



22 September 2015

PRESS RELEASE

“Workshop on the Food Risk analysis framework”- Larnaca, 22-23/9/2015

The Food Safety Council of Cyprus (FSC) and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) co-organizes a Workshop on the “Food Risk analysis framework”, in Larnaca, Cyprus on 22nd to 23rd September 2015. The aim of the workshop is to exchange knowledge and best practices in risk assessment and risk analysis work between the experts from National Food Authorities in Cyprus (participating in the FSC), EU Neighboring countries (ENP) and EFSA. Particular focus was put on risk assessment methodologies and management strategies for contaminants in food such as heavy metals, pesticides and mycotoxins.

More than 50 participants are attending the workshop from National Food Authorities from Cyprus and the lead ENP countries (Israel, Jordan, Moldova, Morocco and Palestine). The experts give the opportunity to participants to actively involve themselves and take part in discussions in order to exchange their views, information and working practice. The presence of the Minister of Health of Cyprus, Dr. George Pamborides and the EFSA’s Executive Director, Dr. Bernhard Url, at the workshop underlines the importance EFSA attaches to working with MS of European Union (EU) to achieve the goal of improved relations with the EU Neighboring countries in the field of food safety.

During a Press Conference which was given in the context of the two days’ Workshop, Dr. Url had the opportunity to stress the role of EFSA towards the EU-MSs and the ENP Countries, the role of Cyprus on Food Safety issues and the cooperation of Cyprus with EFSA in Food Risk Assessment and emerging risks related to the food chain. The FSC representative, Dr. Popi Kanari, Director of the State General Laboratory of Cyprus, who is also a member of the Advisory Forum of EFSA, also emphasized the role of Cyprus and highlighted the important role of the country, as the frontier of Europe with East Mediterranean countries, in the area of Food Safety. The State General Laboratory of Cyprus as well as the other relevant national Competent Authorities, that participate in the FSC ie. the Public Health Services of the Ministry of Health, the Veterinary Services and the Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development & Environment, have the scientific capacity to play this serious role in European Affairs.

The workshop is organized under the ‘EFSA European Neighbourhood Programme (ENP) 2014-2016’ financed by the European Commission, in cooperation with the FSC. The ENP Programme aims to strengthen relations between EFSA and neighbouring countries, encouraging dialogue and exchange of knowledge and best practices. The event provides forum for discussion on future ENP activities and areas

of possible cooperation between EFSA, ENP countries and Food Authorities of Cyprus.
