

EFSA has launched a call for membership of its Scientific Panels and Scientific Committee

On 31 March 2011, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has launched a call to renew the membership and create reserve lists for its Scientific Panels and Scientific Committee. Scientists are therefore kindly invited to respond to the call which closes on 31 May 2011.

EFSA is inviting applications from highly qualified scientists from both within and outside Europe with expertise in a wide range of scientific fields such as food additives and nutrient sources, food contact materials, flavourings, toxicology, contaminants in the food chain, biological hazards, GMOs, feedstuffs, plant health and plant protection products, animal health and welfare, dietetic products, allergies, novel foods and nutrition. Applicants should demonstrate experience in carrying out scientific risk assessments and have proven scientific excellence in one, or preferably several, of the fields within EFSA's remit.

For the three-year period from mid-2012 to mid-2015, membership is being renewed and reserve lists created for the following:

- Scientific Committee (SC)
- Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)
- Panel on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ)
- Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)
- Panel on Feed Additives and Products or Substances Used in Animal Feed (FEEDAP)
- Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)
- Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies (NDA)
- Panel on Plant Health (PLH)
- Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR)

For the three-year period from mid-2014 to mid-2017, this call also aims at pre-selecting experts for the following two Panels (both of which have recently been renewed for the period ending in mid-2014):

- Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources Added to Food (ANS)
- Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF)

Please note that experts who are not appointed to a Panel or Scientific Committee can be placed on a reserve list that will be used to fill future vacancies.

Membership of EFSA's Scientific Panels or Scientific Committee offers a range of benefits to both experts and their institutes. Experts have the opportunity to network and collaborate with their peers, as well as scientists from other disciplines, in a working environment that lies at the interface between science and policy. Membership promotes firsthand knowledge of current scientific issues and policy developments in the area of food safety. For institutes, the benefits include increased recognition of its experts in the international food safety arena and greater visibility in the scientific community. All scientific outputs produced by EFSA (opinions, reports, guidance documents, etc.) are published in the *EFSA Journal*, an online monthly publication that is indexed in the key relevant bibliographic databases.

Building on the experience gained in previous renewal exercises, EFSA has simplified the application procedure to make it more accessible to potential candidates. The call has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* and on EFSA's website. A full

information package on the call for expressions of interest is available at the following link:
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scpanels/memberscall2011.htm>.

With this e-mail EFSA would like to bring this call to your attention. Furthermore, EFSA would greatly appreciate your assistance in helping to raise awareness about the call thus feel free to forward this e-mail to your contacts and networks. Should you wish to receive printed copies of our promotional postcards and posters please contact our Publications Team (publications@efsa.europa.eu). Since EFSA is trying to reach as many experts as possible, please accept our apologies in advance should you receive this message more than once.

We thank you in advance for your interest and collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle
Executive Director