



Minutes  
Management Board Meeting  
17 October 2002  
10.00 – 17.30 Centre Borschette, Brussels

**Members of the Management Board present**

- Angeliki Assimakopoulou
- Ernst Bobek
- Giorgio Calabrese
- Robert Coleman
- Matthias Horst
- João Pedro Machado
- Pirkko Raunemaa
- Bart Sangster
- Stuart Slorach
- Roland Vaxelaire
- Patrick Wall

**Staff of the European Food Safety Authority Implementation Team present**

- Jochen Brodersen
- Antoine Cuvilier
- Christine Majewski
- Andy Stimpson
- Anja Van Impe
- Katty Verhelst
- Peter Wagstaffe

**Preliminary Formalities**

Stuart Slorach opened the meeting by welcoming the Board members and the webstreaming audience. Apologies were received from Peter Gaemelke, Carlos Escribano Mora, Cathérine Geslain-Lanéelle and Deirdre Hutton.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

The Secretariat added the following to the agenda as item 4a:

- Amendment to the Financial Decision that was adopted at the Management Board meeting of 18-19 September 2002 – Document MB 17.10.2002 - 7

The agenda was adopted with only this addition.

**2. Minutes of the previous meetings**

The minutes of the Management Board meetings of 18-19 September 2002 and 1 October 2002 were adopted. These documents will be published on the Authority's website.

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#### **3. Update on the procedure for the Executive Director**

Christine Majewski introduced this agenda item by tabling the letter from Pat Cox, President of the European Parliament, informing Stuart Slorach of the meeting at which the nominated Executive Director, Geoffrey Podger, will make a statement and reply to MEP's questions. This will take place in Strasbourg on 22 October 2002.

Caroline Jackson, Chair of the Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy, will inform Pat Cox of the outcome of the hearing. Pat Cox will, after consultation with the Conference of Presidents on either 23 October or 14 November, send a letter to Stuart Slorach, stating the European Parliament's views on the nominee.

#### **4. Discussion on the 2003 Management Plan (Document MB 17.10.2002 - 2 – and revised version of Annex 4)**

Christine Majewski introduced the draft work programme for 2003 while Jochen Brodersen presented the draft budget and the draft establishment plan. The document was for discussion only. The draft budget and draft establishment plan should be adopted at the Board's meeting of 6 November 2002; the work programme needs to be adopted as a preliminary draft at that same meeting.

Once the Budgetary Authority has decided on the Community budget, the allocation for the Authority will be known and the definite budget, establishment plan and work programme for the Authority can be adopted. The Regulation requires the Management Board to adopt these by 31 January 2003.

Peter Wagstaffe introduced Annex 4 of the Management Plan, which details the work plans of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels, including a basic prioritisation and time-scale.

The Board members acknowledged that the draft formed a good basis for discussion but some modifications and clarification were required in the text. The Board members were requested to send any comments and amendments to the Secretariat as soon as possible in order for the Secretariat to develop the document and send it out again in good time for the meeting of 6 November 2002. The Secretariat said that it would take soundings if appropriate from the nominated Executive Director following his statement to the European Parliament.

The Board members also agreed that uncertainty about the location for the Authority's seat could have a detrimental impact on the budget and the recruitment of staff as well as the development and implementation of the Authority's activities. It was therefore agreed that the Chair, Stuart Slorach should send a letter to the Danish Presidency with a copy to the European Parliament outlining the Board's concerns.

#### **4a. Amendment to the Financial Decision (new item - Document MB 17.10.2002 - 7)**

Christine Majewski explained that new legal advice on Article 2 of the Financial Decision as adopted by the Management Board at its meeting of 18-19 September

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2002, should be made more specific concerning the delegated power of Robert Coleman to appoint temporary staff.

The Board members present unanimously agreed to the amendment to the Financial Decision. This not only empowers Robert Coleman to implement the Authority's budget but also to conclude temporary contracts of employment for the Authority.

#### **5. Discussion on the Decision concerning the Scientific Committee and Panels (Document MB 17.10.2002 – 3)**

Peter Wagstaffe explained that these internal rules were needed in order to launch a call for experts for members of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels. The document was for discussion only with a vote foreseen for the Management Board meeting of 6 November 2002.

The Secretariat is to amend the document following the comments from the Board members. The Secretariat said that it would take soundings if appropriate from the nominated Executive Director following his statement to the European Parliament. In addition, the Secretariat will look into the indemnity rules for experts and scientists of similar organisations and will simulate the budgetary implications if these indemnities were raised.

#### **6. National Arrangements for the administration of risk analysis in the Member States - tour de table (Document MB 17.10.2002 – 4)**

Following a question raised by Roland Vaxelaire in a previous meeting, a document was distributed, describing the arrangements for the administration of risk analysis in the Member States. In addition, Pirkko Raunemaa, Stuart Slorach and Patrick Wall tabled information on the situation in their particular country.

It was pointed out that this was for information purposes for the Board members only to keep them abreast of the changing picture across Europe.

The Board members were asked to check document MB 17.10.2002 - 4 and to send any updates and amendments to the Secretariat.

#### **7. EFSA Management Board Team Building Day – Bart Sangster (Document MB 17.10.2002 – 5)**

Given that the Management Board members have different professional backgrounds and different mother tongues, amongst others, Bart Sangster introduced the proposal to have a team building day for the Board in the very near future, preferably joined by the nominated Executive Director.

The Board members agreed with the idea and asked the Secretariat to distribute a few options on dates, preferably before or after a Board meeting and weekends.

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#### **8. Management Board meetings - Provisional Dates for 2003 (Document 17.10.2002 – 6)**

The Board Members marked the following dates for Management Board meetings in 2003:

21 January  
19-20 March  
29 April  
18 June  
16 September  
3 December

#### **9. Arrangements for the Advisory Forum**

The Board Members agreed with the EFSA team's suggestion to convene an Interim Advisory Forum as the Commission has done in the past on a tri-monthly basis until the definite Advisory Forum has been established. Invitations would be circulated via the Permanent Representations of the Member States.

In order to facilitate and accelerate the establishment of the Advisory Forum, the Secretariat is to prepare a letter to the Permanent Representatives of the Member States for them to put forward names for membership of the Advisory Forum which can be sent once an Executive Director is appointed.

#### **10. Any Other Business**

- i) Annual declaration of interest, commitment and confidentiality

The Board members are requested to send the annual declaration of interest, commitment and confidentiality to the Secretariat at their earliest convenience. A new copy can be requested at the Secretariat.

- ii) Distribution of documents

The secretariat is asked to ensure that documents are distributed well in advances of meetings by email or fax. Members are to acknowledge receipt of these emails; the Secretariat will send paper copies if the acknowledgement of receipt is not received.

Stuart Slorach closed the meeting by thanking the EFSA team for the preparatory work, the interpreters, the team responsible for the web streaming and all the members of the Board.