

ENFSI Board Action Plan 2012/2013

Introduction

The ENFSI Board Action Plan 2012/2013 is based on the ENFSI Strategic Plan 2011/2014 which was approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting 2011 in Tallinn and amended in during Annual Meeting 2012 in Dublin.

The Strategic Plan includes the following strategic goals:

1. Strengthening the scientific basis for the delivery of forensic science by stimulating and coordinating research and development activities.
2. Promoting the evaluation of forensic information to strengthen the effectiveness of scientific results as evidence.
3. Providing a forum for the exchange of good practice in the daily delivery of forensic science.
4. Facilitating the mutual recognition of forensic results throughout Europe through active involvement in the process of harmonisation and the setting of standards for forensic science in Europe.
5. Promoting quality assurance and the achievement of accreditation across the whole forensic process.
6. Stimulating an education and training program which is fit for purpose for all stakeholders in the forensic process.
7. Taking further steps in creating a European Forensic Science Area 2020 and in particular active involvement in developing suggestions for a detailed action plan in regards to a vision for European Forensic Science 2020.

In the ENFSI year 2012/2013 the Board will work towards these goals and make steps forwards by means of concrete actions. The achieved results will be presented at the Annual Meeting 2013 and finally evaluated by the membership.

This Board Action Plan contains actions which will be performed by the Board itself, taking into account that support and stimulation of ENFSI statutory bodies are permanent tasks of the Board Members and the division of responsibilities between them are as follows:

Pawel Rybicki, Chairman – responsible for external contacts and public relations,

Üllar Lanno, Chairman designate – responsible for internal organization, WGs and budget

Torsten Ahlhorn, Board member – responsible for R&D

Lourdes Puigbarraca i Sol, Board member – responsible for QCC

Hans Henrik Jensen, Board member – responsible for E&T

The overview presented below sums up specific actions to be performed in relation to the aforementioned ENFSI strategic goals:

Goal 1: Strengthening the **scientific basis** for the delivery of forensic science by stimulating and coordinating **research and development** activities.

- a) Improve networking between R&D SC, Working Groups and member-institutes, e.g. by activating the member-institutes to appoint a representative for R&D Liaison Group and by motivating the Working Groups in developing mid- and long-term R&D whitepapers.
- b) Facilitate initiatives to enhance R&D infrastructure and organisation within member institutes, e.g. by sharing best practices and promoting pilot-projects with volunteering institutes.

Goal 2: Promoting the **evaluation of forensic information** to strengthen the effectiveness of scientific results as evidence.

- a) Monitor the progress of Monopoly 2010 projects which are devoted to strengthening the evaluation of forensic results across Europe and encourage member-institutes to fully benefit from the outcomes of the projects.

Goal 3: Providing a forum for the exchange of good practice in the **daily delivery of forensic science**.

- a) Take concrete steps towards the establishment of a unified communication platform (teleconference/webinar solution) to improve information sharing process through on-line communication between Members, ENFSI Board, Secretariat, Standing Committees and Expert Working Groups.
- b) Develop and implement a Communication Plan (reports, media, publications etc.).
- c) Release an ENFSI e-newsletter about the network and its members achievements (distributed internally and externally).

Goal 4: Facilitating the mutual recognition of forensic results throughout Europe through active involvement in the process of **harmonisation** and the **setting of standards** for forensic science in Europe.

- a) Build up new and maintain current external contacts in line with defining ENFSI's role in the field of standardisation within forensic science, especially through cooperation with CEN, Europol and Eurojust.

Goal 5: Promoting **quality assurance** across the whole forensic process and the achievement of **accreditation** by the forensic institutes.

- a) Promote the enlargement of scopes of accreditation and implementation of competence assurance systems among ENFSI member-institutes.
- b) Raise awareness on various issues concerning quality criteria in forensic science among external organisations working within the field of accreditation.
- c) Improve networking between the QCC and Working Groups by facilitating an evaluation of past activities and future needs and expectations.

Goal 6: Stimulating **education and training** for all stakeholders in the forensic process.

- a) Improve networking between the E&T SC and Working Groups by facilitating an evaluation of past activities and future needs and expectations.
- b) Promote and strengthen relations with CEPOL and EJTN by enhancing cooperation within the E&T area.

Goal 7: Taking further steps in **creating a European Forensic Science Area 2020** and in particular active involvement in developing suggestions for a detailed action plan in regards to a vision for European Forensic Science 2020

- a) Stay actively involved in the initiatives concerning the creation of European Forensic Science 2020 in particular by assisting the *EFSA'20 task force* in creating an ENFSI input to the Action Plan for the Vision for European Forensic Science 2020.