



Organisation and implementation of training activities to strengthen EU law enforcement in Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) fields under the "Better Training for Safer Food" initiative

Notification to BTSF National Contact Points

Ref: Workshop on inter-sectoral simulation exercises on multi-country foodborne incidents

November 26th -29th 2019

Dear Madame / Dear Sir,

We are writing to inform you and invite you to nominate participants to a forthcoming inter-sectoral simulation exercise on multi-country foodborne incidents organized within the Better Training for Safer Food initiative of the European Commission.

The workshop is part of a wider programme of activities that will involve EU Member States and neighbouring non-EU countries through eighteen separate workshops and a series of sustained training and technical assistance missions (STMs). The aim of these training activities is to strengthen the understanding, implementation and enforcement of EU law in the fields of food and feed law, animal health and welfare rules and plant health.

This is a first session out of series of 3 exercises that will be organised until March 2018 with scope to include all Member States by the end of the 3rd exercise.

This exercise will be organised in Brussels, Belgium, and is scheduled with a four-day duration, from 26th to 29th November 2019. The venue of the event will be NH BLOOM Brussels, chosen for its convenient location nhbrusselsbloom@nh-hotels.com.

The project will cover the entire cost of the workshop for participants, which includes:

- full board accommodation, including breakfast, lunch, dinner and coffee breaks;
- travel expenses including flight to/from Brussels in economy class and transfer to/from the airport at the place of training.

The workshop will be held in English.

Objectives of the training course

The overall aim of the exercise is to strengthen EU Member States, other EEA countries' (Norway, Iceland) and Switzerland capacities to deliver a coordinated response to a serious food safety incident that affects them.

Specific objectives are:

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- To assess the effectiveness of participating countries’ protocols to deliver a harmonised and cross-border response to a serious multi-country food safety incident.
- To assess the effectiveness of the collaborative working arrangements both within and between participating countries and relevant EU bodies (i.e. European Commission, ECDC, EFSA and relevant EURLs).
- To assess the degree to which there is a common and consistent understanding and application of key definitions and concepts, and of the existing alert systems and communication tools.
- To identify learning that can be shared and used to enhance participant’s response capability, EU protocols and ways of working so as to inform future EU training and exercising initiatives.

Selection process

We kindly request you to nominate a number of participants as indicated in the table with allocation of seats for the **Session 1 of November 2019**, that you can find in the next paragraph. Each EU Member State should send 3 participants (1 for public health, 1 for food safety and 1 for crisis coordination in the food sector).

	Member State	1st session November 2019
1	Czech Republic	3
2	Estonia	3
3	Finland	3
4	Hungary	3
5	Latvia	3
6	Lithuania	3
7	Norway	3
8	Poland	3
9	Slovakia	3
10	Sweden	3
	Total	30

Please note that, in addition to the number of participants assigned to your country in the distribution of seats, you can nominate one additional reserve participant for this session, who will be confirmed in a second phase should there be extra places available within the workshop.

Participants should have the following requirements:

- Minimum 3 years of professional experience in public health sector or official control on food safety;
- Competent authority responsible for investigation and/or management of foodborne outbreaks;
- Fluent in English.

Participants will be requested to commit themselves to disseminate the knowledge received via different dissemination methods, i.e. informing colleagues about the information received at the training, distributing (photocopying or sending via electronic way) the training materials among their colleagues, preparing informative articles in the professional national journals, preparing presentations based on the

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training materials for the staff of national Competent Authorities or other disseminating methods which could be appropriate to share the information received via the BTSF training. During the course participants will be provided with a training package to be used as supporting dissemination material.

Selected participants should be informed that the program will include an anonymous assessment test to be carried out at the beginning and at the end of each workshop, with the aim of measuring the impact of the training on the understanding of the taught subjects by participants.

Furthermore, between two to three months after the respective training session, participants will receive a standard questionnaire designed specifically to address the use of the knowledge acquired during a training in the participants' daily work practice and the type and level of further dissemination done following the training sessions.

Participants are expected to agree to carry out the above tests and to reply to the questionnaire.

Please bear in mind that all applications forms should be submitted to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com by **11th November 2019**. We cannot guarantee that applications received after this deadline will be accepted.

Kindly ensure that full details of selected participants are supplied in accordance with the Registration Form enclosed herewith. These details are needed to send the relevant e-ticket to participants and ensure that they are informed by air carriers in case of delays/changes in the flight schedule.

Project Management

The workshop will be implemented by the company OPERA, that has been awarded a service contract by the EU agency CHAFEA - Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency that provides professional services in performing the tasks and activities entrusted to it by the European Commission, and works closely with the Health and Food Safety Directorate General.

For further details, you can revert to or phone to + 39 06 96042652. Project Manager is Claudio BOMPARD. Training coordinator is Alberto MANCUSO.

Registration forms can be sent by e-mail to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com. Booking of flights and other logistical arrangements will be handled directly by OPERA staff.

Please feel free to contact us if you require clarification on any of the above information. I am looking forward to hearing from you or your colleagues.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Best regards.

CLAUDIO BOMPARD
Project Manager

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