



The European Food Safety Authority

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What EFSA Can Do

Contribute to improved EU food safety by:

- Improving the way that EU risk assessment is carried out
- Increasing consumer confidence in EU risk assessments
- Ensuring close collaboration between national bodies and EFSA
- Enabling improved collaboration between the many different stakeholders and coordinating their input
- Providing the right information to consumers at the right time
- Providing the right information to government, industrial, NGO and other stakeholders at the right time

What EFSA Cannot Do

- Be responsible for food safety/nutrition policy and legislation
- Take charge of food safety controls, labelling or other such issues
- Act as a substitute for national authorities
- Solve all the problems of the world!

EFSA Management Board

Key decisions

- Self-tasking
- Priority setting
- Openness
- Issues relating to deadlines for Opinions
- Communication to Council and Parliament

EFSA Staff

- Increased from c. 20 (Feb 2003) to c. 100 (June 2004)
- Genuinely multinational and multicultural
- National secondees

Scientific Expert Panels

- Established from June 2003
- 50 + opinions already produced
- 150 opinions expected 2004
- Open meetings
- Disclosure of interest
- Further support from creation of Scientific Expert Services

EFSA Relations with National Authorities

- Meetings of Advisory Forum held
- Aimed at linking EFSA and national authorities in network
- Extranet to be installed Summer 2004
- Crisis management exercises planned later 2004

EFSA Involvement of Stakeholders

- The Ostend Colloque
- GMO and FEEDAP Panel Meetings
- Scientific Colloque June 2004
- Berlin Stakeholder Conference 9-10 November 2004
- Frequent bilateral meetings and conference speeches

EFSA and the European Parliament

- Budget setting
- First question from the Parliament in relation to fish
- EFSA intervention on Health Claims

Paeps Report - I

- High level of appreciation for quality of EFSA's Scientific Opinions and Communications Work
- Disagreement amongst stakeholders over EFSA's main functions
- Recognition for EFSA's staff
- Concerns over timelines of future EFSA Advice

Paeps Report - II

- Criticism of slow start-up
- The “Gray Zone” between Risk Assessment and Risk Management
- Creating of networks and further “outsourcing”

Parma

- High level of existing EFSA staff commitment (90%)
- Excellent support from Italian Authorities
- Long-term value of Parma association
- Transport issues – improvements promised
- Phased move from Autumn 2004 to Autumn 2005
- No reduction in EFSA's appearance on the wider stage

Future challenges

- EFSA review 2005
- Prioritisation and workload management
- Further staff build-up whilst temporarily split between two locations
- Reinforcement of links with national authorities
- Making a difference : increasing the impact on risk managers