



European Food Safety Authority

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PRESS RELEASE

New EFSA Executive Director nominated today by EFSA Management Board

The EFSA Management Board nominated today Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle as future Executive Director of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). She will be formally appointed after her hearing in the European Parliament.

Following an open competition for the post of Executive Director, the EFSA Management Board concluded today the interviews of candidates short-listed by the European Commission. The Board selected Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle currently Regional Director of Agriculture and Forestry for the Ile de France Region and Vice-President of EFSA Management Board.

Before a formal appointment can be made, the nominee for the post of Executive Director shall appear before the European Parliament in order to make a statement and answer questions put forward by Members. It is understood that the hearing in front of the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee of the European Parliament will take place later this month.

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Notes for editors:

- Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle is currently Regional Director of Agriculture and Forestry for the Ile de France region and Vice-President of EFSA Management Board. Having held senior management and advisory positions at the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle was General-Director of Food of that ministry from 2000 to 2003. In this capacity, she was responsible for the management of health risks from food. She holds degrees from the Institut National Agronomique Paris-Grignon, from the Ecole Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts and from Paris II. From 1991 to 1993, Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle worked for the European Commission in the area of risk management and risk assessment.

Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle has widespread experience of serving on Councils and Committees, often in the capacity of chair. She was chair of the Codex Alimentarius Committee on General Principles in 2001 and 2002..

- The Executive Director is appointed by EFSA's Management Board for a period of five years, renewable. The appointment is made on the basis of a list of candidates proposed by the European Commission after an open competition, following publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* and elsewhere of a call for expression of interest.
- The Executive Director is the legal representative of the Authority and is, among others, responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Authority.