



NTPs 11/2010

Rome, 29th September 2010

OBJECT: Minutes of the 8th NTPs meeting (Rimini, 16th September 2010).

On 16th September 2010, at 9.30 a.m., the 8th meeting of Food for Life National Technology Platforms took place in Rimini (see the list of participants in Annex 1). Representatives from the following National Technology Platforms attended the meeting: Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands, UK, Ukraine. Representatives from the following non EU countries were also at the meeting: Canada, Chile, Jordan, Mexico, Syria. EFSA was also attending the meeting as observer.

- **D. Rossi** welcomed the participants and thanked them for attending the meeting.
- **M. C. Di Domizio** illustrated the results of the survey concerning the skills that companies need. NTPs collected the view of member SMEs and large companies on the skills what they expect from different staff members (young graduates, technicians, skilled workers) for future employment. Separate forms have been filled in for each type of employees. NTPs have also provided a rating for each skills (5. Very important, 4. Important, 3. Moderately important, 2. May be useful, 1. Not important). 16 NTPs answered (one more than in Brussels in March): Austria, Belgium Flanders, Belgium Walloon, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Germany, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia and Switzerland. A deep analysis of the results of the survey has been elaborated (see Annex 2).

ACTIONS:

- **NTPs, that have not answered the survey yet, to do it and send the results to the Secretariat (didomizio@federalimentare.it).**
- **A. Sebok and D. Rossi to elaborate data and figures.**

- **A. Sebok** informed NTPs that 6 updates were received on funding schemes (see Annex 3).

ACTIONS:

- **NTPs to send information on funding schemes to keep them updated.**

- **J. Drausinger** informed the NTPs on the activities of the Communication, Training and Technology Transfer working group (see Annex 4), with a particular focus on the new ETP page on CIAA web-site (<http://etp.ciaa.eu/asp/index.asp>). The Participants underlined the necessity of having a more efficient dissemination network at ETP level, in order to exchange new opinions and common information, including NTPs events. This need will be expressed at the ETB Board of 25th October 2010. The possibility of organising a self-dissemination structure autonomously managed by NTPs was taken into account.

ACTIONS:

- **MC Di Domizio to disseminate the presentation of the ETP Food for Life to the NFTP network.**
- **NTPs to draft a one pager in English, describing the activities carried on at national level (to be published on the NTPs page on the ETP web -site).**

- **NTPs to draft a one pager of their SRA/IAP in English (to be published on the NTPs page on the ETP web -site).**
 - **NTPs to determine their addressees on national level for own use.**
- **D. Rossi** updated the Participants on FP7 and FP8 (see Annex 5), with a particular focus on the success obtained for call 2011 of FP7: Food for Life Implementation Action Plan is the source of the majority of topics of Activity 2.2. of Theme 2 "Food, Agriculture and Fisheries and Biotechnology". D. Rossi distributed to the Participants the letter that Mella Frewen, Director General of CIAA, and Peter Van Bladeren, Chairman of the ETP, will send to the EU Commission by 17th September 2010 (*note of the writer: the letter has been sent and forwarded to the NTPs on 23rd September*) and thanked NTPs for their contribution. The letter contains a list of key topics to be included in the work-programme 2012 - 2013 identified by CIAA Research and Development/Science Expert Group, the ETP Food for Life and our National Technology Platforms. Concerning FP8, D. Rossi explained the internal organisation of work of the EU Commission, the consultation process, that will take place in 2011 (involving also Member States, regions, representative organisations, interest groupings, individual organisations and even individual persons), and the financial issues. At this regard he explained that under the existing rules the management of EU research funding is carried out under centralised direct or indirect management, while further increases in research budget will inevitably require externalisation and two avenues to introduce elements of shared management should be explored: Joint programming with Member states or a group of Member States could be charged with the implementation of parts of the programme for which they have rich experience. D. Rossi informed the participants about the KBBE Conference that he attended on 14th September in Brussels and on the need expressed by the EU Commission to have a costs – benefits analysis of the EU research in the food sector (evaluation of the economic and social impacts, also taking into account public health).

ACTIONS:

- **D. Rossi to draft a questionnaire and send it to the NTPs, kindly asking them to fill it in.**
 - **D. Rossi to rank ETPs inside KBBE: Food for Life and Plants for the Future should have more room.**
- **A. Sebők** informed the Participants on "Factory of the Future" (see Annex 6), a major programme initiated and supported by the EU, through collaboration of the Manufature and other sectors. Combining the approaches and specific skills from the ETP Manufature with those from the ETP Food for Life will create ground breaking solutions that can make the European food manufacturing sector a global leader (Food Factory of the Future). Manufature and Food for Life are preparing a common proposal within the topic of WP2011 "KBBE.2011.2.3-02: Food Factory of the Future — Design Study".

ACTIONS:

- **NTPs to find Manufature National Platforms in the different countries and start having contacts with them.**
- **András Sebők, Norbert Reichl and Markus Schroll, Julian Drausinger, Christophe Cotillon and Fotini Salta** illustrated the results of the following projects: Transparent-Food, AgriFoodResults, OPTIMALT, Knowledge2Innovation (see Annexes 7, 8, 9, 10).
- **Nadiya Boyko** made a presentation of the Ukrainian NTP: history, organisation, location, future events, projects (see Annex 11).
- **Olga Legonkova** made a presentation of the Russian NTP: history, organisation, location, future events, projects (see Annex 12).

- **Gustavo R. Bustillo A.,** Director of Bustar Alimentos (Mexico), presented himself, asking for collaboration within SSICA.
- **A. Sebok** and **D. Rossi** illustrated the campaign to support innovation of SMEs (see Annexes 13,14,15,16). The campaign is targeted at Food SMEs, Policy makers, Knowledge transfer organisations and Research providers. The campaign will be aimed at enhancing competitiveness of food SMEs, convincing SMEs on the benefits of exploiting research results, increasing the awareness of policy makers at EU and national level on the different nature of innovation in the food sector compared to the high-tech sectors and on the differences in role of food industry SMEs compared to research intensive SMEs in the high-tech sectors and other non-food manufacturing sectors and at proposing measures for policy makers for enhancing implementation of research results for innovation at SMEs. The campaign has also objectives specifically addressed at NTPs: attract more companies to the NTPs and demonstrate the capability of the NTPs in supporting SMEs in innovation. A list of activities that can be used to start the campaign in the different countries involved was illustrated in detail. Three core presentations with a set of slides were prepared for policy makers, SMEs and mediators. National Platforms can choose, adjust and extend the slides according to their needs. A letter to policy makers and a draft text of press release will be circulated before the end of the next week for comments.

ACTIONS:

- **NTPs to send their comments to A. Sebok and D. Rossi by 15th October 2010, who will adjust the material by 24th October and send back the final versions to the NTPs.**
 - **NTPs to choose an activity from the list to be sent by the beginning of October and start the campaign by the end of 2010.**
- **The 9th meeting of "Food for Life" National Platforms will be held in the Springtime. There are two possible locations: Lisbon during Alimentaria or Budapest in the occasion of the Hungarian Presidency of the European Union.** Date and location will be soon communicated, after a consultation between Pedro Queiroz, Tim Hogg, Federico Morais, András Sebők and Istvan Pauer.

Yours sincerely

Daniele Rossi
Chairman of the collaboration activities of
the NTPs

András Sebők
Vice-Chairman the collaboration
activities of the NTPs