

## Note to the Management Board

### Revision of the Charter of the Audit Committee

In light of the EFSA Strategy 2020, EFSA aims to foster a culture of openness, innovation, cooperation, independence and scientific excellence among its experts, partners and staff. To this end, EFSA is developing an environment focused on improving organisational performance and capabilities, by creating a system (organisation, processes and technology) capable to transform EFSA's values into concrete processes and practices and coherent with a quality management system.

Part of this transformation regards the system of Internal Control, and in particular the management of audit operations. Under a revised organisational model, EFSA will invest in *ex-ante* risks prevention and externally procure the necessary expertise to respond to audit needs not addressed by the Internal Audit Service of the Commission.

To give account to the modified setting, there is the need to amend the Charter of the Audit Committee. To prepare the revised draft of the Audit Committee Charter, EFSA relied on the suggestions provided by IAS while ensuring the full involvement of the entity in charge with Internal Audit at EFSA.

The main changes introduced to the Charter can be summarized as follows:

- empower the Audit Committee to request EFSA to procure external audit services to cover additional audit needs;
- redesign the responsibilities of the Audit Committee, including its interaction with external providers;
- provides that a representative of IAS shall be a standing invitee to attend the Audit Committee meetings.

It is proposed that the Management Board adopts the revised Charter of the Audit Committee. The draft revised Charter is enclosed to the present note.