



EFSA – How do we work and interact with Member States

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PARCERIA EFSA / COMUNIDADE CIENTÍFICA

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My presentation

What is EFSA?

**How does
EFSA work?**

**What are
Focal Points?**

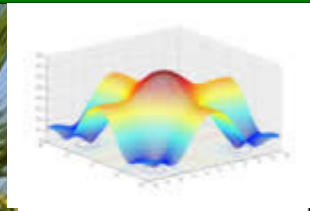
**How
can you get
involved?**

EFSA in Parma



EFSA at a glance

- Set up in January 2002 following a series of food crises
(Regulation (EC) 178/2002 of 28 January 2002)
- Fundamental change: separation of **Risk Assessment** and **Risk Management**
- To improve food safety in the EU



What does EFSA do?

Role to assess and communicate on all risks associated with the food chain

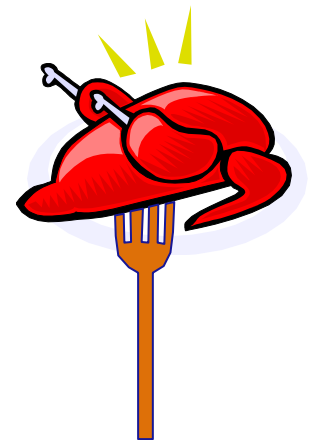
- produce scientific opinions and advice
 -  to provide a sound foundation for European policies and legislation
- support the European Commission, European Parliament and EU Member States
 -  to take effective and timely risk management decisions
- communicate food and feed safety advice to principal clients, stakeholders and public at large

What is EFSA's remit?

“From farm to fork”

- Risk assessment (food and feed);
- Nutrition;
- Animal health and welfare;
- Plant protection and plant health.

...these include, additives, contaminants, pesticides, GMO's, new technologies such as cloning and nanotechnology, BSE, health claims, allergens...



How is EFSA organised?

EFSA's Bodies

**Management
Board**

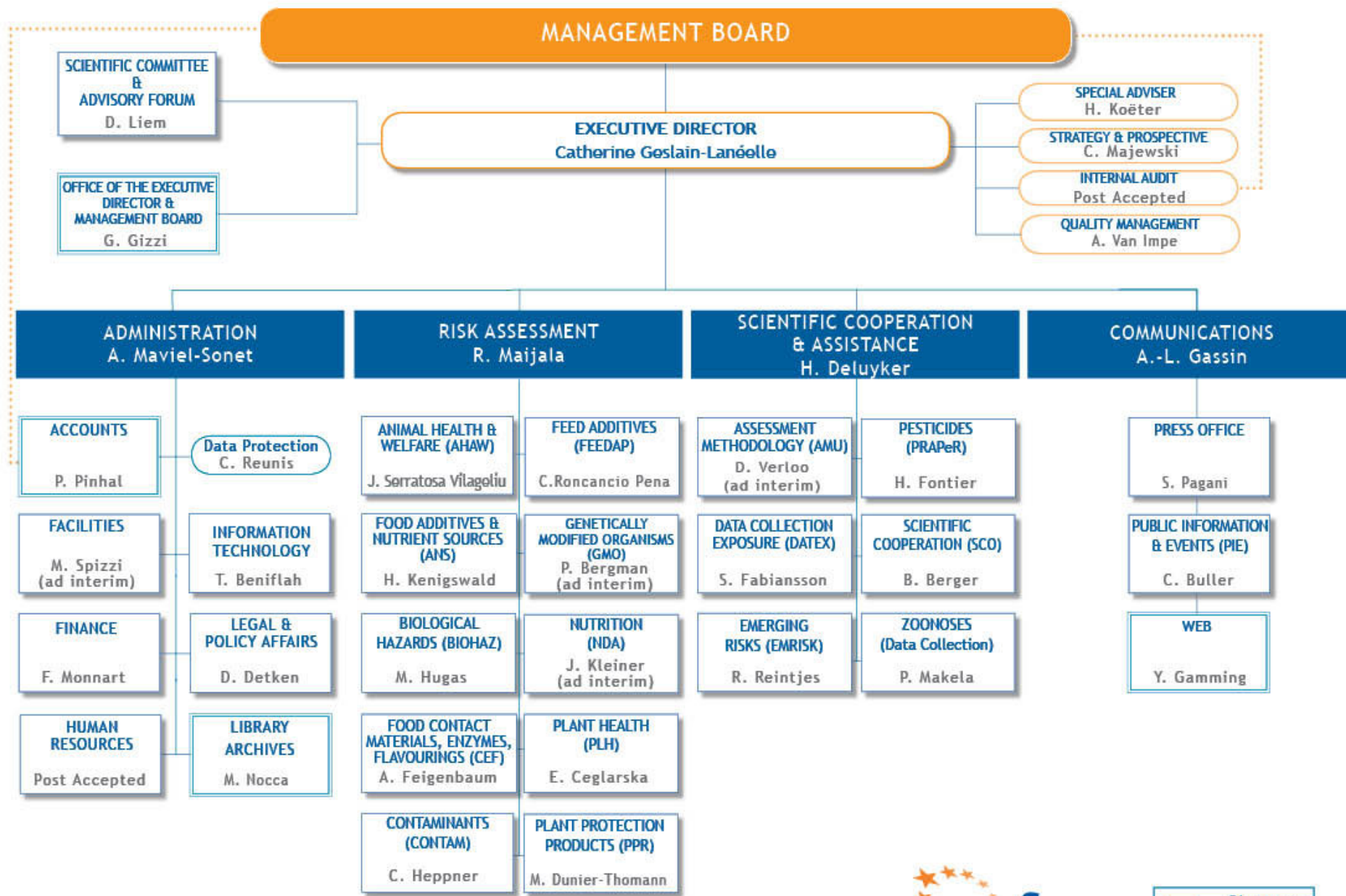
**Advisory
Forum**

**Executive Directory
and EFSA secretariat**

**Scientific Committee
and Panels**

- Based in Parma, Italy
- > 200 scientific experts in Scientific Committee & Panels
- Many Working Groups involving >1.000 of experts
- Over 350 staff from 25 nationalities
- Over 700 scientific outputs (opinions) + 1.600 applications
- 11 Scientific Colloquia on key topics
- Budget: €65.9 million for 2008





Organisational chart 2008

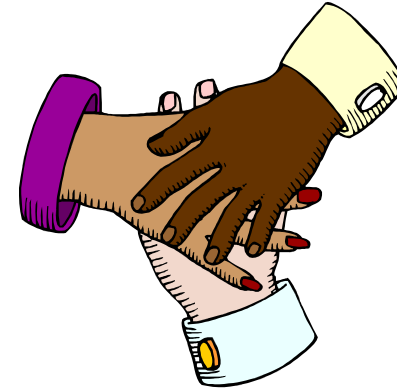
EFSA's Scientific Panels

- **Ten Scientific Panels, supported by working groups**
- **Independent scientists selected based on their proven scientific excellence**
- **Mandatory commitment of independence**
- **Declaration of Interest**



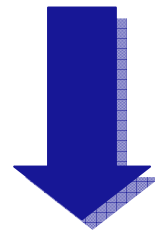
EFSA's institutional partners

- **European Commission;**
- **European Parliament;**
- **Member States (MS);**
- **Stakeholders:**
(*e.g.* consumer groups, non-governmental organizations (NGO's), industry...)



EFSA and Member States

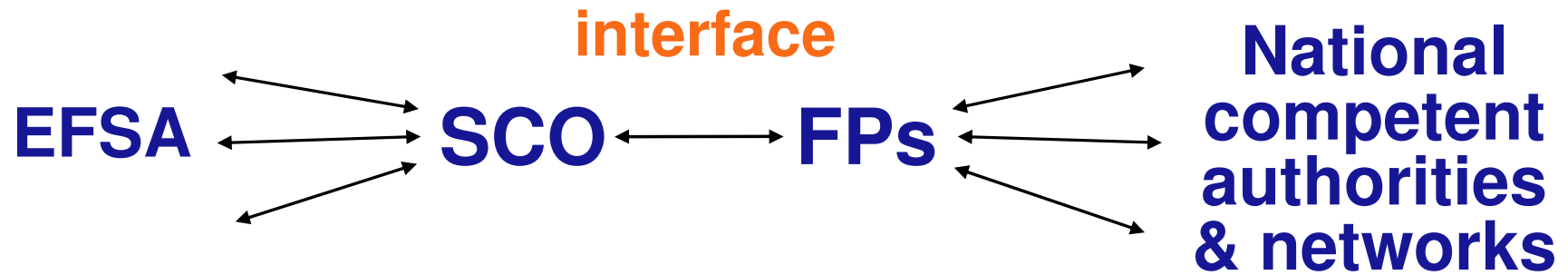
**EFSA aims to deliver the best science
at the right time in the most appropriate manner**



**Effective pooling of scientific excellence
available in EU Member States is required**

What are Focal Points?

- Individual person or institution to ensure scientific cooperation between the MS and EFSA;
- Established by Member States, nominated by Permanent Representations!



Focal Points Meetings

3 meetings so far held in Parma

- **March 2008**
- **June 2008**
- **September 2008**



Networking

Focal Points support in establishing and maintaining **National Networks** in MS including:

- Ministries and official authorities;
- Scientific institutions;
- Universities;
- National stakeholders (*e.g.* NGOs, industry, consumer organisations).



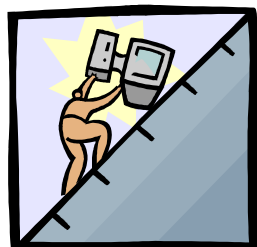
With the help of such networks, Focal Points and EFSA will further improve the Scientific Cooperation between Member States and EFSA.

The Information Exchange Platform

**Aim: to support the exchange of
scientific information between EFSA and MS**



8 September 2008: IEP launched



**6 months pilot phase
Input and comments welcome
Stocktaking beginning 2009**

EFSA Scientific Colloquia

11th Colloquium: 22-23 May 2008, Tabiano (PR), Acrylamide carcinogenicity - New evidence in relation to dietary exposure

12th Colloquium: 4-5 December 2008, Rome, Important aspects of Risk Assessment of *Campylobacter*

For further information you can visit the EFSA website



Get involved with EFSA

and...

- **Make a difference to European food safety**
- **Deliver key advice to Europe's risk managers**
- **Be part of Europe's network of top food safety scientists**



Get involved with EFSA

➤ EFSA is looking for scientific experts for:

- its Scientific Committee and Panels
- its Expert Database



➤ They will assist EFSA in delivering **high-quality scientific advice**



Get involved with EFSA

- To cover:
 - **Scientific Committee**
 - **Animal health and welfare**
 - **Biological hazards including TSEs**
 - **Contaminants in the food chain**
 - **Dietetic products, allergies and nutrition**
 - **Feedstuffs**
 - **GMOs**
 - **Plant health**
 - **Plant protection products**
 - **Food additives & nutrient sources***
 - **Food contact materials, enzymes, flavourings***

**New scientific Panels for which new members are not currently being sought*

Call for Scientific Committee and Panels

European Food Safety Authority

Join EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels

- Make a difference to European food safety
- Deliver scientific advice to Europe's risk managers
- Be part of Europe's network of top food safety scientists



The role of EFSA

EFSA is the European Union's scientific risk assessment body on food and feed safety, nutrition, animal health and welfare, and plant health and protection, tackling issues all along the food chain. Its Scientific Committee and Panels consist of independent scientists from universities, research institutions and national food safety authorities. They deliver high-quality scientific advice for Europe's decision-makers to act on and protect consumers, animals and plants.

EFSA currently seeks independent experts for its Scientific Committee and Panels. Experts are sought for a 3 year term, renewable, starting in the summer of 2009.

EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels

- Highly-qualified independent experts in risk assessment
- Experts sought to cover plant health and plant protection, GMOs, feedstuffs, animal health and welfare, toxicology, contaminants in the food chain, biological hazards including TSEs, dietetic products, allergies, novel foods and nutrition
- Selected through an open procedure based on proven scientific excellence

Apply online from 23 October to 7 January to join other top scientists: www.efsa.europa.eu

Committed to ensuring that Europe's food is safe


European Food Safety Authority

Call for Scientific Committee and Panels

Application process

Fill in an **online form** on the EFSA website and make a **declaration of interests** (to ensure your independence)

Scientific Committee & Panel Members

- Open **from 23 Oct till 7 Jan 2009**
- Experts contacted **spring 2009**
- New Scientific Committee and Panel members meet and begin work **summer 2009**



Call for Scientific Committee and Panels Selection

Scientific Committee & Panel Members

- EFSA evaluates candidates and **draws up shortlist**
- Management Board assesses shortlists and makes final decision about candidates

Members are appointed:

- **for 3 years**, renewable
- through an **open procedure** based on proven scientific excellence

Other possibilities to get involved

1. Support Article 36 network



Sign up
as an

EFSA Expert

2. Expert Database

Obrigado pela vossa atenção!