Member States, national experts, industry representatives and consumer interest groups will be involved in the future process, including follow-up meetings and public consultations on the development of guidance documents and opinions.



••• EFSA conference on nutrition and health claims in Bologna in November 2006

Addressing nutritional concerns

There is a substantial amount of scientific knowledge on the correlation of diet and lifestyle with obesity, chronic diseases and other health problems such as heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, cancer and osteoporosis. EFSA is well placed to contribute to the development of science-based policies and communication in this area. The NDA panel advanced its work on recommending "Population Reference Intakes" of nutrients and other essential dietary components, and the Panel expects to deliver the first part of its task, relating to energy and macronutrients, by mid-2007. EFSA also began working with the Member States to establish a Europe-wide consumption database for 16 categories of food, including dietary intake data for adults and children.



II.5 EFSA's enhanced organisation

The Authority is a vibrant, young organisation, and as it grows it must strengthen and refine its internal structures accordingly. The Management Board made recommendations at the beginning of the year for the consolidation of EFSA's internal organisation. Through this restructuring, the Authority actively fosters an internal culture of high performance. 2006 also was an important year of organisational renewal, with the reconstitution of the Management Board, the Scientific Panels and the Scientific Committee, and the installation of a new Executive Director in July.

Changes in EFSA's bodies

Renewal of the Management Board

The Management Board is a fundamental pillar of EFSA's organisational structure. While Board members are replaced every four years to safeguard EFSA's independence, special rules for the first Board appointed in 2002 were included in EFSA's Founding Regulation to ensure continuity in the early years of the organisation. Therefore, the mandate for half of the 14 members runs for six years until 2008. The remaining seven Board members were replaced when their mandate expired on 30 June. The new Board members had applied to a call for expressions of interest published by the European

Commission in 2005, and were appointed by the Council in consultation with the European Parliament.

Each Board member brings distinct perspectives on food and feed safety, proven expertise and years of experience in a wide range of areas related to the Authority's mission, particularly in food science, risk assessment and the EU food safety system. The new Board conducted its inaugural meeting on 12 September and elected Patrick Wall as Chairman and Diána Bánáti and Deirdre Hutton as Vice-chairs. The Board will continue to develop its own role to play a key part in the advancement of EFSA's strategic vision.



EFSA Management Board in front of Palazzo Ducale in September 2006 ●●●●



New Executive Director

In July, the Management Board nominated a new Executive Director of EFSA. Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle was appointed for a period of five years with the possibility of renewal. Ms Geslain-Lanéelle brings experience from senior management and advisory positions held at the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Between 2000 and 2003, she was Director-General of Food within the Ministry, and in this capacity was responsible for the management of food-related health risks. She was National Expert at the Directorate General for Internal Market of the European Commission in the area of risk management and risk assessment from 1991 to 1993, and served as Vice-President of the EFSA Management Board 2002-2006.

New Faces on the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels

2006 also saw the renewal of the Scientific Committee and nine Scientific Panels. In accordance with EFSA's founding Regulation, the Scientific Committee and Panels must be renewed every three years, which means that serving members must either be replaced or be re-appointed.

The evaluation and selection of candidates, including current Panel members, was carried out by EFSA scientists who used selection criteria including a track record of scientific excellence, experience in risk assessment and peer review of scientific work as well as proven project management and communication skills. EFSA also commissioned an external evaluation committee to review the selection process.

The final decision on the composition of the new Scientific Committee and Panels was made by the Management Board after careful consideration of a proposal put forward by EFSA. A total of 191 scientific experts were chosen from the 874 applicants and took up their duties in June.

Most of the newly appointed experts have backgrounds in public bodies or academia. Special attention was given to ensuring that the scientists represent a broad range of specialisations, nationalities, genders, and professional affiliations. The full list of scientific experts is available on the Authority's website along with a report on the selection procedure.



Creation of the new Panel on Plant Health

Each year, numerous plant pests reach the borders of the European Union and can cause harm to plants, plant products, or biodiversity. To address an increasing number of requests for scientific assessments of such risks, the new Scientific Panel on Plant Health (PLH) was created. Joining the Scientific Committee and the eight Scientific Panels in place since June 2003, the Panel started activities in June and draws upon a wide range of expertise in relevant fields to assess the risks for the food chain.

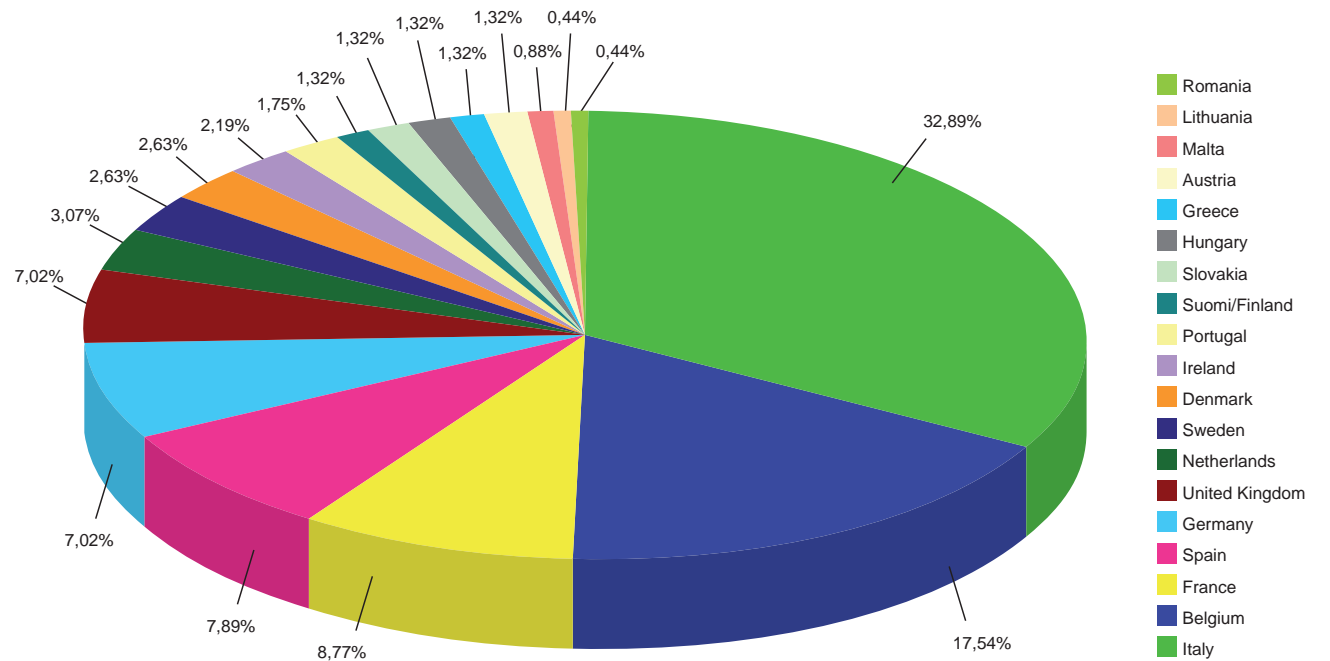


EFSA's revised structure

A new organisation chart was adopted in October to base EFSA's internal governance structures on its forward looking priorities. It is based on three main directorates (science, communications and administration) plus smaller units to advise the Executive Director on strategic and cross-cutting issues. The science directorate is now organised in two departments, one dealing with the risk assessment work of the Scientific Panels, the other department for Scientific Co-operation and Assistance (previously referred to as Scientific Expert Services) dealing with the pesticides risk assessment peer review, zoonoses, data collection, assessment methodology, emerging risks and co-operation with outside parties. Two units have been set up to work closely with the Executive Director in fields including external relations and the work of the Advisory Forum and Scientific Committee.

EFSA continued to grow as an organisation in 2006 and, to support this and the further growth anticipated in 2007, a Recruitment Task Force was set up to streamline and improve recruitment procedures. The group started work in September by evaluating the current situation, identifying obstacles to the recruitment process and devising an action plan, which is now being implemented.

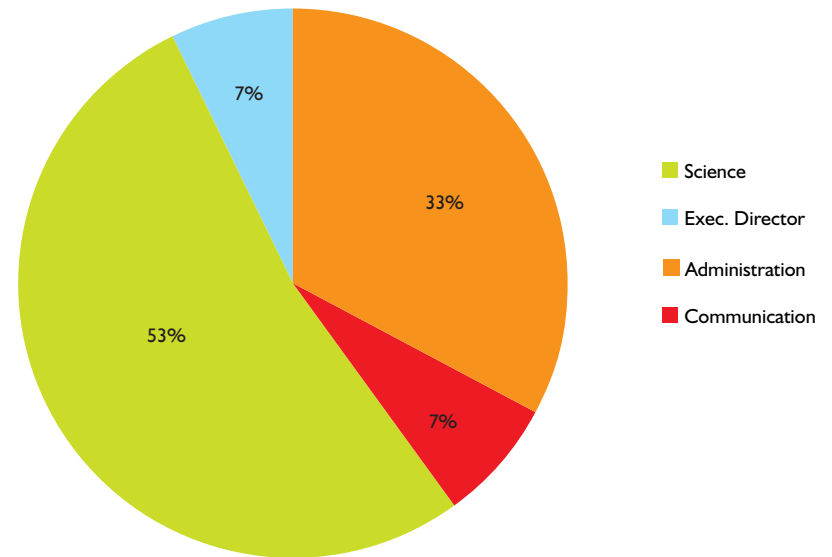
EFSA staff split by nationalities



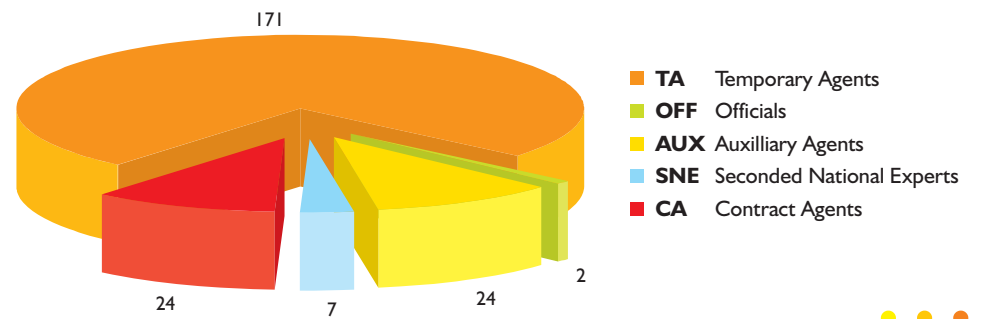


•••• EFSA staff

Staff split by departments



Staff split by type of contract





III. Outlook

The feedback from the external evaluation and the ensuing recommendations given by the Management Board were major milestones and will continue to drive EFSA's work in the future. Some of the recommendations have already been put into practice while other aspects are work in progress that will occupy EFSA in 2007 and beyond.

Anchored in an agreement for scientific co-operation signed by the Advisory Forum, EFSA will continue to foster co-operation with Member States. Several projects outlined in 2006 will be initiated in the coming year, and their output will be seen throughout 2007. In addition to these projects, EFSA will continue to strengthen ties with institutional partners and stakeholders. An external review of EFSA's policy for interacting with stakeholders will be executed in 2007, and the Authority also will formalise its international work by developing a strategy for external relations which will be discussed by the Management Board.

Enhanced simplicity, visibility and coherence – important recommendations of the Management Board on EFSA's communications work – will remain a cornerstone of EFSA's activities in 2007. The launch of a redesigned website in summer 2007 will offer a simpler and more user-friendly interface to all users, and EFSA is examining other initiatives to enhance the visibility of its work. In addition to those already underway, a strategic options paper in 2007 will specify future communications activities.

EFSA's work on nutrition will experience a boost in 2007 with dedicated resources, and a new strategy is also foreseen for the coming year. The strategy document will be presented to the Management Board and put to public consultation.

2007 marks the 50th anniversary of the EU and also the 5th anniversary of EFSA. In 2007, the Authority will take the opportunity to communicate on its most important achievements in the last five years, along with its future vision for its contribution to food safety in the EU. A series of events and communication activities will be organised in close co-operation with the Advisory Forum, helping to raise EFSA's profile among partner institutions, stakeholders, and the general public in the Member States.

In the coming years, EFSA is expected to grow from a team of approximately 200 to a team of more than 350 employees. At the same time, both the political environment and EFSA's tasks will continue to evolve. Therefore, EFSA will continually review its priorities, management structures and working procedures to fulfil its mandate of providing appropriate scientific advice to support the European food safety system.





FINANCIAL REPORT



IV. Financial Report

EFSA's continuing growth is reflected in the 2006 budget of EUR 40.2 million (with EUR 36.4 million committed), representing a 22% increase over 2005. The commitments are based on plans drafted by EFSA that allocate financial resources to specific items (See graph 2).

However, the overall amount spent in 2006 was 90% of the available budget, after EFSA returned EUR 6.9 million to the general budget of the Communities. This under spend was a result of recruitment levels being lower than anticipated and the delayed implementation of Article 36 of EFSA's Founding Regulation (see box Article 36) which enables the Authority to outsource parts of its scientific work. EFSA introduced measures to improve the efficiency of the recruitment processes in 2006 and adopted a list of approved organisations to whom work may be outsourced under Article 36 - the first contracts should be signed in 2007.

The execution of payment credits improved in 2006. At EUR 33.6 million, including the carry-over from the previous year, payments increased by around 25% over 2005.

In line with the structure of the EU budget, EFSA's expenditure can be divided into three 'titles':

- **Personnel expenses**

96% of the available budget for personnel was committed in 2006. This result was achieved after the transfer mentioned above.

- **Infrastructure – buildings, furniture and IT equipment**

In the area of Infrastructure, 95 % of the available budget was committed in 2006. EFSA is expecting a significant rise in infrastructure expenditure in 2007 as a result of hiring new staff and through enhanced recruitment procedures over the coming months and the need to occupy a second provisional building.

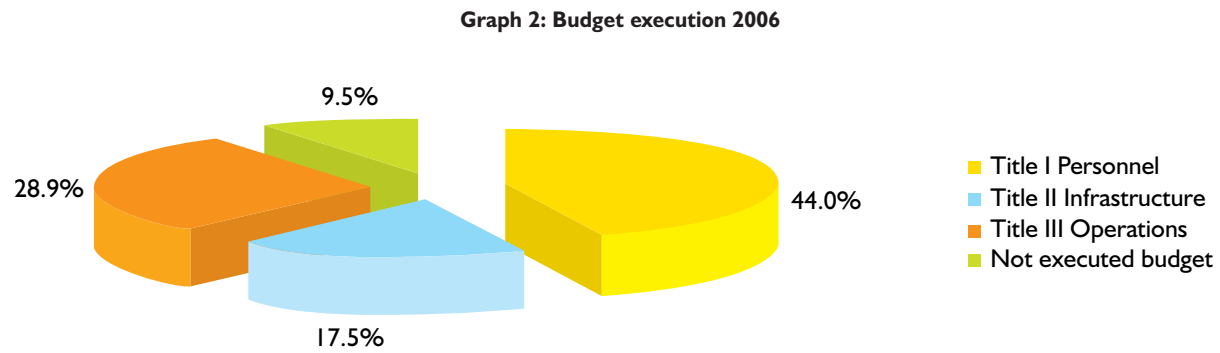
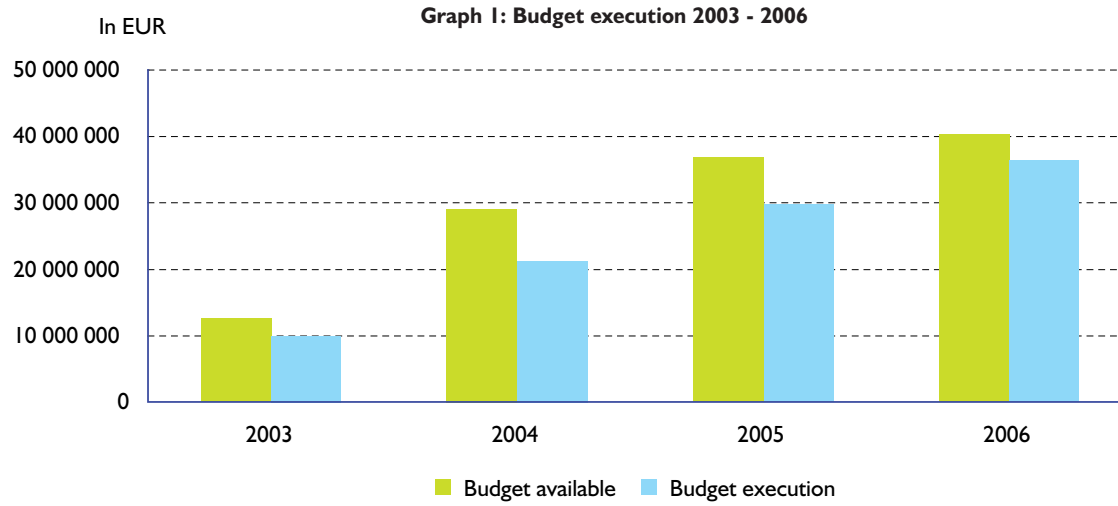
- **Operations – science and risk communications activities**

Within operational expenditure, the under spending of commitments, at 80%, and executed payments, at 50%, was largely due to staffing levels in the Science Department, which were below the establishment plan for 2006.

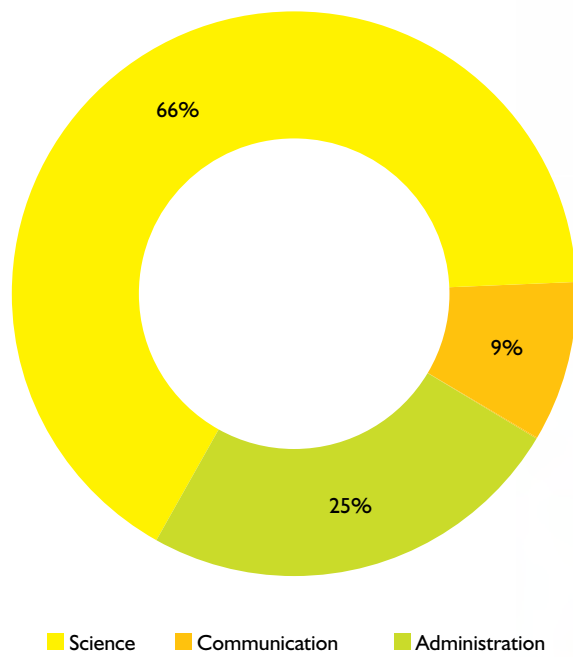
The commitment and payment history of all three titles shown in Graph 1 illustrates the Authority's evolution since it began operating in May 2003.

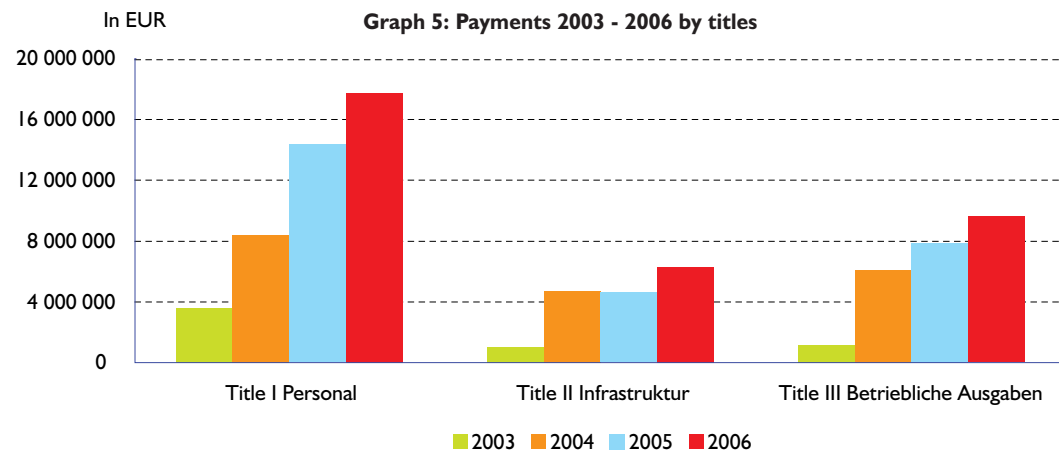
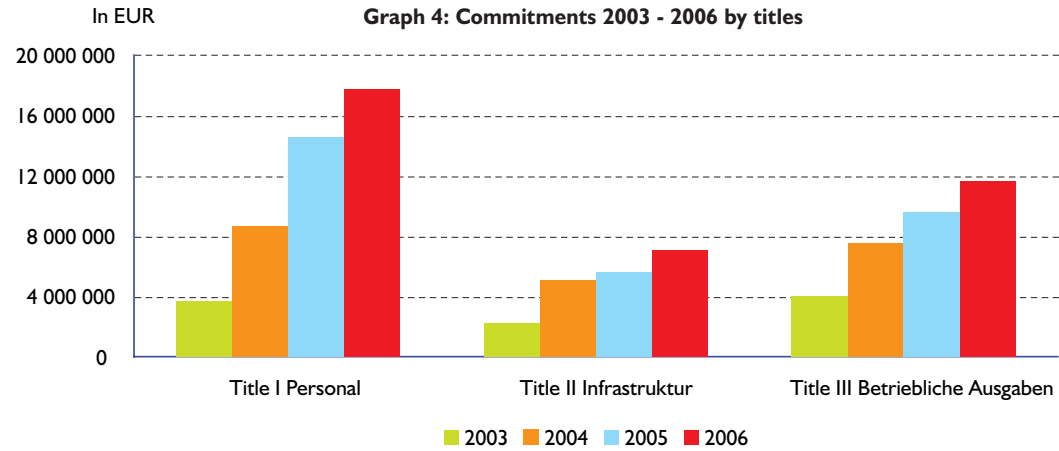
The overall rate of payment was 71%, with 29% carried over to next year. The carry-over relates to contractual commitments entered into in 2006 but for which part of the services will be delivered in 2007, and to services delivered late in 2006 for which payment will occur in 2007. The carry-over rate remained stable compared to the year before.

Total expenditure can be split according to activities by reallocating staff and infrastructure expenditure. In 2004, the EU institutions adopted the activity-based budgeting (ABB) methodology, which involves identifying the activities that incur costs in each function of an organisation. For the purpose of planning, budgeting and programming, activities are the primary building block for the allocation of resources. Graph 3 summarises an estimation of ABB expenditure for 2006 as ABB will be fully implemented in 2008: 66% of the budget is allocated to Science, 9% to Communications and 25% to Administration. Administration includes Human Resources, Legal, Finance, Facilities, Accounting and IT, whereas Science and Communications cover EFSA's core activities.



Graph 3: ABB Expenditures 2006





Article 36 of EFSA's founding Regulation

Regulation 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council laid down the general principles and requirements of European food law and stipulated that EFSA should be an independent scientific source of advice, information and risk communication in the areas of food and feed safety. A further requirement is to set up a network enabling close collaboration with similar bodies in the European Union Member States.

To this end, in line with Article 36 of its founding Regulation and the Authority's priority of enhanced co-operation and networking in Europe, a list of competent organisations capable of assisting EFSA in its tasks has been agreed by its Management Board. The list was drawn up on the basis of nominations made by the Member States and can be considered the first practical tool for the implementation of the strategy on co-operation.

Competent organisations on this list are now able to undertake work on behalf of EFSA. This will be in areas such as:

- Collecting data
- Other preparatory work for the development of scientific opinions
- Other scientific and technical support, for example linked to emerging issues and crisis situations

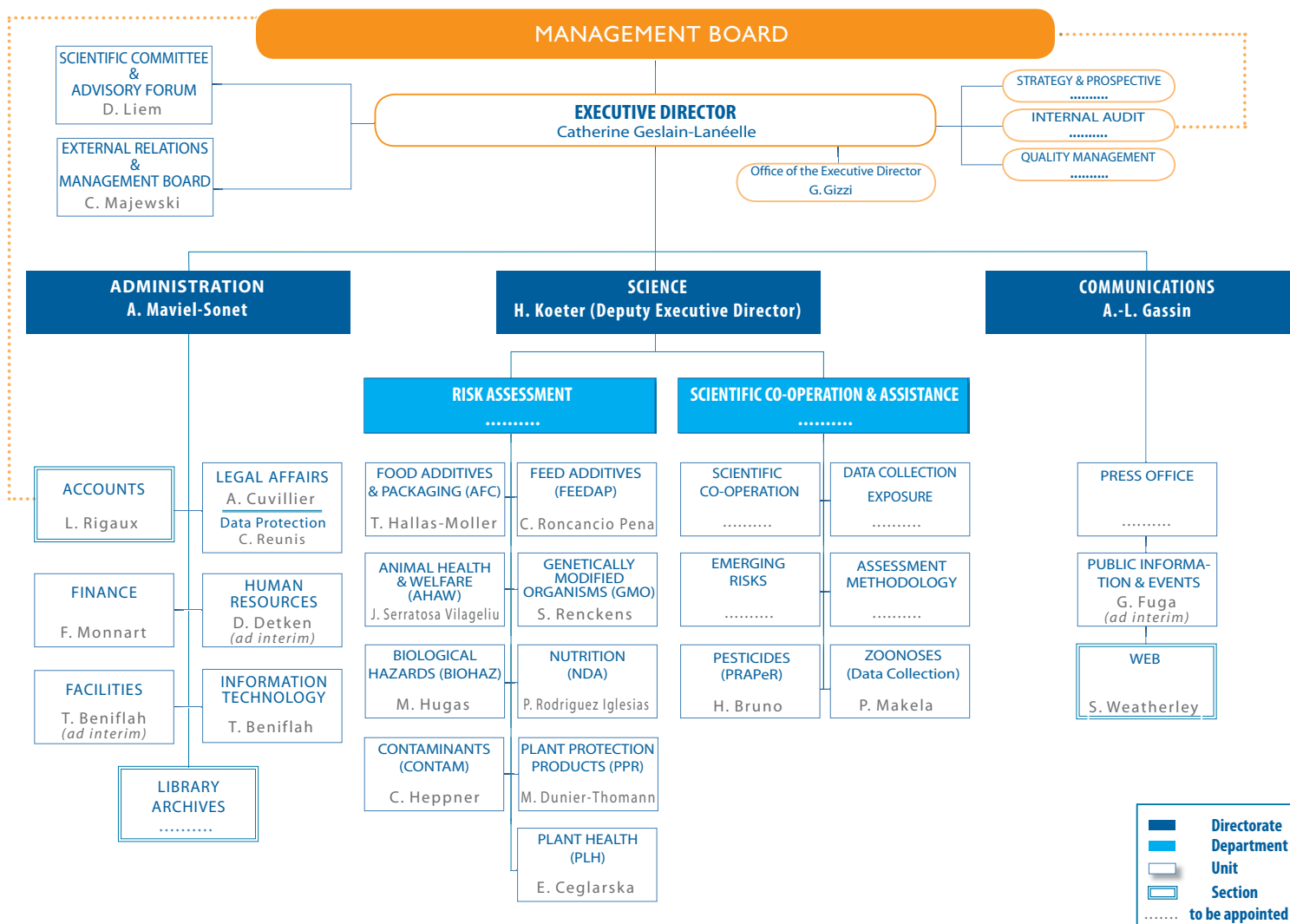
EFSA may decide to allocate financial support for tasks entrusted to these organisations.





EFSA ORGANIGRAMME

Annex I: EFSA Organigramme





EFSA'S SCIENTIFIC
COMMITTEE AND
PANELS MEMBERSHIP

Annex II: EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels Membership

AFC Panel

Panel Members 2003 - 2006			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
ANTON	Robert	Université "Louis Pasteur" Faculté de Pharmacie	France
BARLOW	Sue	Private consultant	United Kingdom
BOSKOU	Dimitrios	Aristotle University	Greece
CASTLE	Laurence	Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	United Kingdom
CREBELLI	Ricardo	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
DEKANT	Wolfgang	University of Würzburg	Germany
ENGEL	Karl Heinz	Technische Universität München	Germany
FORSYTHE	Stephen	Nottingham Trent University	United Kingdom
GRUNOW	Werner	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
HEINONEN	Marina	University of Helsinki	Finland
LARSEN	John Christian	Fodevareinstituttet	Denmark
LECLERCQ	Catherine	National Research Institute for Food and Nutrition	Italy
MENNES	Wim	RIVM	The Netherlands
MILANA	Maria Rosaria	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
PRATT	Iona	Food Safety Authority Ireland	Ireland
RIETJENS	Ivonne	Wageningen University	The Netherlands
SVENSSON	Kettil	Swedish National Food Administration	Sweden
TOBBACK	Paul	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven	Belgium
TOLDRA	Fidel	Instituto de Agroquímica y Tecnología de Alimentos	Spain

Panel Members 2006 - 2009			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
AGUILAR	Fernando	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
AUTRUP	Herman	Envimed	Denmark
BARLOW	Sue	Private consultant	United Kingdom
CASTLE	Laurence	Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	United Kingdom
CREBELLI	Ricardo	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
DEKANT	Wolfgang	University of Würzburg	Germany
ENGEL	Karl Heinz	Technische Universität München	Germany
GONTARD	Nathalie	Université de Montpellier II	France
GOTT	David	Food Standards Agency	United Kingdom
GRILLI	Sandro	University Medical School - Cancer Research Section	Italy
GURTLER	Rainer	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
LARSEN	John Christian	Fodevareinstituttet	Denmark
LEBLANC	Jean-Charles	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
LECLERCQ	Catherine	National Research Institute for Food and Nutrition	Italy
MALCATA	Xavier	Escola Superior de Biotecnologia	Portugal
MENNES	Wim	RIVM	The Netherlands
MILANA	Maria Rosaria	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
PRATT	Iona	Food Safety Authority Ireland	Ireland
RIETJENS	Ivonne	Wageningen University	The Netherlands
TOBBACK	Paul	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven	Belgium
TOLDRA	Fidel	Instituto de Agroquímica y Tecnología de Alimentos	Spain

AHAW Panel

Panel Members 2003 - 2006

Name	First name	Institute	Country
ALGERS	Bo	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Sweden
BLOKHUIS	Harry J.	Wageningen University and Research Centre	The Netherlands
BROOM	Donald	University of Cambridge	United Kingdom
CAPUA	Ilaria	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie	Italy
CINOTTI	Stefano	Università di Bologna	Italy
GUNN	Michael	Central Veterinary Laboratory	Ireland
HARTUNG	Jörg	University of Veterinary Medicine Hanover	Germany
HAVE	Per	Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research	Denmark
MANTECA VILANOVA	Xavier	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Spain
MORTON	David B.	University of Birmingham - School of Biosciences	United Kingdom
PEPIN	Michel	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
PFEIFFER	Dirk Udo	University of London - Royal Veterinary College	United Kingdom
ROBERTS	Ronald John	University of Stirling	United Kingdom
SÁNCHEZ VIZCAINO	José Manuel	Universidad Complutense de Madrid	Spain
SCHUDEL	Alejandro	Office International des Epizooties	France
SHARP	James Michael	Veterinary Laboratories Agency	United Kingdom
THEODOROPOULOS	Georgios	Agricultural University of Athens	Greece
VANNIER	Philippe	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
VERGA	Marina	Università di Milano	Italy
WIERUP	Martin	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Sweden
WOOLDRIDGE	Marion	Veterinary Laboratories Agency	United Kingdom

Panel Members 2006 - 2009

Name	First name	Institute	Country
ALGERS	Bo	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Sweden
BLOKHUIS	Harry J.	Wageningen University and Research Centre	The Netherlands
BROOM	Donald	University of Cambridge	United Kingdom
COSTA	Patricia	University of Rome "La Sapienza"	Italy
DOMINGO	Mariano	Centre for Research in Animal Health	Spain
GREINER	Matthias	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
GUÉMÉNÉ	Daniel	Station de Recherche Avicole	France
HARTUNG	Jörg	University of Veterinary Medicine Hanover	Germany
HASTINGS	Trevor Stewart	FRS Marine Laboratory	United Kingdom
HAVE	Per	Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research	Denmark
KOENEN	Frank	CODA-CERVA-VAR	Belgium
MORTON	David B.	University of Birmingham - School of Biosciences	United Kingdom
MÜLLER-GRAFF	Christine	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
OSTERHAUS	Albert	Erasmus Medical Centre	The Netherlands
PFEIFFER	Dirk Udo	University of London - Royal Veterinary College	United Kingdom
SALMAN	Mo	Animal Population Health Institute - Colorado State University	USA
SANAA	Moez	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
SHARP	James Michael	Veterinary Laboratories Agency	United Kingdom
VANNIER	Philippe	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
WIERUP	Martin	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Sweden
WOOLDRIDGE	Marion	Veterinary Laboratories Agency	United Kingdom

BIOHAZ Panel

Panel Members 2003 - 2006			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
BUDKA	Herbert	Medical University of Vienna	Austria
BUNCIC	Sava	University of Bristol	United Kingdom
COLIN	Pierre	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
COLLINS	John D.	University College Dublin	Ireland
DUCROT	Christian	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
HOPE	James	Veterinary Laboratory Agency	United Kingdom
JOHNSTON	Mac	University of London - Royal Veterinary College	United Kingdom
KLEIN	Günter	"Institut für Lebensmittelqualität und -sicherheit Tierärztliche Hochschule Hanover"	Germany
KRUSE	Hilde	Norwegian Zoonosis Centre - National Veterinary Institute	Norway
LÜCKER	Ernst	University of Leipzig	Germany
MAGNINO	Simone	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna "Bruno Umbertini"	Italy
MAIJALA	Riita Liisa	Finnish Food Safety Authority (EVIRA)	Finland
MARTINEZ LÓPEZ	Antonio	Instituto de Agroquímica y Tecnología de Alimentos (CSIC)	Spain
NGUYEN-THE	Christophe	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
NOERRUNG	Birgit	Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research	Denmark
NOTERMANS	Servé	Private expert	The Netherlands
NYCHAS	George-John E.	Agricultural University of Athens	Greece
PENSAERT	Maurice	Laboratorium voor Virologie	Belgium
ROBERTS	Terence	Private expert	United Kingdom
VÅGSHOLM	Ivar	Swedish Zoonoses Center - National Veterinary Institute	Sweden
VANOPDENBOSCH	Emmanuel	Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre	Belgium

Panel Members 2006 - 2009			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
ANDREOLETTI	Olivier	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
BUDKA	Herbert	Medical University of Vienna	Austria
BUNCIC	Sava	University of Novi Sad	Serbia
COLIN	Pierre	Université de Bretagne Occidentale	France
COLLINS	John D.	University College Dublin	Ireland
DE KOEIJER	Aline	Animal Sciences Group, WUR	The Netherlands
GRIFFIN	John	Department of Agriculture and Food	Ireland
HAVELAAR	Arie	RIVM	The Netherlands
HOPE	James	Veterinary Laboratory Agency	United Kingdom
KLEIN	Günter	"Institut für Lebensmittelqualität und -sicherheit Tierärztliche Hochschule Hanover"	Germany
KRUSE	Hilde	Norwegian Zoonosis Centre - National Veterinary Institute	Norway
MAGNINO	Simone	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna "Bruno Umbertini"	Italy
MARTINEZ LÓPEZ	Antonio	Instituto de Agroquímica y Tecnología de Alimentos (CSIC)	Spain
McLAUHLIN	James	Health Protection Agency Centre for Infections	United Kingdom
NGUYEN-THE	Christophe	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
NOECKLER	Karsten	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
NOERRUNG	Birgit	Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research	Denmark
PRIETO MARADONA	Miguel	University of León	Spain
ROBERTS	Terence	Private expert	United Kingdom
VÅGSHOLM	Ivar	Swedish Zoonoses Center - National Veterinary Institute	Sweden
VANOPDENBOSCH	Emmanuel	Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre	Belgium

CONTAM Panel

Panel Members 2003 - 2006			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
ALEXANDER	Jan	Norwegian Institute of Public Health	Norway
AUTRUP	Herman	Institute of Public Health	Denmark
BARD	Denis	Ecole Nationale de la Santé Publique	France
BENFORD	Diane	Food Standards Agency	United Kingdom
CARERE	Angelo	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
COSTA	Lucio	University of Parma Medical School	Italy
CRAVEDI	Jean-Pierre	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
DI DOMENICO	Alessandro	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
FANELLI	Roberto	Mario Negri Institute	Italy
FINK GREMMELS	Johanna	Utrecht University	The Netherlands
GILBERT	John	Central Science Laboratory	United Kingdom
GRANDJEAN	Philippe	University of Southern Denmark	Denmark
JOHANSSON	Niklas	Karolinska Institute	Sweden
OSKARSSON	Agneta	Swedish Life Science University	Sweden
RUPRICH	Jiri	National Institute of Public Health	Czech Republic
SCHLATTER	Josef	Swiss Federal Office of Public Health	Switzerland
SCHOETERS	Greet	VITO Flemish Institute for Technical Research	Belgium
SCHRENK	Dieter	University of Kaiserslautern	Germany
VAN LEEUWEN	Rolaf FX	RIVM	The Netherlands
VERGER	Philippe	Mét@risk - INA P-G	France

Panel Members 2006 - 2009			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
ALEXANDER	Jan	Norwegian Institute of Public Health	Norway
AUDUNSSON	Guðjón Atli	Ice Tec	Iceland
BENFORD	Diane	Food Standards Agency	United Kingdom
COCKBURN	Andrew	Toxico-Logical Consulting Ltd.	United Kingdom
CRAVEDI	Jean-Pierre	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
DI DOMENICO	Alessandro	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
DOGLIOTTI	Eugenia	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
FERNÁNDEZ-CRUZ	María Luisa	Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria	Spain
FINK GREMMELS	Johanna	Utrecht University	The Netherlands
FÜRST	Peter	Chemisches Landes- und Staatliches Veterinäruntersuchungsamt	Germany
GALLI	Corrado	University of Milan	Italy
GRANDJEAN	Philippe	University of Southern Denmark	Denmark
GZYL	Jadwiga	Institute for Ecology and Industrial Areas	Poland
HEINEMEYER	Gerhard	Institut für Risikobewertung	Germany
JOHANSSON	Niklas	Karolinska Institute	Sweden
MUTTI	Antonio	Università degli Studi di Parma	Italy
SCHLATTER	Josef	Swiss Federal Office of Public Health	Switzerland
VAN LEEUWEN	Rolaf FX	RIVM	The Netherlands
VAN PETEGHEM	Carlos	Gent Universiteit	Belgium
VERGER	Philippe	Mét@risk - INA P-G	France



FEEDAP Panel

Panel Members 2003 - 2006			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
ANADON	Arturo	Universidad Complutense de Madrid	Spain
ARBOIX ARZO	Margarita	Generalitat de Catalunya	Spain
BORIES	Georges	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
BRANTOM	Paul George	Brantom Risk Assessment	United Kingdom
BRUFAU DE BARBERA	Joaquim	IRTA	Spain
CHESSON	Andrew	University of Aberdeen - School of Biological Sciences	United Kingdom
COCCONCELLI	Pier Sandro	Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Italy
DE KNECHT	Joop	RIVM	The Netherlands
DIERICK	Noël Albert	Faculty of Agricultural and Applied Biological Sciences	Belgium
FLACHOWSKY	Gerhard	Federal Agricultural Research Centre	Germany
FRANKLIN	Anders	National Veterinary Institute	Sweden
GROPP	Jürgen	Universität Leipzig	Germany
LUNDEBYE-HALDORSEN	Anne-Katrine	National Institute of Nutrition and Seafood Research	Norway
HALLE	Ingrid	Bundesforschungsanstalt für Landwirtschaft	Germany
MANTOVANI	Alberto	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
PELTONEN	Kimmo Ensio	National Veterinary and Food Research Institute	Finland
RYCHEN	Guido	Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine	France
SANDERS	Pascal	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
SOARES	Amadeu	University of Aveiro	Portugal
WESTER	Pieter	RIVM	The Netherlands
WNDISCH	Wilhelm Matthias	Universität für Bodenkultur Wien	Austria

Panel Members 2006 - 2009			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
BORIES	Georges	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
BRANTOM	Paul George	Brantom Risk Assessment	United Kingdom
BRUFAU DE BARBERA	Joaquim	IRTA	Spain
CHESSON	Andrew	University of Aberdeen - School of Biological Sciences	United Kingdom
COCCONCELLI	Pier Sandro	Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Italy
DE KNECHT	Joop	RIVM	The Netherlands
DEBSKI	Bogdan	Warsaw Agricultural University	Poland
DIERICK	Noël Albert	Faculty of Agricultural and Applied Biological Sciences	Belgium
FRANKLIN	Anders	National Veterinary Institute	Sweden
GROPP	Jürgen	Universität Leipzig	Germany
HOGSTRAND	Christer	King's College London	United Kingdom
LENG	Lubomir	Institute of Animal Physiology SASci	Slovakia
LUNDEBYE-HALDORSEN	Anne-Katrine	National Institute of Nutrition and Seafood Research	Norway
HALLE	Ingrid	Bundesforschungsanstalt für Landwirtschaft	Germany
MANTOVANI	Alberto	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	Italy
MÉZES	Miklós	Szent István University	Hungary
NEBBIA	Carlo Stefano	University of Turin	Italy
RAMBECK	Walter	Institute for Animal Nutrition	Germany
RYCHEN	Guido	Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine	France
VON WRIGHT	Atte	University of Kuopio	Finland
WESTER	Pieter	RIVM	The Netherlands



GMO Panel

Panel Members 2003 - 2006			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
ANDERSSON	Hans Christer	National Food Administration	Sweden
BARTSCH	Detlef	Federal Agency for Consumer Protection and Food Safety	Germany
BUHK	Hans-Joerg	Federal Agency for Consumer Protection and Food Safety	Germany
DAVIES	Howard Vivian	Scottish Crop Research Institute	United Kingdom
DE LOOSE	Marc	Ministry of the Flemish Community	Belgium
GASSON	Michael John	Institute of Food Research	United Kingdom
HENDRIKSEN	Niels Bohse	National Environmental Research Institute	Denmark
ORVOKKI KÄRENLAMPI	Sirpa	University of Kuopio	Finland
KRYSPIN-SORENSEN	Ilona	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	Denmark
KUIPER	Harry	RIKILT - Institute of Food Safety	The Netherlands
NUTTI	Marco	Università di Pisa	Italy
O'GARA	Gergal	National University of Ireland	Ireland
ROSSELL PUIGDOMENECH	Pere	Institut de Biologia Molecular de Barcelona	Spain
SAKELLARIS	George	National Hellenic Research Foundation	Greece
SCHIAMANN	Joachim	Federal Biological Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry	Germany
SEINEN	Willem	Utrecht University - Institute Risk Assessment Science	The Netherlands
SESSITSCH	Angela	ARC Seibersdorf Research GmbH	Austria
SWEET	Jeremy	Cambridge University	United Kingdom
VAN ELSAS	Jan Dirk	Groningen University	The Netherlands
WAL	Jean-Michel	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France

Panel Members 2006 - 2009			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
ANDERSSON	Hans Christer	National Food Administration	Sweden
ARPAIA	Salvatore	ENEA	Italy
BARTSCH	Detlef	Federal Agency for Consumer Protection and Food Safety	Germany
CASACUBERTA	Josep	CSIC-IRTA Genética Molecular Vegetal	Spain
DAVIES	Howard Vivian	Scottish Crop Research Institute	United Kingdom
DE LOOSE	Marc	Ministry of the Flemish Community	Belgium
EINSPANIER	Ralf	Institute of Veterinary Biochemistry	Germany
HENDRIKSEN	Niels Bohse	National Environmental Research Institute	Denmark
HERMAN	Lieve	ILVO	Belgium
ORVOKKI KÄRENLAMPI	Sirpa	University of Kuopio	Finland
KISS	Jozsef	Szent Istvan University	Hungary
KRYSPIN-SORENSEN	Ilona	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	Denmark
KUIPER	Harry	RIKILT - Institute of Food Safety	The Netherlands
NES	Ingolf F.	Norwegian University of Life Sciences	Norway
PANOPOULOS	Nickolas	University of Crete	Greece
PERRY	Joe	Rothamsted Research	United Kingdom
PÖTING	Annette	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
SCHIAMANN	Joachim	Federal Biological Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry	Germany
SEINEN	Willem	Utrecht University - Institute Risk Assessment Science	The Netherlands
SWEET	Jeremy	Cambridge University	United Kingdom
WAL	Jean-Michel	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France

NDA Panel

Panel Members 2003 - 2006			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
BECKER	Wulf	Swedish National Food Administration	Sweden
BRANCA	Francesco	Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca per gli Alimenti e la Nutrizione	Italy
BRASSEUR	Daniel	Hôpital Universitaire des Enfants	Belgium
BRESSON	Jean-Louis	Clinique des Enfants Malades	France
FLYNN	Albert	University College Cork	Ireland
JACKSON	Alan A.	Institute of Human Nutrition	United Kingdom
LAGIOU	Pagona	University of Athens Medical School	Greece
LØVIK	Martinus	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway
MINGRONE	Geltrude	Catholic University, School of Medicine	Italy
MOSELEY	Bevan	Blanford House	United Kingdom
PALOU	Andreu	Universitat de les Illes Balears	Spain
PRZYREMBEL	Hildegard	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
SALMINEN	Seppo	University of Turku	Finland
STROBEL	Stephan	Peninsula Postgraduate Health Institute	United Kingdom
VAN DEN BERG	Henk	Netherlands Nutrition Centre	The Netherlands
VAN LOVEREN	Hendrik	RIVM	The Netherlands

Panel Members 2006 - 2009			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
BRESSON	Jean-Louis	Clinique des Enfants Malades	France
FLYNN	Albert	University College Cork	Ireland
HEINONEN	Marina	University of Helsinki	Finland
HULSHOF	Karin	TNO Organization for Applied Scientific Research, Quality of Life	The Netherlands
LAGIOU	Pagona	University of Athens Medical School	Greece
LØVIK	Martinus	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway
MARCHELLI	Rosangela	University of Parma	Italy
MARTIN	Ambroise	Faculté de Médecine Grange-Blanche	France
MOSELEY	Bevan	Blanford House	United Kingdom
PALOU	Andreu	Universitat de les Illes Balears	Spain
PRZYREMBEL	Hildegard	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
SALMINEN	Seppo	University of Turku	Finland
STRAIN	John J.	University of Ulster	United Kingdom
STROBEL	Stephan	Peninsula Postgraduate Health Institute	United Kingdom
VAN DEN BERG	Henk	Netherlands Nutrition Centre	The Netherlands
VAN LOVEREN	Hendrik	RIVM	The Netherlands
VERHAGEN	Hans	RIVM	The Netherlands





PLH Panel

Panel Members 2006 - 2009

Name	First name	Institute	Country
BAKER	Richard	Central Science Laboratory	United Kingdom
CAFFIER	David	Laboratoire National de la Protection des Végétaux	France
CHOISEUL	James William	Department of Agriculture and Food, Celbridge-co	Ireland
DE CLERCQ	Patrick	Ghent University	Belgium
DORMANNSNÉ SIMON	Erzsebet	Csongrad County Plant Protection and Soil Conservation Service	Hungary
GEROWITT	Bärbel	University of Rostock	Germany
KARADJOVA	Olia Evtimova	Plant Protection Institute	Bulgaria
LÖVEI	Gabor Lajos	Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences	Denmark
MAKOWSKI	David	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
MANCEAU	Charles	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
MANICI	Luisa Maria	Istituto Sperimentale Colture Industriali	Italy
OUDE LANSINK	Alfons	Wageningen University	The Netherlands
PERDIKIS	Dionyssios	Agricultural University of Athens	Greece
PORTA PUGLIA	Angelo	Independent consultant	Italy
SCHANS	Jan	Plant Protection Service of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	The Netherlands
SCHRADER	Gritta	Federal Biological Research Centre	Germany
STEFFEK	Robert	Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety	Austria
STRÖMBERG	Anita	Swedish National Food Administration	Sweden
TIILIKKALA	Kari	MTT Agrifood Research Finland	Finland
VAN LENTEREN	Johan Cohert	Wageningen University	The Netherlands
VLOUTOGLOU	Irene	Benaki Phytopathological Institute	Greece

PPR Panel

Panel Members 2003 - 2006			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
BARCELÓ	Damià	Consejo superior de Investigaciones Cientificas	Spain
BLACK	Robert	University of Greenwich	United Kingdom
BOESTEN	Jos	Alterra Wageningen University and Research Centre	The Netherlands
BOOBIS	Alan	Imperial College London	United Kingdom
HARDY	Anthony R.	Central Science Laboratory	United Kingdom
HART	Andrew	Central Science Laboratory	United Kingdom
KOEPP	Herbert	Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit	Germany
LUTTIK	Robert	National Institute of Public Health and the Environment	The Netherlands
MACHERA	Kyriaki	Benaki Phytopathological Institute	Greece
MARONI	Marco	University of Milan	Italy
MCGREGOR	Douglas	Independent expert	France
MEYER	Otto	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	Denmark
MORETTO	Angelo	Università degli Studi di Padova	Italy
PAPADOPOULOU-MOURKIDOU	Euphemia	Aristotle University	Greece
PETZINGER	Ernst	Justus-Liebig-Universität	Germany
SAVOLAINEN	Kai	Finnish Institute of Occupational Health	Finland
SCHAEFFER	Andreas	Fraunhofer IME	Germany
STEURBAUT	Walter	Ghent University	Belgium
STENSTRÖM	John	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Sweden
TSIPI-STEFANITSI	Despina	Ministry of Finance - General Chemical State Laboratory	Greece
VLEMINCKX	Christiane	Scientific Institute of Public Health	Belgium

Panel Members 2006 - 2009			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
BARCELÓ	Damià	Consejo superior de Investigaciones Cientificas	Spain
BOESTEN	Jos	Alterra Wageningen University and Research Centre	The Netherlands
BOLOGNESI	Claudia	National Cancer Research Institute	Italy
BOOBIS	Alan	Imperial College London	United Kingdom
BUCHERT	Arne	Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research	Denmark
CAPRI	Ettore	Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Italy
COGGON	David	MRC Epidemiology Resource Centre	United Kingdom
HARDY	Anthony R.	Central Science Laboratory	United Kingdom
HART	Andrew	Central Science Laboratory	United Kingdom
KOEPP	Herbert	Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit	Germany
LIESS	Matthias	UFZ - Centre for Environmental Research	Germany
LUTTIK	Robert	National Institute of Public Health and the Environment	The Netherlands
MEYER	Otto	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	Denmark
MICHAELIDOU-CANNA	Stella	State General Laboratory, Ministry of Health	Cyprus
MONTFORTS	Mark	RIVM	The Netherlands
MORETTO	Angelo	Università degli Studi di Padova	Italy
MUELLER	Markus D.	Agroscope FAW Wädenswil	Switzerland
OSSENDORP	Bernadette	RIVM	The Netherlands
STEURBAUT	Walter	Ghent University	Belgium
TASHEVA	Maria	National Center of Public Health Protection	Bulgaria
VLEMINCKX	Christiane	Scientific Institute of Public Health	Belgium

Scientific Committee

Panel Members 2003 - 2006

Name	First name	Institute	Country
BARLOW	Sue	Private consultant	United Kingdom
CHESSON	Andrew	University of Aberdeen	United Kingdom
COLLINS	John D.	National University of Ireland	Ireland
FERNANDES	Tito	Faculty Veterinary Medicine	Portugal
FLYNN	Albert	University Cork College	Ireland
HARDY	Anthony R.	Central Science Laboratory	United Kingdom
JANSSON	Bo	Stockholm University	Sweden
KNAAP	Ada	RIVM	The Netherlands
KUIPER	Harry	RIKILT	The Netherlands
LE NEINDRE	Pierre	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
SCHLATTER	Josef	Swiss Federal Office of Public Health	Switzerland
SILANO	Vittorio	Ministry of Health	Italy
VANNIER	Philippe	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France
VIVES-REGO	Josep	University of Barcelona	Spain

Panel Members 2006 - 2009

Name	First name	Institute	Country
BARLOW	Sue	Private consultant	United Kingdom
CHESSON	Andrew	University of Aberdeen	United Kingdom
COLLINS	John D.	National University of Ireland	Ireland
DYBING	Erik	Norwegian Institute of Public Health	Norway
FLYNN	Albert	"University Cork College Faculty of Food Science and Technology"	Ireland
FRUIJTIER-POLLOTH	Claudia	CATS Consultants GmbH	Germany
HARDY	Anthony R.	Central Science Laboratory	United Kingdom
KNAAP	Ada	Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu	The Netherlands
KUIPER	Harry	RIKILT	The Netherlands
LE NEINDRE	Pierre	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	France
SCHANS	Jan	Dutch Plant Protection Service	The Netherlands
SCHLATTER	Josef	Swiss Federal Office of Public Health	Switzerland
SILANO	Vittorio	Ministry of Health	Italy
SKERFVING	Staffan	Lund University	Sweden
VANNIER	Philippe	Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments	France



ZOONOSES TF Panel

MEMBERS OF EFSA's TASK FORCE ON ZOONOSES DATA COLLECTION 2006			
Name	First name	Institute	Country
ARRANZ RECIO	José Ignacio	Agencia Española de Seguridad Alimentaria	Spain
BAILIE	Harry	Dept. For Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Surveillance, Zoonoses and Emerging Issues Division	United Kingdom
BEDRIOVA	Marta	State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic	Slovak Republic
BELOEIL	Pierre-Alexandre	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation, de la Pêche et des Affaires Rurales	France
BOQVIST	Sofia	Zoonoscenter - Statens Veterinärmedicinska anstalt	Sweden
BORCK	Brigitte	Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research	Denmark
BOYKOVSKI	Ilian	National Veterinary Services	Bulgaria
CARA D'ANJO	Andrea	Direcção de Serviços de Saúde Animal	Portugal
COSTACHE	Adriana	National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority	Romania
DANUSER	Jürg	Swiss Federal Veterinary Office	Switzerland
DE SMET	Kris	European Commission - Health and Consumer Protection Directorate-General	European Commission
HARTUNG	Matthias	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Germany
HELWIGH	Brigitte	Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research	Denmark
HOFSHAGEN	Merete	National Veterinary Institute	Norway
KIUDULAS	Vaidotas	State Food and Veterinary Service	Lithuania
LAAKSONEN	Terhi	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Finland

LAWSON	Quentin	Food and Veterinary Regulation Division	Malta
MUCH	Peter	Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety	Austria
O'CONNOR	Lisa	Food Safety Authority of Ireland	Ireland
OSEK	Jacek	National Veterinary Research Institute	Poland
PARAMIO LUCAS	José Luis	Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación	Spain
PAVSIC	Manca	Veterinary Administration	Slovenia
PIPIS	Christodoulos	Ministry of Agriculture	Cyprus
RICCI	Antonia	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie	Italy
RIZZI	Valentina	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise "G. Caporale"	Italy
ŠATRÁN	Petr	State Veterinary Administration of the Czech Republic	Czech Republic
SCHON	Joseph	Laboratoire de Médecine vétérinaire	Luxemburg
SIBARTIE	Dewan	Office International des Epizooties (OIE- World Organisation for Animal Health)	France
SÕGEL	Jelena	Veterinary and Food Board	Estonia
SZABADOS	Petra	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Hungary
UNGER	Kilian	Department of Agriculture and Food	Ireland
VAN OOSTEROM	Rob A.A.	Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority	The Netherlands
VANHOLME	Luc	Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain	Belgium
VOURVIDIS	Dimitris	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	Greece
WERNER-KEIŠŠ	Nicole	Food and Veterinary Service	Latvia



LIST OF ACRONYMS

Annex III: List of acronyms

ABB	Activity-based budgeting
ADI	Acceptable Daily Intake
AF	Advisory Forum
AFC	Scientific Panel on Food Additives, Flavourings, Processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Foods
AFWGC	Advisory Forum Working Group on Communications
AGRI	European Parliament committee for Agriculture and Rural Development
AHAW	Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare
BIOHAZ	Scientific Panel on Biological Hazards
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
BTV	Bluetongue virus
CONTAM	Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain
DDT	Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane
DG	Directorate-General
DG ENV	Environment Directorate-General, European Commission
DG RTD	Research Directorate-General, European Commission
DG SANCO	Health and Consumer Protection Directorate-General, European Commission
ECDC	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

ECHA	European Chemicals Agency
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EMA	European Medicines Agency
ENVI	European Parliament committee for Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
EP	European Parliament
EU	European Union
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FEEDAP	Scientific Panel on Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed
FP6	Sixth EU Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
GBR	Geographical Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk
GM	Genetically modified
GMO(s)	Genetically modified organism(s)
HPAI	Highly pathogenic Avian Influenza
IMCO	European Parliament Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection
IT	Information Technology
MEPs	Members of the European Parliament

MS	Member State(s)
NDA	Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyls
PLH	Scientific Panel on Plant Health
PPR	Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues
PRAPeR	Pesticide Risk Assessment Peer Review Unit
SC	Scientific Committee
TSE	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy
USA	United States of America
WHO	World Health Organisation





LIST OF EFSA
SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Annex IV: List of EFSA scientific publications

Scientific Colloquium Summary Report No. 1 – Dioxins

Scientific Colloquium Summary Report No. 2 – QPS

Scientific Colloquium Summary Report No. 4 – Food Producing Animals

Scientific Colloquium Summary Report No. 5 – Food Based Dietary Guidelines

EFSA Meeting Summary Report No. 1

EFSA/WHO International Conference with support of ILSI Europe on Risk Assessment of Compounds that are both Genotoxic and carcinogenic

Zoonoses Reports

2004 Report on Zoonoses, Zoonotic Agents and Antimicrobial Resistance in the EU

2005 Brochure on Zoonoses in the European Union

GMOs

Guidance document of the GMO Panel for the risk assessment of genetically modified plants and derived food and feed

Guidance document of the GMO Panel for the risk assessment of genetically modified microorganisms and their derived products intended for food and feed use

Scientific Panel on Dietetic products, Nutrition and Allergies (NDA) /

Scientific Committee on Food (SCF) - Tolerable Upper Intake Levels for Vitamins and Minerals





© European Food Safety Authority 2007

Reproduction is authorised, provided the source is acknowledged, save where otherwise stated.

The views or positions expressed in this Annual Report do not necessarily represent in legal terms the official position of the European Food Safety Authority.

The European Food Safety Authority assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or inaccuracies that may appear.



European Food Safety Authority

TM-AC-77-001-EN-C

EUROPEAN | FOOD | SAFETY | AUTHORITY

Operational and postal address:

Largo N. Palli 5/A
43100 Parma
Italy

Contacts:

Tel: +39 0521 036 111
Fax: +39 0521 036 110
info@efsa.europa.eu
www.efsa.europa.eu



ISBN 978-92-9199-052-8



9 789291 990528