

Testbiotech e V.  
Mr Cristoph Then  
Frohschammerstraße 14  
DE-80807 München  
Deutschland

28 SEP 2017

**Subject/Re: your letter of 1 September 2017**

Dear Mr Then,

Thank you for your letter dated 1 September 2017, addressed to the members of the Management Board of the European Food Safety Authority and other recipients, in which you outline your concerns with respect to the attendance of an EFSA staff member at a toxicology conference in the US.

Having looked into this matter, I am pleased to confirm the position already expressed by EFSA's Executive Director in his letter to you of 25 August 2017: neither EFSA nor any of its staff ever received, directly or indirectly, any subsidy, fee or reimbursement of expenses from the Society of Toxicology, Mr. Vale, or any private company to participate to this meeting.

In this respect, I can affirm that EFSA's policy not to accept to be financed, reimbursed or receive any other kind of support by applicant companies or associations was fully complied with in this instance.

In response to your specific questions, the invitation to the conference was sent by Mr. Vale and Mr. Wilks to Mr. Tarazona who, due to conflicting work priorities, delegated Ms Court-Marques to attend. The invitation included an offer to reimburse Mr. Tarazona for travel and accommodation expenses but, as outlined above, this was not accepted, neither by Mr. Tarazona nor subsequently by Ms. Court-Marques, as it was not in line with EFSA's respective policy. In this respect, EFSA was aware of the offer to sponsor Mr. Tarazona's attendance but it was declined.

Furthermore, the staff member in question attended the conference to present an official EFSA scientific output for the benefit of the scientists attending the conference. This is common practice for EFSA and is part of EFSA's legal and scientific duties according to its founding regulation.

I trust the above provides the reassurances you require.

Yours sincerely,

  
Jaana Husu-Kallio

cc: Mr V. Andriukaitis, EU Commissioner for Health & Food Safety; Mr X. Prats Monné, Director General, EC DG SANTE; Mr. L. Miko, Deputy Director General, EC DG SANTE; Members of EFSA's Management Board; Mr B. Url, EFSA Executive Director; Ms S. Yamadjako; B. Gallani, G. De Seze; Mr D. Detken (EFSA).