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LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

20-9

Calls

Allergenicity assessment of GM plants: stakeholders to support working group - call for expression of interest - deadline 15 August 2020

We would like to inform you that, in light of successful past collaboration with stakeholders and the great interest in the subject of GM plants, **EFSA is setting up a stakeholder consultative group to support its upcoming work on the allergenicity assessment of genetically modified (GM) plants.**

The group will be consulted at various stages during the process and will provide input to the EFSA scientific working group in charge of the activity.

Experts from Member States will be also involved in the consultation group. The group will be invited to online (owing to the current sanitary situation) meetings of the Allergenicity Working Group and to a workshop that is scheduled to take place in spring 2021.

Nominations for membership of the stakeholder group will be accepted from registered EFSA stakeholder organisations as well as non-registered bodies with an interest in the area of allergenicity assessment.

Please note that the deadline for submission is **15 August 2020.**

In case of any questions or enquiries, please contact GMOManagement@efsa.europa.eu.

NEWS: [Allergenicity assessment of GM plants: stakeholders to support working group](#)

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: [Call to EFSA stakeholder organisations for nominating experts to the ad hoc EFSA Allergenicity Stakeholder Consultation Group](#)

EFSA tender: OC/EFSA/BIOCONTAM/2020/03 - Provision of Support to EFSA and to ECDC in the Production of the EU One Health Zoonoses Report and in Related Zoonoses Online Interactive Data Visualization Dashboards and Zoonoses Story Maps | Deadline: 28/09/20

Please be informed of the publication of the **interagency EFSA-ECDC call for tender “Provision of Support to EFSA and to ECDC in the Production of the EU One Health Zoonoses Report and in Related Zoonoses Online Interactive Data Visualisation Dashboards and Zoonoses Story Maps”.**

This call for tender is the result of EFSA's decision earlier this year to outsource the routine work for the production of the EU Health 2020 Zoonoses Report and following, and have a contractor also producing related communication tools.

With this outsourcing EFSA and ECDC strive for an intensified collaboration with Member states.

Please note that the time limit for receipt of tenders is **28 September 2020 -14:30**.

CALL DETAILS: [OC/EFSA/BIOCONTAM/2020/03](#)

ONGOING EFSA TENDERS : [Provision of Support to EFSA and to ECDC in the Production of the EU One Health Zoonoses Report and in Related Zoonoses Online Interactive Data Visualisation Dashboards and Zoonoses Story Maps](#)

Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Food Safety - Call for experts

In order to better advance on the recommendations from Member States, the WHO Department of Nutrition and Food Safety has taken the initiative to establish a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Food Safety: safer food for better health. This TAG will advise WHO on current and future challenges along the agri-food supply chain, directions to be prioritized to improve national food safety systems and interventions and activities to improve food safety. The TAG will also advise on the Global Strategy for Food Safety.

You can find the Call for Experts and the Terms of Reference for this TAG at <https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-who-technical-advisory-group-on-food-safety-safer-food-for-better-health>.

Public Consultations

Public Consultation on draft EFSA Statement on the derivation of Health-Based Guidance Values (HBGVs) for regulated products that are also nutrients

We would like to inform you that EFSA's Scientific Committee has launched an open consultation on its draft EFSA Statement on the derivation of Health-Based Guidance Values (HBGVs) for regulated products that are also nutrients.

This draft approach aims to harmonise assessments of the intake of these nutrients, the potentially hazardous properties of excessive intakes, and the overall risks for consumers. EFSA is holding a public consultation on the draft so that other scientific experts, organisations with an interest in the food chain, and members of the public can submit their views on the Scientific Committee's proposal.

Please note that the deadline for interested parties to submit written comments is **15 September 2020**.

In case of any questions or enquiries on the consultation, please contact the scientific unit's functional mailbox SCER.PublicConsult.EUS.008@efsa.europa.eu

NEWS: [Have your say - public consultation on harmonised approach for nutrients in regulated products](#)

PUBLIC CONSULTATION: [Public Consultation on draft EFSA Statement on the derivation of Health-Based Guidance Values \(HBGVs\) for regulated products that are also nutrients](#)

Events

ONLINE CONFERENCE: Modern technologies to enable response to crises: Next Generation Sequencing to tackle food-borne diseases in the EU | Sept 25, 2020

On behalf of the Organizing Committee of the event “Modern technologies to enable response to crises: Next Generation Sequencing to tackle food-borne diseases in the EU”, we hereby inform you that the Conference will be held **online** on **September 25, 2020** (same date as per previous communication of postponement) due to the ongoing measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 pandemic.

Please find below the original received message:

“The COVID-19 pandemic is changing the way we interact and the experiences we are all used to, when it comes to the scientific discussions. The concept of networking is also changing and revolving almost uniquely around the technology to connect people. We still believe that gathering people together is what can make the difference and decided to maintain the conference alive. However, considering the uncertainty on the traveling capacity and the necessity of people to feel safe we transformed the event into an online conference. Due to the technical need of keeping the event flowing smoothly the agenda has been shortened but retained the major points to fire the discussion over the implementation of genomic surveillance and monitoring of the food-borne diseases.

We’ll talk about the standard that NGS aims to be and the major hindrances together with all the main actors that envisioned the development of a European system for genomic data collections from food-borne pathogens and AMR.

The event aims at being immersive and thus be prepared to discuss and to share your opinions, through the use of an online platform that will allow to collect and aggregate inputs from the plenum on specific topics in real time.

To participate, please register at <https://w3.iss.it/site/sanvevent> however, if you registered already you do not have to register again. If you would like to cancel your registration, just let us know by e-mail at crl.vtec@iss.it”.

Publications

Update of EFSA Topic Page on Animal Welfare

EFSA is happy to inform you that their topic page on animal welfare has been updated including information on 5 new mandates received in the context of the European Commission's Farm to Fork (F2F) strategy.

As part of F2F, the EU is undertaking a comprehensive evaluation of its animal welfare legislation, for which EFSA has been asked to provide new advice that reflects the most up-to-date scientific research and data.

The mandates also cover animal transport and cages.

You can find out more information on the [webpage](#) including links to the new mandates.

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