III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE POSITION OF MEMBER OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD
OF THE EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY

(2002/C 29/06)

Applications are invited for the position of member of the management board of the European Food Safety Authority established by Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (1). The Authority will be provisionally located in Brussels.

The European Food Safety Authority

The Authority has been established to provide scientific advice and support for Community legislation and policies in all fields that may have a direct or indirect impact on food and feed safety as well as closely associated questions in the field of animal health and welfare and plant health. It will provide independent information on these matters and communicate on risks. Its mission also includes provision of scientific advice on nutrition, particularly in relation to Community legislation and GMOs including new food technologies. The Authority must rapidly earn a reputation with its stakeholders as the accepted point of reference by virtue of its independence, the scientific quality of its opinions and public information, the transparency of its procedures and its diligence in performing its tasks. In addition to having its own specialist personnel, the Authority will manage and be supported by networks of competent organisations in the EU.

Role of the Management Board

The responsibilities of the Management Board include, in particular:

— the adoption of annual and multiannual programmes of work of the Authority and the general report of annual activities,

— the adoption of the Authority's internal rules and financial regulation,

— in the short term, minimising disruption to the provision of scientific advice following transfer of responsibilities from the Commission.

Composition of the Management Board

The Management Board shall be composed of 14 members, plus a representative of the Commission.

This publication concerns applications for the positions of the 14 of the members mentioned above. Four of the members shall have their background in organisations representing consumers and other interests in the food chain. The members of the Board shall be appointed in such a way as to secure the highest standards of competence, a broad range of relevant expertise and, consistent with these, the broadest possible geographic distribution within the Union.

Qualifications for the position

The Management Board will need the competence and collective expertise necessary to guide the Authority on matters relating to its mission particularly to ensure:

1. efficient delivery of scientific advice and support to meet the European Community's needs in relation to its legislation and policies and its work in the public interest;

2. application of sound principles of management and public administration;

3. its functioning is guided by the principles of integrity, independence and transparency and ethical practices;

4. communication and information to the public on scientific issues;

5. the creation and maintenance of a reputation for a high level of excellence, objectivity and reliability with its stakeholders;

(1) Pending publication in the Official Journal.
6. promotion of the necessary coherence between risk assessment, risk management and risk communication functions.

Candidates will need to demonstrate that they can contribute effectively to one or more of the areas listed above, they must have had at least 15 years of experience in one or more of the areas listed above. This shall include at least five years at a senior level. Candidates shall have at least five years of experience gained from work in connection with food and feed safety or other areas related to the Authority's mission and substantial experience in a multicultural and multidisciplinary environment. Candidates will be selected on the basis of comparative merits in relation to the abovementioned criteria.

Independence and declarations of commitment and interest

Board Members will be nominated in a personal capacity. They will be required to make a declaration of commitment to act independently in the public interest and to make a declaration in relation to interests which might be considered prejudicial to their independence. Therefore, in line with the principle of independence in the functioning of the Board, applicants are asked to indicate any direct or indirect relationship that they consider to be relevant to the mission of the Authority.

Members of the Management Board having a background in organisations representing consumers and other interests in the food chain

Candidates are asked to indicate if their application could be also considered as an expression of interest in the context of such Board Members and, if so, provide details on their background in organisations representing consumers and other interests in the food chain.

Appointment and terms of mandate

With the exception of the Commission representative, who will be appointed by the Commission itself, members of the Management Board are appointed by the Council in consultation with the European Parliament from the list drawn up by the Commission on the basis of this call for expression of interests. The term of office shall be four years except that for the first mandate, this period shall be six years for half of the members. Applicants should note that the Commission's list may be made public. Individuals on the Commission's list who are not appointed may be invited to constitute a reserve list to be used in the event of need to replace members who are unable to complete their mandate.

Nationality

Applicants must be nationals of an EU Member State.

Equal opportunities

The European Union takes great care to avoid any form of discrimination and actively encourages applications from women.

Participation in the Board meetings

Members will need to make a high level of commitment to participate in the meetings of the Management Board. It is estimated that the Management Board will meet four to six times per year although this may be more frequent during the establishment of the Authority. Members of the Board are not remunerated but will be reimbursed for their normal travel and subsistence costs and may receive indemnities for each day spent at meetings.

Application procedure

An application form can be obtained by e-mail from SANCO-EFSA-MB-APPL@cec.eu.int, by post from the address below, by fax ((32-2) 299 63 01) or from either of the following websites which also give additional information including the text of the Regulation of the European Parliament and Council mentioned above: http://www.efsa.eu.int and http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/efa/index_en.html

European Commission
Management Board of the European Food Safety Authority
Directorate General Health and Consumer Protection
The Director-General
B-232 7/107
B-1049 Brussels

In order for applications to be considered valid, candidates must submit a letter of motivation, a completed application form and a free format CV of maximum three pages. Supporting documents must be submitted at a later stage in the procedure, if requested.

Closing date

Applications must be sent either by e-mail (to SANCO-EFSA-MB@cec.eu.int) or registered post (to the address listed above) no later than 28 February 2002 (date as postmark).

Applications sent by express courier service must be delivered to the above address before 17:00 on 28 February 2002.