

# 2021

## BfR – EFSA

Cooperation between the German Focal Point of the  
**European Food Safety Authority**  
and the German Article 36 Network

ANNUAL REPORT



The German EFSA Focal Point would like to thank the German Article 36 institutions and EFSA for the successful cooperation in 2021 and the much-appreciated support in preparing the 2021 annual report.

## Imprint

**Cooperation between the German EFSA Focal Point and the German Article 36 Network**  
2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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# 2021

BfR – EFSA

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# Legend

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>European Food Safety Authority</b>                             | <p>European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)</p> <p>Responsible for scientific advice and communication on risks in the food chain in the European Union (EU).</p>  |
| <b>EFSA Focal Point</b>   | <p>The German EFSA Focal Point (EFSA FP) in the International Affairs Unit at the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is the central point of contact for coordinating scientific cooperation and the exchange of information between the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the organisations in Germany designated under Article 36 of EFSA's founding regulation (Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002) that work in EFSA's remit.</p> <p>The scientific coordination work of the EFSA FP ensures that close networking also takes place between the Article 36 institutions to efficiently involve German expertise at European level.</p>  |
| <b>Article 36 institutions in the Federal Republic of Germany</b> | <p>The "competent organisations" are organisations under Article 36 of EFSA's founding regulation (Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002) and work on the basis of Regulation (EC) No. 2230/2004 of the Commission from 23 December 2004. They provide scientific and technical support to EFSA's work, for example, through preparatory work for scientific opinions, collecting data or identifying emerging risks.</p> <p>In 2021, the following German institutions were registered with EFSA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL)</li> <li>➤ German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)</li> <li>➤ Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Federal Research Institute for Animal Health (FLI)</li> <li>➤ Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut (TI), Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries</li> <li>➤ Julius Kühn-Institut, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants (JKI)</li> <li>➤ Max Rubner-Institut, Federal Research Centre for Nutrition and Food (MRI)</li> <li>➤ German Environment Agency (UBA)</li> </ul> |
| <b>German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture</b>            | <p>The responsible unit at the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) is Unit 312 as the contact for national activities within EFSA.</p>  |

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# 2021 highlights

Figure 1: Regular exchange of information between the German EFSA FP and the German Article 36 Network

|                                      | <b>2021</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Article 36 Network meetings          | <b>3</b>    |
| BMEL FP meetings                     | <b>3</b>    |
| Requests for exchange of information | <b>39</b>   |
| Newsletter sent                      | <b>25</b>   |

Source: Own representation according to the internal monitoring of the German EFSA FP, created on 22 March 2022.

Figure 2: Involvement of the German Article 36 Network in EFSA activities

|   | <b>2021</b> |
|---|-------------|
| Ad-hoc expert appointments                            | <b>5</b>    |
| Grants  | <b>11</b>   |
| Public consultations                                  | <b>13</b>   |
| Surveys carried out by EFSA and other EU institutions | <b>13</b>   |

Source: Own representation according to the internal monitoring of the German EFSA FP and according to EFSA's Engagement & Cooperation Unit (ENCO), created on 22 March 2022.

Figure 3: Involvement of the German Article 36 Scientific Networks in EFSA expert groups



Source: Own representation according to EFSA's Engagement & Cooperation Unit (ENCO), created on 22 March 2022.

# Regular exchange of information between the German EFSA FP and the German Article 36 Network

Promoting the exchange of information is one of the main activities of the German EFSA FP to consolidate cooperation and networking between EFSA and the German Article 36 institutions. The activities and their results are described below.

## German Article 36 Network meetings

As in the previous year, it was not possible to hold Article 36 Network meetings in person in 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic.

A total of two meetings with network participants and one onboarding meeting for the new Article 36 institution, the Federal Environment Agency (UBA), were conducted in digital format. Table 1 shows the main topics of the meetings. The focus was on finalising the procedural instructions listed in Table 2 in order to standardise workflows and ensure the quality of cooperation.

Table 1: Overview of the German Article 36 Network meetings

| Date       | Main topics  | Participating institutions |
|------------|--|----------------------------|
| 27/01/2021 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Revision of the communication procedure</li> <li>– Procedure for coordinating requests</li> <li>– Procedure for adding interested institutions to the Art. 36 List</li> </ul>                 | BfR, BVL, FLI, JKI, MRI    |
| 19/05/2021 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Coordination of EFSA public consultations</li> <li>– Procedure for adding interested institutions to the Art. 36 List</li> <li>– Future type of cooperation of the Art. 36 Network</li> </ul> | BfR, BVL, JKI, MRI         |
| 24/11/2021 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Welcoming &amp; onboarding (introductory event)</li> </ul>  | JKI, MRI, UBA              |

Source: Own representation according to the internal monitoring of the German EFSA FP, created on 22 March 2022.

Table 2: Overview of the finalised procedural instructions in 2021

| Procedure   | Effective date |
|---|----------------|
| National procedure for institutions authorised in the Federal Republic of Germany to coordinate requests for scientific opinions to the European Food Safety Authority  | 03/2021        |
| National procedure within the Federal Republic of Germany for appointing external experts within the list of Article 36 institutions of the European Food Safety Authority  | 07/2021        |
| Communication procedure within the Federal Republic of Germany between the representative on the scientific Advisory Forum of the European Food Safety Authority, the Focal Point as the coordinating office, the Article 36 institutions and other interested institutions | 09/2021        |
| National procedure within the Federal Republic of Germany for accepting interested institutions to the list of Article 36 institutions of the European Food Safety Authority  | 11/2021        |

Source: Own representation, created on 4 May 2022



## The exchange in the Article 36 Network is perceived as rewarding overall.

In preparation for each Article 36 Network meeting, there was a close, parallel exchange between the German EFSA FP and Unit 312 at the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL). The focus was on the development of the national procedure within the Federal Republic of Germany for accepting interested institutions to the list of Article 36 institutions of the European Food Safety Authority. Based on the successful designation process of UBA as an Article 36 institution, it can be confirmed that the relevant procedure has proven itself at national level, but requires further pilot testing and, where necessary, adaptation.

By finalising the operational work on the procedural instructions in 2021, the decision was made to focus Article 36 Network meetings on strategic and substantive discussions in the future. This reorientation of the Article 36 Network meetings corresponds to the feedback from the Article 36 institutions<sup>1</sup> on the quality of the meetings in 2020 and 2021 and is expected to be implemented from 2022.

The quality of the cooperation in the German Article 36 Network has a significant impact on the Network's output. Therefore, the German EFSA Focal Point evaluated the effectiveness and efficiency of the Article 36 Network meetings for the whole of 2021 in line with quality management.

In doing so, the German Article 36 institutions were asked to assess the quality of the meetings in terms of organisation, implementation and follow-up work:

- > **Organisatio:** Relevance of the agenda and quality of the handouts and timing
- > **Implementation:** Time management, presentation and use of appropriate resources
- > **Follow-up work:** Quality of reports and adequate implementation of action points
- > **Overall assessment:** Satisfaction with the quality of the meetings and the exchange in the German Article 36 Network

The German Article 36 Network is satisfied with the organisation, implementation and follow-up work of the network meetings. Feedback mentioned, among other things, the German EFSA FP's good preparation and technical competence. There is still potential for development for 2022 when it comes to time planning and management within the preparation and implementation of the meetings, as well as in the arrangement of the agenda. The exchange in the Article 36 Network is perceived as rewarding overall. No change is discernible compared to 2020. The evaluation results of the Article 36 Network can be seen in anonymised form in Annex 1.

The BMEL's feedback on the quality of meetings in 2021 corresponds to the feedback from the Article 36 Network.

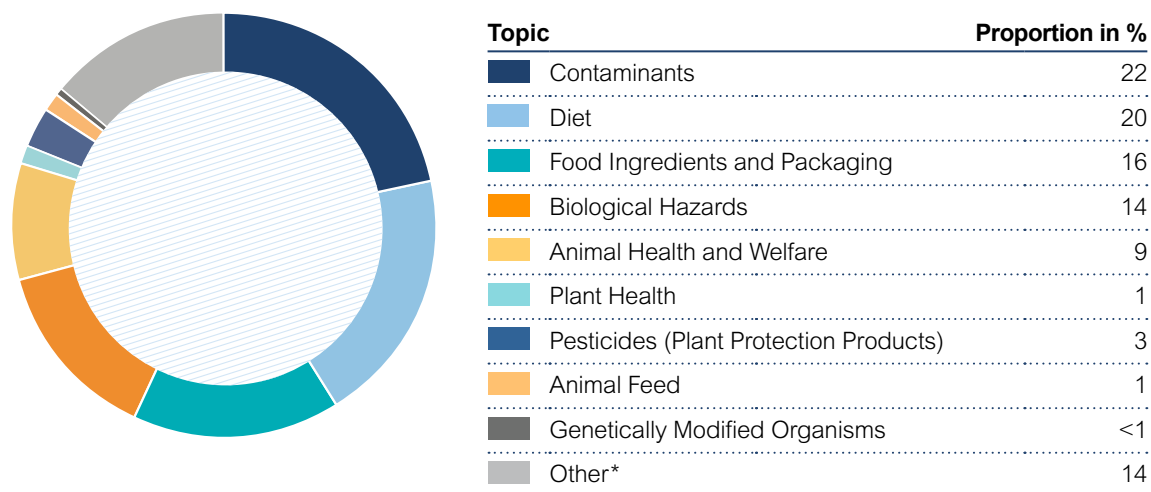
### Responding to requests from European member states (requests for exchange of information)

The scientific requests, the "requests for exchange of information", are specific information on topics in the areas of risk assessment and risk management. In 2021, the German EFSA FP coordinated the response to a total of 40 requests from the European member states (MS) within the German Article 36 Network. Compared to the previous year (here: 22 requests for exchange of information), this represents an increase of 82%.

Thirty-nine requests were answered by the German Article 36 Network, bundled by the German EFSA FP and transferred to the requesting EU member state. The German EFSA FP also coordinated a request from the BfR on "Information on production and trade of fresh produce in Europe for One Health European Joint Programme *Toxoplasma gondii* sources quantified (TOXOSOURCES) project" to the Focal Points of the European member states. The request involved collecting information on the production and trade of plant-based foods (fruits, vegetables, salads). Germany received responses from eleven member states of the European Union (EU).

<sup>1</sup> The BfR as the seat of the FP and the UBA as the new Article 36 institution did not participate in the evaluation.

Figure 4: Percentage distribution of requests for exchange of information by topic within EFSA's remit



\* Includes other topics that fall within or outside EFSA's remit.

Source: Own representation according to the internal monitoring of the German EFSA FP, created on 22 March 2022.

Figure 4 shows the percentage distribution of requests for exchange of information by topic within EFSA's remit.

### Further activities regarding the exchange of information

In addition to the aforementioned information exchange measures, the German EFSA FP continuously and comprehensively informed the German Article 36 Network about EFSA's Advisory Forum and EFSA Focal Point Network's upcoming meetings as well as about highlights and announcements from EFSA and the EU member states via newsletters as part of its responsibility to disseminate information.

### EFSA Advisory Forum meetings and Focal Point Network meetings

In 2021, the German Article 36 institutions received information on four EFSA Advisory Forum meetings<sup>2</sup> and three EFSA Focal Point Network meetings<sup>3</sup>.

The German Article 36 Network was informed in advance about the provisional agenda and asked for feedback as part of preparing the meetings of the EFSA Advisory Forum and the EFSA Focal Point Network. This was incorporated into the respective meetings by the German Advisory Forum member or German EFSA FP representatives. The German Article 36 institutions subsequently received the meeting reports and, where applicable, specific information on selected agenda items. The German Article 36 institutions were involved in further follow-up work by the German EFSA FP as required in accordance with their areas of responsibility.

<sup>2</sup> All materials from EFSA's Advisory Forum meetings are available using the following links:

- 79th Advisory Forum meeting, 3–4 March 2021, [online](#)
- 80th Advisory Forum meeting, 9–10 June 2021, [online](#)
- 81st Advisory Forum meeting, 27–28 October 2021, [online](#)
- 82nd Advisory Forum meeting, 1–2 December 2021, [online](#)

<sup>3</sup> All materials from the EFSA Focal Point Network meetings are available using the following links:

- 45th meeting of the Focal Point Network, 10–11 February 2021, [online](#)
- 46th meeting of the Focal Point Network, 19–20 May 2021, [online](#)
- 47th meeting of the Focal Point Network, 29–30 September 2021, [online](#)

**Table 3: Overview of the main topics of EFSA's Advisory Forum meetings and the Focal Point Network meetings**

| Date                        | Meeting  | Topics   |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 3 and 4<br>March 2021       | <b>EFSA Advisory Forum<br/>(79th AF Meeting)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Progress in the implementation of the new Transparency Regulation in the food chain</li> <li>– Discussion: Healthy nutrition through sustainable food chains</li> </ul>   |
| 10 and 11<br>February 2021  | <b>EFSA Focal Points<br/>(45th FP meeting)</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Presentation of the main tasks of the Focal Points for 2021</li> <li>– Discussion: External review of the Focal Point Network (tasks, deliverables and time frame)</li> </ul>   |
| 19 and 20<br>May 2021       | <b>EFSA Focal Points<br/>(46th FP meeting)</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Current status of the external review of the Focal Point Network</li> <li>– Discussion: Contextualisation of the Focal Point tasks:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the 2022–2027 EFSA Strategy and its relevance for the Focal Point Network</li> </ul> </li> <li>– Communication campaigns and cooperation with the Communication Expert Network (CEN)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• African Swine Fever</li> <li>• Confidence in food choice</li> </ul> </li> </ul>    |
| 9 and 10<br>June 2021       | <b>EFSA Advisory Forum<br/>(80th AF meeting)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Presentation of the draft 2027 EFSA Strategy</li> <li>– Progress in the implementation of the new Transparency Regulation in the food chain</li> <li>– Discussion: Chemicals strategy for sustainability</li> <li>– Scientific Networks:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status: topic of data exchange of chemical contaminants</li> <li>• Current status: decision of the Management Board regarding the workings of the networks</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |
| 29 and 30<br>September 2021 | <b>EFSA Focal Points<br/>(47th FP meeting)</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Presentation of the final report of the external review of the Focal Point Network and discussion of the resulting ideas for the new Focal Point framework agreement</li> <li>– Presentation of the French-German workshop on the European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship Programme – (EU-FORA) – Module 4 (data): “Data transfer to EFSA – Introduction to data collection, catalogues and models” organised by the French and German Focal Point</li> </ul>  |
| 27 and 28<br>October 2021   | <b>EFSA Advisory Forum<br/>(81st AF meeting)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Progress in the implementation of the new Transparency Regulation in the food chain</li> <li>– Presentation of the final report of the external review of the Focal Point Network and ideas for the new Focal Point framework agreement</li> <li>– Discussion on partnerships and better cooperation of EFSA with member states (including grants)</li> <li>– Activities in the area of risk assessment:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status: renewal of the peer review process of glyphosate</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| 1 and 2<br>December 2021    | <b>EFSA Advisory Forum<br/>(82nd AF meeting)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Discussion: Work packages of the 2022 FP framework agreement</li> <li>– Crisis prevention (preparedness):                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crisis drill</li> <li>• Exchange of experience</li> <li>• Crisis communication roadmap &amp; guidelines</li> </ul> </li> <li>– Discussion: Research contribution as part of the EU funding programme “Horizon Europe”</li> </ul>   |
| [2 and 3<br>December 2021]  | <b>EFSA Focal Points<br/>(4(th FP meeting)</b>   | <i>Cancelled</i>   |

Source: Own representation according to the internal monitoring of the German EFSA FP, created on 22 March 2022.

### Advisory Forum Discussion Groups

The EFSA FP and the German Article 36 institutions provided each other with information about the work in selected EFSA Advisory Forum Discussion Groups.

The German Advisory Forum member and the German EFSA FP are involved in the Advisory Forum Discussion Group on Future of Partnerships. The aim of the discussion group is to discuss and advise EFSA on horizontal, cross-sector and operational aspects of the partnership framework of collaborative projects that support EFSA in its remit and enable it to contribute to the risk assessment system in the EU. In 2021, the discussion focused on the following points:

- > Options to stimulate cooperation with Article 36 institutions, especially in upcoming tenders
- > Early information by EFSA on planned tenders and cooperation opportunities to enable better preparation by interested Article 36 institutions
- > Identify and resolve Focal Points' training needs for more efficient use of EFSA's existing cooperation tools.

Unit 133 of the BVL represents Germany in the Advisory Forum Group on Data, which aims to implement the recommendations of the Advisory Forum Task Force on Data Collection and Modelling to simplify data transfer to EFSA. Three tools were planned for this purpose in 2021 and the relevant tender process evaluated:

- > Data mapping tool (tool to bridge national data in EFSA format and catalogue language [SSD2])
- > Business rule engine (tool to validate the data to be reported to EFSA)
- > Interface service to support data collection at the sampling point (app to automate the process for adequate FoodEx2 (EFSA's food catalogue) – description of samples at the sample point).

### EFSA Focal Point newsletter

In 2021, 25 newsletters of the German EFSA FP were sent. The German EFSA FP's newsletter was distributed to the German Article 36 Network and other interested groups at two-week intervals. It contains information from EFSA and EU member states as well as international news on the following topics:

- > Science and regulatory science
- > Scientific events
- > Capacity building
- > Grants, procurements & funding calls
- > Further international scientific information

EFSA's Scientific Cooperation Newsletter promotes upcoming EFSA and member state events and was published five times in 2021. These were distributed to the Article 36 Network with a call for contributions.



EFSA's Scientific Cooperation Newsletter promotes upcoming EFSA and member state events and was published five times in 2021.

# Involvement of German Article 36 institutions in EFSA activities

EFSA offers Article 36 institutions in all member states a variety of formats and opportunities to network with each other and share experiences and good practices in the scientific domains. The German EFSA FP coordinates nomination procedures and provides administrative support to German experts as part of their participation in the respective scientific formats.

## Participation in EFSA's Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels

EFSA's Scientific Committee supports the work of the Scientific Panels on cross-sector scientific issues, notably with regard to developing harmonised practices for risk assessment in areas where EU-wide procedures have not yet been established. Each of the ten panels is responsible for EFSA's scientific assessments and is dedicated to a different area of the food and feed chain.<sup>4</sup>

No German experts were involved in the Committee's work in 2021. 19 German experts participated in EFSA's panel work – but the majority were experts working in an institution outside of the German Article 36 Network. These made up 74% of all German experts, while 26% of the experts were employed at a German Article 36 institution.

The corresponding German Article 36 institutions and the respective panel are shown in Table 4.

The breakdown of all German experts in EFSA's panels by organisational affiliation is shown in Figure 5 and can be found in detail in Annex 2.2.

## Participation in EFSA working groups

Each of EFSA's ten Scientific Panels is supported by one or more working groups on specific topics within the panel's remit. In 2021, German representatives were active in a total of 12 of EFSA's 94 working groups. The German Article 36 Network was represented in four of these working groups. Table 5 shows that four experts from the BfR participated in three working groups and one expert from the UBA in one working group. A detailed overview of all German experts, both within and outside the German Article 36 Network, can be found in Annex 2.3.

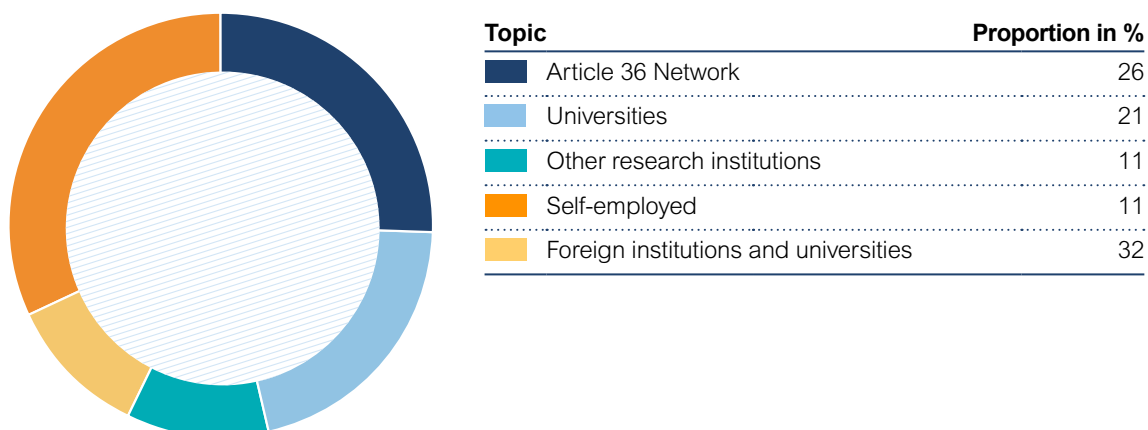
**Table 4: Overview of the participation of German Article 36 institutions in EFSA panels in 2021**

| Panel   | Institution |
|---|-------------|
| Food Additives and Flavourings (FAF)                              | BfR         |
| Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed (FEEDAP) | BfR         |
| Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens (NDA)                   | BfR         |
| Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR)                | UBA         |

Source: Own representation according to EFSA's Engagement & Cooperation Unit (ENCO), created on 22 March 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Cf. [www.efsa.europa.eu/de/science/scientific-committee-and-panels](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/de/science/scientific-committee-and-panels), 24 March 2022.

Figure 5: Percentage distribution of German experts in EFSA's panels according to form of organisation in 2021



Source: Own representation according to EFSA's Engagement & Cooperation Unit (ENCO), created on 22 March 2022.

In 2020, experts from German Article 36 institutions participated in 26 of 62 working groups. While the total number of EFSA working groups increased to 94 in 2021, a decline in the participation of both German experts overall and Article 36 institutions in particular can be observed. The interpretation of these results is extremely difficult and may be due to a variety of reasons, even administrative ones. The German EFSA FP did not receive any requests from EFSA to nominate experts

for the working groups in 2021. The nomination of new working groups or the replacement of German experts who have left the working group follows a standardised EFSA process in which selection is made from one of the Scientific Panels or the Scientific Committee or from the reserve list.<sup>5</sup>

Table 5: Overview of the participation of German Article 36 institutions in EFSA working groups in 2021

| Panel  | Working group  | Number of experts | Article 36 institution |
|--|--|-------------------|------------------------|
| Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ)                        | Transmission of Antimicrobial Resistance and Zoonotic Agents During Animal Transport | 1                 | BfR                    |
| Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)            | Grayanotoxins in Certain Honeys  | 1                 | BfR                    |
|  | Sulphur Dioxide-Sulphites (E220-E228)  | 2                 | BfR                    |
| Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR) | Acetamiprid & Flupyradifurone  | 1                 | UBA                    |

Source: Own representation according to EFSA's Engagement & Cooperation Unit (ENCO), created on 18 March 2022

<sup>5</sup> See Article 13, Paragraph 2 of the "Decision of the Executive Director Concerning the Selection of Members of the Scientific Committee the Scientific Panels, and the Selection of External Experts to Assist EFSA with its Scientific Work", 7 5 July 2022.

## Participation in EFSA Scientific Networks

German experts participated more in EFSA's 14 Scientific Networks in comparison to the previous year. With 39 representatives from Article 36 institutions, a total of 9 more experts were nominated for participation in the following Scientific Networks in 2021 compared to 2020:

- > Scientific Network on Risk Assessment in Animal Health and Welfare
- > Scientific Network on BSE/TSE
- > Scientific Network for Microbiological Risk Assessment (MRA)
- > Communication Experts Network (CEN) (COMCO HoD Office)
- > Scientific Network on Emerging Risk Exchange (EREN)
- > Scientific Network on Risk Assessment of Nanotechnologies in Food and Feed (NANO)
- > Scientific Network for Zoonoses Monitoring Data (including subgroups)
- > Scientific Network on Chemical Monitoring Data Collection
- > Scientific Network on Food Consumption Data
- > Scientific Network on Food Contact Materials (FCM)
- > Scientific Network on Risk assessment of GMOs
- > Scientific Network on Novel Foods
- > Scientific Network on Risk Assessment in Plant Health
- > Pesticide Steering Network (PSN)

Of the 38 Art. 36 representatives in these Scientific Networks, 21 were participants and 17 were alternates, as seen in Table 6. An overview of all German representatives can be found in Annex 2.5.

**Table 6: Overview of German representation in EFSA's Scientific Networks in 2021**

| Institution  | Number of members | Number of alternates | Total     |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| BfR          | 9                 | 7                    | 16        |
| BVL          | 7                 | 6                    | 13        |
| FLI          | 2                 | 2                    | 4         |
| JKI          | 1                 | 1                    | 2         |
| MRI          | 1                 | 1                    | 2         |
| TI           | 0                 | 0                    | 0         |
| UBA          | 0                 | 0                    | 0         |
| BMEL         | 1                 | 0                    | 1         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>21</b>         | <b>17</b>            | <b>38</b> |

Source: Own representation according to the monitoring of the German EFSA FP, created on 22 March 2022.

## Participation in EFSA calls for further expert appointments

The German EFSA FP coordinated a total of five requests from EFSA for expert nominations in 2021. All of the German expert nominations were successful. In 2020, a total of three EFSA expert nomination requests were processed by the German EFSA FP. In 2021, German expertise from the Article 36 Network was increasingly incorporated in EFSA's work compared to the previous year.

Table 7 provides information on the thematic focus of EFSA's requests and the participation of respective German Article 36 institutions. The majority of experts were nominated from the BfR and the BVL.

**Table 7: Overview of the participation of German Article 36 institutions in EFSA expert enquiries in 2021**

| Topic  | Participation |
|--|---------------|
| Titanium Dioxide (E 171)                                       | BfR           |
| Publishing Capacity  | BfR           |
| Technical Group on Machine Learning                            | BfR, JKI      |
| Horizon Scanning Exercise                                      | BfR, BVL, FLI |
| Brainstorming Workshop on Animal Welfare – One Welfare (SPIDO) | FLI           |

Source: Own representation according to the monitoring of the German EFSA FP, created on 22 March 2022.

## Participation in EFSA calls for grants

As “competent organisations”, Article 36 institutions are solely eligible to apply for EFSA funding for projects and activities. The German EFSA FP has regularly distributed EFSA's calls for grants via the Focal Point newsletter (see page 9). 11 applications for EFSA grants were successful in 2021. Eight applications were submitted by the BfR and three by the BVL. In 2020, the BfR was awarded five tenders from EFSA. This shows a significant increase and diversification of successful participation in EFSA grants by the Article 36 Network.

Projects and activities in accordance with Article 4 Regulation (EC) No. 2230/2004<sup>6</sup> and Article 1 No. 5e Regulation (EU) 2019/1381 are funded<sup>7</sup>, which contribute to EFSA's mission fulfilment in the areas of data collection, preparatory work for scientific opinions and other scientific and technical support. Successful applications from German Article 36 institutions for EFSA grants in 2021 can be thematically allocated to the European Food Risk Assessment (EU-FORA) Fellowship Programme, the improvement of risk communication (“ENhanced COMmunication in Risk Analysis (ENCOMRAN) project”), data management (data collection, reporting, transfer, etc.) and the risk assessments of food contact materials, petroleum-derived hydrocarbons and plant-based preparations (in food supplements). Table 8 provides an overview of the successful applications for EFSA grants submitted by German Article 36 institutions.

## Participation in EFSA public consultations

In 2021, the German EFSA FP distributed a total of 13 public consultations (PC) in the German Article 36 Network. It should be noted that PCs on “active substances” are not coordinated by the German EFSA FP. The German EFSA FP informed the German Article 36 institutions about the publication of EFSA PC in separate emails. Furthermore, the procedure for the early exchange of information between Article 36 institutions regarding a planned comment on EFSA public consultations has been in place since October 2020. The Article 36 institutions comment directly on the PC.

Table 8: Overview of grants in 2021 with German Article 36 institutions as the beneficiary

| Type of grant | Working group   | Institution |
|---------------|---|-------------|
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/ENCO/2018/05_GA19 2020<br>Risk assessment of food contact materials   | BfR         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/ENCO/2018/ 05 GA20 2020<br>Risk assessment of botanical preparations  | BfR         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/BIOCONTAM/2021/01<br>Entrusting tasks for supporting WG on mineral oil hydrocarbons in food   | BfR         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/ENCO/2020/03_GA8<br>Partnering grant-enhanced communication in risk analysis (ENCOMRAN)   | BfR         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/ENCO/2020/03_GA8<br>Partnering grant-enhanced communication in risk analysis (ENCOMRAN)   | BVL         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/ENCO/2020/04<br>Fellow hosting sites for EFSA's European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship (EU-FORA) Programme – GA01   | BfR         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/ENCO/2020/04<br>Fellow hosting sites for EFSA's European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship (EU-FORA) Programme – GA13   | BfR         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/ENCO/2020/04 Fellow hosting sites for EFSA's European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship (EU-FORA) Programme – GA16  | BfR         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/DATA/2021/01-FPA<br>Identifying organisations LOT 2 improved data transfer and performance of data validation of large files in reporting of chemical and organisms monitoring data | BVL         |
| Grant         | GP/EFSA/DATA/2021/01-FPA<br>Identifying organisations LOT 1 improved methods for chemical monitoring and organisms monitoring data collection and reporting                                 | BVL         |
| Grant         | Focal Point Agreement   | BfR         |

Source: Own representation according to EFSA's Engagement & Cooperation Unit (ENCO), created on 22 March 2022. Data can be viewed at [www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/art36grants2021.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/art36grants2021.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> See <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32004R2230>, 10 May 2022.

<sup>7</sup> See <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32019R0138>, 10 May 2022.



Table 9: Overview of EFSA public consultations

| Public consultation  | Related topics                      | Date (published) | Date (deadline) |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| ➤ Public consultation on the draft EFSA Scientific Committee Opinion on a systems-based approach to the environmental risk assessment of multiple stressors in honey bees  | Bee health cross-cutting science    | 07/01/2021       | 04/03/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the draft opinion on the relationship between intake of alpha-lipoic acid (thioctic acid) and the risk of insulin autoimmune syndrome   | Food supplements, nutrition         | 28/01/2021       | 25/02/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the active substance Hydrolysed proteins  | Pesticides                          | 29/01/2021       | 31/03/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the active substance asulam as regards the assessments following the clock stop on endocrine properties in the context of the pesticides peer review following a mandate from the Commission        | Pesticides                          | 02/02/2021       | 03/04/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on a draft scientific opinion on development of Integrated Approaches to Testing and Assessment (IATA) on developmental neurotoxicity (DNT) risk assessment  | Pesticides                          | 03/02/2021       | 15/03/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the draft EFSA Strategy 2027  | EFSA Strategy                       | 06/04/2021       | 09/05/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the active substance Dicamba  | Pesticides                          | 19/04/2021       | 19/06/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation: draft protocol for a benefit-risk assessment of potassium chloride as salt replacer (Norway)  | Nutrition                           | 28/04/2021       | 13/07/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the Draft Scientific Opinion on <i>in vitro</i> random mutagenesis techniques   | Genetically modified organisms      | 19/05/2021       | 30/06/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the expert appraisal work on the consideration of chemical mixtures for the setting of reference values: review of existing methods and recommendations (France)                                    | Chemical substances                 | 04/06/2021       | 19/09/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the Draft scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level for Dietary Sugars   | Nutrition; dietary reference values | 22/07/2021       | 30/09/2021      |
| ➤ Public consultation on the Draft Scientific Opinion on the development of harmonised mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling and the setting of nutrient profiles for restricting nutrition and health claims on foods | Nutrition                           | 15/11/2021       | 09/01/2022      |
| ➤ Public consultations on the Draft Scientific Opinion on the re-evaluation of the risks to public health related to the presence of bisphenol A (BPA) in foodstuffs   | Food improvement agents             | 15/12/2021       | 22/02/2022      |

Source: Own representation according to the internal monitoring of the German EFSA FP, created on 22 March 2022.

EFSA publishes all PCs that are open for commenting on the “connect.efsa” portal. The German EFSA FP coordinates selected PCs of high relevance, which are sent by EFSA to the Focal Points for distribution. Statements can be made about EFSA’s technical prioritisation based on the thematic classification of these PCs. Pesticides and nutrition are the leading topics with 31% each. The remaining PCs can be assigned to topics such as strategy, bee health or multi-disciplinary areas, genetically modified

organisms, chemical active substances and food improvement agents.

### Participation in EFSA surveys

In 2021, the German EFSA FP coordinated a total of 13 EFSA surveys. These were distributed and processed according to the technical responsibility at national level.

A clear thematic trend cannot be derived. However, it is striking that most of the surveys are of a cross-topic and strategic nature. They pertain to ongoing or planned EFSA projects (e.g. EU-FORA, External Focal Point Review, European Excellence Label) or methodological

enquiries on future trends in risk assessment (SPIDO<sup>8</sup>, Systematic Review, Horizon Scanning Exercise<sup>9</sup>, etc.). An overview of all surveys distributed in 2021 can be found in Table 10.

**Table 10: Overview of surveys distributed by the EFSA FP within the German Article 36 Network in 2021**

| Survey   | Date       | Distribution to |     |     |     |    |     |          |   |
|--|------------|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----------|---|
|  |            | BVL             | FLI | JKI | MRI | TI | UBA | Sonstige |   |
| EFSA SPIDO Survey  | 18/01/2021 |                 |     |     |     |    |     |          | ✓ |
| SURVEY on diet-related chronic diseases considered in national Food Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDGs)               | 08/03/2021 | ✓               | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |          | ✓ |
| External Focal Point Review  | 13/04/2021 | ✓               |     |     |     |    |     |          |   |
| EFSA Survey cost of non-agencies   | 19/04/2021 | ✓               |     |     |     |    |     |          |   |
| FOODSAFETY4EU Survey   | 24/05/2021 | ✓               |     |     |     |    |     |          |   |
| EFSA Survey European Excellence Label for accrediting food safety RA training programmes and master's degree in RA | 22/07/2021 | ✓               | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |          |   |
| EFSA Survey on artificial intelligence (AI) in evidence management   | 23/07/2021 | ✓               | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |          | ✓ |
| EFSA Survey DISCOVER project of the One Health European Joint Programme  | 09/08/2021 | ✓               | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   |          |   |
| Survey on systematic review call   | 19/10/2021 | ✓               |     |     |     |    |     |          |   |
| Horizon Scanning Exercise  | 26/10/2021 | ✓               |     |     |     |    |     |          |   |
| EU-FORA Survey   | 29/10/2021 | ✓               |     |     |     |    |     |          |   |
| Call for stakeholders Survey   | 03/11/2021 | ✓               | ✓   | ✓   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   | ✓        |   |
| Cumulative risk assessment from dietary exposure to pesticides   | 25/11/2021 | ✓               |     |     |     |    |     |          |   |

Source: Own representation according to the internal monitoring of the German EFSA FP, created on 22 March 2022.

<sup>8</sup> EFSA's Science Studies and Project Identification & Development Office.

<sup>9</sup> Final report on the Horizon Scanning Exercise, 7 5 July 2022.

## Further activities of the German EFSA FP

The scientific coordination work of the German EFSA FP in cooperation with the German Article 36 Network often includes bilateral exchanges with the institutions on EFSA-relevant topics in addition to the exchange of information and the administrative support of the German Article 36 institutions in EFSA activities.

### Workshop on data collection and transfer to EFSA

In 2020, the German EFSA FP set itself the goal of creating an advanced training offer for the German Article 36 institutions as well as the extended network and, in doing so, making a significant contribution to the transfer of expertise in the field of risk assessment. In this context, the online workshop “Reporting Data to EFSA – Introduction to data collection, catalogues and models” was organised jointly with the French EFSA FP from 29 to 30 March 2021 for German and French data providers and rapporteurs. The German EFSA FP was substantially advised by the BVL in the formulation of the agenda.

A total of 23 participants were trained on the basics of data collection, data models and catalogues in the context of reporting data to EFSA. Central topics were the SSD2 data model and FoodEx2 coding. A combination of lectures and interactive exercises allowed participants to apply the acquired knowledge to simple examples. The feedback from the participants on the workshop and the cooperation with the French EFSA FP was very positive – a further cooperation is planned in 2022.

### EU Food Safety Almanac

In August 2021, the fifth updated and revised edition of the EU Food Safety Almanac was published in English.<sup>10</sup> The Almanac, which has been published in regularly updated form since 2009, gives an overview of the administrative structures and government institutions that guarantee food and feed safety in the EU and neighbouring countries.

The new edition includes 37 country profiles. The publication contains information on all EU member states and the neighbouring countries Iceland, Norway and Switzerland as well as Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey. The German country profile was updated by the German EFSA FP in cooperation with the Article 36 institutions. The remaining country profiles were compiled in cooperation with EFSA and the EFSA FPs of the respective member and neighbouring states.

The German EFSA FP promoted the new edition of the EU Food Safety Almanac with target group-oriented communication measures at both national and European level. This included a press release, sending the publication to European and international partner institutions as well as producing promotional material such as a flyer with QR codes for ordering the printed edition and online PDF free of charge.<sup>11</sup>

### European Food Risk Assessment (EU-FORA) Fellowship Programme<sup>12</sup>


The European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship Programme is a key initiative in preparing for future risk assessment needs. The programme aims to increase the pool of European food safety risk assessment experts, encourage member state participation in risk assessment and create networks.

The German EFSA FP promoted the calls for proposals for the EU-FORA Fellowship Programme within the Article 36 Network and offered advice on the programme and application process upon request.

<sup>10</sup> See [www.bfr.bund.de/cm/350/eu-almanach-lebensmittelsicherheit-englisch.pdf](http://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/350/eu-almanach-lebensmittelsicherheit-englisch.pdf), 10 May 2022.

<sup>11</sup> The website went live on 7 June 2022: [https://worldfoodsafetyalmanac.bfr.berlin/index.php?title=Main\\_Page](https://worldfoodsafetyalmanac.bfr.berlin/index.php?title=Main_Page).

<sup>12</sup> Further information on the Fellowship Programme can be found at [www.efsa.europa.eu/de/engage/fellowship](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/de/engage/fellowship).



The German EFSA FP will represent Germany in the steering committee and play a key role in establishing efficient structures.

In 2021, the German EFSA FP successfully coordinated the application process of the BfR as a host organisation. Three fellows were accepted for a one-year stay at the BfR in the following work programmes:

- > The use of NAM and omics data in risk assessment
- > Risk assessment of food contact materials
- > Insects in food and their relevance regarding allergenicity ass

The EU-FORA programme was evaluated and updated in 2021. The German EFSA FP has provided feedback to EFSA on the programme based on prior experiences. EU-FORA 2.0 introduced several important changes, the benefits of which can be determined in 2022.

EFSA and the Advisory Forum agreed to set up the “Advisory Steering Group on the New Focal Point Operational Framework”. This steering group was given the task of designing the new operational framework of the Focal Points during 2022 – this specifically concerns the Focal Point tasks as well as the financial and contractual structures. The German EFSA FP will represent Germany in the steering committee and play a key role in establishing efficient structures. To this end, the German Article 36 Network is regularly informed and consulted if needed.

### Participation in the FP review

EFSA conducted an external evaluation process of the Focal Point Network throughout the whole of 2021. With the introduction of the Transparency Regulation<sup>13</sup>, which notably aims at closer cooperation between member states and EFSA to improve risk assessment in the area of food safety, appropriate cooperation mechanisms need to be developed or adapted. Against this background, the evaluation of the Focal Points should demonstrate the options for further optimising the current organisation and working methods.

The final report formulated recommendations for the further development of the Focal Point Network. At the 81st Advisory Forum meeting in October 2021, EFSA presented a proposal for the future operational framework of the Focal Point Network. The plan intended for 2022 to be a transition year in which EFSA and member states jointly consider the recommendations from the final report and draw up a new framework agreement for 2023. At the 82nd Advisory Forum meeting in December 2021, EFSA presented a revised plan that took into consideration comments from member states, including the German EFSA FP.

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<sup>13</sup> See <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32019R1381>, 7 June 2022.

# Outlook

The focus for 2022 will continue to be on the strategic orientation of the cooperation between the German EFSA FP and the German Article 36 Network.

## Strategic networking

Experts from the German Article 36 institutions will continue to carry out their important work in EFSA's Scientific Networks in 2022. The German EFSA FP would like to support the networks through comprehensive and strategic networking to ensure a fluid exchange of information in both directions. This is all the more important against the background of the new decision of the Management Board No. mb210624-a4 on the establishment and functioning of the Scientific Networks and the first specific request of the Focal Points to cooperate with the Scientific Networks.

For this purpose, needs will be assessed in an exchange with the German network participants and support options by the EFSA FP will be identified. At the same time, the aim is to record current discourses within the Scientific Networks and the German position on specific issues to provide comprehensive information to the German Advisory Forum member, the BMEL and the German Article 36 Network. This contributes to the new strategic and content-related focus of the Article 36 Network meetings and enables synchronised communication and procedures, e.g. in the area of data collection and transfer to EFSA.

On this basis, standardised processes for further cooperation with the Scientific Networks at national level will be introduced.

## Increasing visibility

Another focus in 2022 is to increase the visibility of the activities of the German Article 36 Network and the German EFSA FP. In 2021, the German EFSA FP already took measures to optimise the presentation of the German EFSA FP and to focus it on previously defined target groups in a media-savvy way.

In 2022, the focus is on revising and restructuring the German EFSA FP's website, which aims to contribute to greater transparency and more information flow. Close cooperation with the relevant departments at the BfR will be necessary. Additional communication activities, such as the EFSA FP newsletter, promotional material, etc., should be updated and professionalised in terms of layout and monitoring.

# Annexes

Annex 1: Results of the evaluation of the quality of the Article 36 Network meeting in 2021

| <b>ORGANISATION</b>       |  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|-------|----------|-------------------|---|-------|----------|-------------------|---|-------|----------|-------------------|---|-------|----------|-------------------|---|-------|----------|-------------------|---|-------|----------|-------------------|---|-------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------|----------|-------------------|---|-------|----------|-------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                           | Meetings were efficiently planned in advance.  |       |          |                   | The items on the agenda were relevant.                                  |       |          |                   | The agenda was sent well in advance.  |       |          |                   | The meeting documents were of the necessary quality and clarity.                              |       |          |                   | There was sufficient time to review the meeting documents in preparation for the meeting. |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
|                           | Strongly agree   | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| Number of responses       | 3  | 2     |          |                   | 3   | 1     | 1        |                   | 4   | 1     |          |                   | 4   |       | 1        |                   | 2   | 3     |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| ∅                         | Strongly agree   |       |          |                   | Agree   |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   | Agree   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| <b>IMPLEMENTATION</b>     |  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
|                           | The duration of the meetings was appropriate.  |       |          |                   | Sufficient time was allocated for the presentation of each agenda item. |       |          |                   | Sufficient time was allocated for discussion and questions on each agenda item. |       |          |                   | The EFSA Focal Point responded to concerns, questions and comments from meeting participants. |       |          |                   | The EFSA Focal Point was well prepared.   |       |          |                   | The EFSA Focal Point was technically competent. |       |          |                   | The EFSA Focal Point was able to present the contents in a comprehensive way. |       |          |                   | There was a pleasant atmosphere. |       |          |                   | The video conferencing tools used (e.g. Skype, Zoom) were suitable for conducting the virtual meetings. |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
|                           | Strongly agree   | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree                                  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree                   | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |   |   |  |  |
| Number of responses       | 4  |       | 1        |                   | 3   | 2     |          |                   | 4   | 1     |          |                   | 3   | 1     | 1        |                   | 4   | 1     |          |                   | 3   | 2     |          |                   | 4   | 1     |          |                   | 4                                | 1     |          |                   | 4   | 1     |          |                   | 3 | 2 |  |  |
| ∅                         | Strongly agree   |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   | Agree   |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   | Strongly agree                                  |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   | Strongly agree                   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| <b>FOLLOW-UP WORK</b>     |  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
|                           | The minutes were sent well in advance.   |       |          |                   | The minutes were of the necessary quality.                              |       |          |                   | The Action Points were implemented within a reasonable period of time.          |       |          |                   | The Action Points were implemented with the necessary quality.                                |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
|                           | Strongly agree   | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| Number of responses       | 5  |       |          |                   | 4   | 1     |          |                   | 4   |       |          |                   | 3   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| ∅                         | Strongly agree   |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   | Strongly agree  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| <b>OVERALL ASSESSMENT</b> |  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
|                           | The exchange of experiences with colleagues from the Article 36 Network and the EFSA FP was an enriching experience. |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   | Overall, our institution was very satisfied with the meetings.                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
|                           | Strongly agree   | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Strongly agree  | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| Number of responses       | 2  | 2     | 1        |                   | 2   | 2     | 1        |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |
| ∅                         | Agree  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   | Agree   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |                                  |       |          |                   |   |       |          |                   |   |   |  |  |

## Annex 2.1: List of panel members from Germany

| Panel   | No. of German members* |
|---|------------------------|
| Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)                                  | 1                      |
| Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ)                                       | 0                      |
| Food Contact Materials, Enzymes and Processing Aids (CEP)         | 1                      |
| Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)                           | 2                      |
| Food Additives and Flavourings (FAF)                              | 5                      |
| Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed (FEEDAP) | 1                      |
| Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)                              | 0                      |
| Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens (NDA)                   | 3                      |
| Plant Health (PLH)  | 1                      |
| Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR)                | 5                      |
| Scientific Committee  | 0                      |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>19</b>              |

\* The figure also includes self-employed German experts and German experts who currently work or have worked in the past for non-German organisations/institutions/companies.

## Annex 2.2: Name and affiliation of the 19 panel members from Germany

Please find in bold the name and affiliation of self-employed German experts and German experts who currently work or have worked in the past for non-German organisations/institutions/companies.

| Panel  | Name                             | Organization  |
|--------|----------------------------------|---|
| AHAW   | <b>Winckler, Christoph</b>       | <b>University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences</b>                      |
| CEP    | Zorn, Holger                     | Justus Liebig University Giessen  |
| CONTAM | Schwerdtle, Tanja                | University Potsdam  |
|        |                                  | German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)                            |
| CONTAM | Schrenk, Dieter                  | University of Kaiserslautern  |
| FAF    | Engel, Karl-Heinz                | Technische Universität München  |
| FAF    | Fürst, Peter                     | Chemical and Veterinary Analytical Institute                                  |
| FAF    | <b>Gundert-Remy, Ursula</b>      | <b>(retired) Formerly: German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)</b> |
| FAF    | Gürtler, Rainer                  | German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)                            |
| FAF    | <b>Younes, Maged</b>             | <b>Self-employed</b>  |
| FEEDAP | Dusemund, Birgit                 | German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)                            |
| NDA    | <b>Bohn, Torsten</b>             | <b>Luxembourg Institute of Health</b>   |
| NDA    | Hirsch-Ernst, Karen Ildico       | German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)                            |
| NDA    | <b>Mangelsdorf, Inge</b>         | <b>Self-employed</b>  |
| PLH    | Thulke, Hans-Hermann             | Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ                             |
| PPR    | Pieper, Silvia                   | German Environment Agency (UBA)   |
| PPR    | <b>Aldrich, Annette Patrizia</b> | <b>Agroscope</b>  |
| PPR    | <b>Coja, Tamara</b>              | <b>Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety</b>                             |
| PPR    | Focks, Andreas                   | Wageningen Environmental Research   |
| PPR    | Pieper, Silvia                   | German Environment Agency (UBA)   |
| PPR    | <b>Wilks, Martin F.</b>          | <b>Swiss Centre for Applied Human Toxicology, University of Basel</b>         |

**Annex 2.3: List of working group members from Germany**

Please find in bold the name and affiliation of self-employed German experts and German experts who currently work or have worked in the past for non-German organisations/institutions/companies.

| Panel   | Working group  | Member                      | Affiliation   |
|---|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Biological hazards (BIOHAZ)                               | Microbiological safety of aged meat                              | Terjung, Nino               | <b>DIL (German Institute for Food technology)</b>                             |
|   | Transmission of AMR and zoonotic agents during animal transports | Tenhagen, Bernd-Alois       | German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)                            |
| Food Contact Materials, Enzymes and Processing Aids (CEP) | Extraction Solvents  | Fürst, Peter                | Chemical and Veterinary Analytical Institute                                  |
| Chemical contaminants (CONTAM)                            | Inorganic arsenic in food  | Schwerdtle, Tanja           | University of Potsdam; German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)     |
|   | Grayanotoxins in certain honey                                   | Dusemund, Birgit            | German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)                            |
| Food Additives and Flavourings (FAF)                      | Sulphur Dioxide-Sulphites (E229-228)                             | <b>Gundert-Remy, Ursula</b> | <b>(retired) formerly: German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)</b> |
|   |  | Gürtler, Rainer             | German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)                            |
|   |  | Ulbrich, Beate Cornelia     | Freie Universität Berlin  |
|   | Updating Risk Benefit Assessment Guidance                        | <b>Younes, Maged</b>        | <b>Self-Employed</b>  |
| Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)                      | SynBio GM Plants Food & Feed Risk Assessment                     | Zurbriggen, Matias          | University of Düsseldorf  |
| Plant Health (PH)   | Pest survey methods  | Thulke, Hans-Hermann        | Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ                             |
| Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR)        | Acetamiprid & flupyradifurone                                    | Aldrich, Annette Patrizia   | Agroscope   |
|   |  | Pieper, Silvia              | German Environment Agency (UBA)   |
|   | Glyphosate Peer Review – Renewal Assessment                      | <b>Coja, Tamara</b>         | <b>Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety</b>                             |
|   | Pyrethroid common metabolites                                    | <b>Coja, Tamara</b>         | <b>Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety</b>                             |



## Annex 2.4: Overview of EFSA Networks

| Unit             | Title & link to network detail   |
|------------------|--|
| ALPHA            | Scientific Network for Risk Assessment in Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)     |
| ALPHA            | Scientific Network for Risk Assessment in Plant Health                         |
| BIOCONTAM        | Scientific Network for Microbiological Risk Assessment (MRA)                   |
| BIOCONTAM        | Scientific Network on BSE/TSE  |
| COMCO HoD Office | Communication Experts Network  |
| DATA             | Scientific Network on Chemical Monitoring Data Collection                      |
| DATA             | Scientific Network on Zoonoses Monitoring Data                                 |
| DATA             | Scientific Network on Zoonoses Monitoring Data – subgroups                     |
| DATA             | Scientific Network on Food Consumption Data                                    |
| FIP              | Scientific Network on Food Contact Material (FCM)                              |
| GMO              | Scientific Network for Risk Assessment of GMOs (Environmental Risk Assessment) |
| GMO              | Scientific Network for Risk Assessment of GMOs (Food and Feed)                 |
| PESTICIDES-PREV  | Pesticide Steering Network (PSN)   |
| SCER             | Scientific Network on Emerging Risk Exchange (EREN)                            |
| SCER             | Scientific Network on Risk Assessment of Nanotechnologies in Food Feed (NANO)  |

## Annex 2.5: List of Scientific Network members from Germany

| <b>ALPHA Unit – AHAW Panel</b>  |                        |                    |
|---|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Scientific Network for Risk Assessment in Animal Health and Welfare</b>      |                        |                    |
| Organisation  | Representative         | Alternate          |
| Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Federal Research Institute for Animal Health (FLI) | Thomas C. METTENLEITER | Franz J.CONRATHS   |
| <b>ALPHA Unit – PLH Panel</b>   |                        |                    |
| <b>Scientific Network for Risk Assessment in Plant Health</b>                   |                        |                    |
| Organisation  | Representative         | Alternate          |
| Julius Kühn-Institut, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants (JKI)       | Bernhard Carl SCHÄFER  | Ernst PFEILSTETTER |
| <b>BIOCONTAM Unit</b>   |                        |                    |
| <b>Scientific Network for Microbiological Risk Assessment (MRA)</b>             |                        |                    |
| Organisation  | Representative         | Alternate          |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)                              | Anja BUSCHULTE         | Matthias FILTER    |
| <b>Scientific Network on BSE/TSE</b>  |                        |                    |
| Organisation  | Representative         | Alternate          |
| Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Federal Research Institute for Animal Health (FLI) | Martin GROSCHUP        | Christine FAST     |

| <b>COMCO HoD office</b>   |   |                       |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Communications Experts Network</b>   |   |                       |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b>                                       | <b>Alternate</b>      |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)  | Gaby-Fleur BÖL  | Suzan FIACK           |
| <b>DATA Unit</b>  |   |                       |
| <b>Scientific Network on Chemical Monitoring Data Collection</b>  |   |                       |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b>                                       | <b>Alternate</b>      |
| Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL), Unit Data Analysis and Reporting                   | Anna MIKOLAJETZ   |                       |
|   | Katrin KÖNIG  |                       |
|   | Katharina REBMANN   |                       |
| Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL), Unit Monitoring Strategy and Coordination          |   | Christian HERRMANN    |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), Unit Dietary Exposure and Aggregated Exposure               |   | Christian JUNG        |
| Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL), Unit Food Hygiene, Inspections, Veterinary Affairs |   | Nils KÜHL             |
| <b>DATA Unit</b>  |   |                       |
| <b>Scientific Network on Zoonoses Monitoring Data</b>   |   |                       |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b>                                       | <b>Alternate</b>      |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)  | Katja ALT   | Bernd-Alois TENHAGEN  |
| Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL)   |   | Petra LUBER           |
| Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL)   | Frauke SETZER   | Katrin BOLL           |
| <b>Scientific Network on Zoonoses Monitoring Data – specific subgroups</b>                                      |   |                       |
| <b>Specific Group</b>   | <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b> |
| Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)<br>IT  | German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)          | Bernd-Alois TENHAGEN  |
| Transmissible encephalopathien (TSE)  | German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)      | Andrea COSSMANN       |
| Food borne outbreaks (FBO)  | Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) | Thomas SCHEWE         |
| <b>DATA Unit</b>  |   |                       |
| <b>Scientific Network on Food Consumption Data</b>  |   |                       |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b>                                       | <b>Alternate</b>      |
| Max Rubner-Institute, Federal Research Institute of Nutrition and Food (MRI)                                    | Carolin KREMS   | Thorsten HEUER        |
| <b>FIP Unit</b>   |   |                       |
| <b>Scientific Network on Food Contact Materials</b>   |   |                       |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b>                                       | <b>Alternate</b>      |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)  | Stefan MERKEL   |                       |

| <b>GMO Unit</b>   |                       |                     |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Scientific Network for Risk Assessment of GMOs (Environmental Risk Assessment)</b>                         |                       |                     |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b> | <b>Alternate</b>    |
| German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)   | Wolfram REICHENBECHER | Mathias OTTO        |
| German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)   |                       | Samson SIMON        |
| <b>GMO Unit</b>   |                       |                     |
| <b>Scientific Network for Risk Assessment of GMOs (Food and Feed)</b>   |                       |                     |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b> | <b>Alternate</b>    |
| Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) – Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) | Andrea SCHEEPERS      |                     |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)  |                       | Alfonso LAMPEN      |
| <b>NUTRI Unit</b>   |                       |                     |
| <b>Scientific Network on Novel Foods</b>  |                       |                     |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b> | <b>Alternate</b>    |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)  | Claudia LUCKERT       | Julika LIETZOW      |
| Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety   |                       | Marcel-Antoine DUHS |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)  | Regina SCHUMANN       |                     |
| <b>PESTICIDES-PREV</b>  |                       |                     |
| <b>Pesticide Steering Network (PSN)</b>   |                       |                     |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b> | <b>Alternate</b>    |
| Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL)   | Eva GOCLIK            |                     |
| <b>SCER Unit</b>  |                       |                     |
| <b>Scientific Network on Emerging Risk Exchange (EREN)</b>  |                       |                     |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b> | <b>Alternate</b>    |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)  | Torsten HEROLD        |                     |
| Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL)   |                       | Petra LUBER         |
| <b>SCER Unit</b>  |                       |                     |
| <b>Scientific Network on Risk Assessment of Nanotechnologies in Food Feed (NANO)</b>                          |                       |                     |
| <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>Representative</b> | <b>Alternate</b>    |
| German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)  | Holger SIEG           | Linda BOEHMERT      |

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