



ONE HEALTH CROSS-AGENCY TASK FORCE

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GHUC"□"QPG"JGCMVJ

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 - mission European Food Safety Authority:

*The Authority shall contribute to a high level of protection of **human life and health**, and in this respect take account of **animal health and welfare, plant health and the environment ...***

ONE CONFERENCE 2022



COVID-19 PANDEMIC: LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE (2022/2076(INI))

2022/2076(INI)

14.4.2023

245. **Calls for the EU to integrate One Health, as defined by the WHO, in its public health policies;**

highlights the need to further expand knowledge in this field and promote public scientific research in order to better understand and reflect the interdependencies between human, animal, plant and environmental health ...;



251. **Calls for establishment of a European cross-agency task force dedicated to the One Health approach to advance transdisciplinary research and cross-sectoral scientific advice;**



Cross-Agency One Health Statement

13 November 2023



One Health Conference

One Health for All, All for One Health



Cross-agency knowledge for One Health action

Joint statement by European Union Agencies
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)
European Environment Agency (EEA)
European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
European Medicines Agency (EMA)



Supporting the One Health agenda in Europe

ECDC, ECHA, EEA, EFSA & EMA



- 1 First and foremost, we are convinced that the scientific evidence base for One Health action needs strengthening. Ongoing knowledge gaps should be filled for areas such as AMR, infectious diseases, chemical pollution and the effects of climate change on health. Data availability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability must be improved. Horizon Europe, the current EU framework programme for R&I, and the [EU4Health programme](#) are critical in this respect. As EU agencies, we are committed to helping frame research needs from a One Health perspective, promoting synergies between R&I efforts and making use of relevant research outcomes (Bronzwaer et al., 2022).
- 2 Second, the One Health approach should be mainstreamed in the area of scientific advice and risk assessment. As EU agencies, we recognise that our scientific advice on topics such as animal and environmental health, food safety, environmental sustainability, climate change-induced health impacts and nutrition must be increasingly integrated and approached from a One Health perspective (Devos et al., 2022b). In the area of regulatory science, more proactive sharing of information between our agencies will facilitate the transition to more integrated risk assessment of pesticides and other chemicals. Collaboration under the recent [regulation on serious cross-border threats to health](#) will support the EU's preparedness and response to emerging health crises in a way that is consistent with the One Health approach.
- 3 Third, we highlight the importance of establishing intersectoral One Health coordination mechanisms including human, animal and environmental sectors and aligning surveillance and early warning systems in Europe with the One Health concept. Integrated surveillance systems, including ecological monitoring and information on drivers of disease emergence, should be prioritised. In turn, this would help overcome existing silos between sectors and actors (Hayman et al., 2023).
- 4 Fourth, strengthening One Health educational and training programmes remains a key enabler for successfully designing and implementing One Health initiatives and policies (dos S. Ribeiro et al., 2019). We are convinced that efforts to build One Health capacities for risk assessors and professionals from the medical, veterinary, agriculture and environmental sectors need to be supported and promoted (FAO et al., 2022).

As EU agencies, we believe that taking a One Health approach is necessary to successfully address the multiple challenges facing the EU in the areas of human, animal and plant health, food safety, the climate crisis and environmental sustainability. Recognising the important work being undertaken to operationalise the approach across EU policies and actions, we also reaffirm our commitment to working closely with the European Commission in transforming the vision of One Health into action. Through [our cross-agency task force](#), we strive to facilitate strategic coordination within our agencies in the implementation of the One Health approach; promote research coordination, capacity building and One Health-driven agenda setting; ensure that our communication, support to EU policy processes and engagement with relevant stakeholders is increasingly integrated; and support the development of joint activities and the sharing of data and information.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to support the implementation of the One Health approach. By doing so, we will be better able to prevent, predict, detect and respond to health threats. We can improve health for all and protect the life-support systems upon which our economies and societies depend.

ONE HEALTH CROSS-AGENCY TASK FORCE – STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



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