



EUROPEAN RISK FORUM MEETING

Achieving Excellence in Scientific Advice: Leveraging good practices

Tuesday 1 December 2015 (09h00-12h30, a buffet lunch follows)
Thon Hotel EU, Rue de la Loi 75, 1040 Brussels

Used well, excellent science provides effective ways of identifying potential risks, protecting citizens, stimulating innovation, and using resources widely. It enables governments to base actions on evidence derived from transparent, rational processes, enhancing accountability, trust, and effectiveness.

As they seek to achieve this goal, regulators face challenges. They must balance excellence with impartiality, so as to ensure public acceptance without losing access to the best science. They must develop scientific advisory mechanisms for parliamentarians without challenging the legitimacy of the political process. They must recognise problems of 'bias, whilst also highlighting conflicts of interest. They must recognise the rising 'value' of good science when making decisions based on hazard rather than risk.

An eminent panel of scientists, academics, senior EU officials and decision-makers will address these issues and develop recommendations to strengthen the role of excellent science in EU decision-making.

Programme

(The discussion will take place under the Chatham House Rule.)

09h00 **Welcome by the Chair**

- [REDACTED], ERF Chairman

09h10 **Panel discussion**

- [REDACTED], MEP, Chair, EP Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA) – *Provision of scientific advice to the European Parliament (tbc)*
- [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Health information and Scientific committees Unit, DG SANTE, European Commission – *EU Scientific committees rules of procedures and their evolution over time*
- [REDACTED], Secretary-General, European Council of Academies of Applied Sciences, Technologies and Engineering (Euro-CASE) – *Supporting excellence in the scientific advisory process*
- [REDACTED], Energy and Environmental Law Program, Catholic University of Leuven – *Procedural standards for peer-review scientific evidence*
- [REDACTED], Senior Researcher, "Sound Science Project", University of Maastricht – *Selective citation in science based decision-making*
- [REDACTED], ERF Rapporteur – *Importance of excellent science and the challenges faced by regulators*

12h20 **Concluding remarks**

- [REDACTED], ERF Secretary General

12h30 **Lunch buffet**