



ENFSI ACTION PLAN

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Introduction

ENFSI Action Plan is regulated by Guidance document - FRAMEWORK FOR PLANNING & REPORTING – last amended 29-05-2013. Based on this framework the ENFSI action plan:

- shall present Actions of the Board together with Standing Committees covering the forthcoming year of the P&R-cycle;
- shall be based on the Strategic Plan 2011-2014, affected by the topical developments and formulated as concrete targets;
- shall be sent to the Membership not later than six weeks after the Annual Meeting. ENFSI Secretariat informed the membership by e-mail dated on July 5th about the Board's intention to extend the deadline for the preparation of the document till 23 August 2013.

Therefore, ENFSI Action Plan 2013/2014 is considering:

I. 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 according to the detailed action plan in regards to a vision for European Forensic Science 2020.



With the current ENFSI Action Plan the achievements of last ENFSI Board Action Plan 2012-2013 will be finalised and new focus areas will support the strategic developments until 2020.

II. ENFSI long term aim is to focus on the preparations and support to the European Council conclusions on the vision for [European Forensic Science 2020](#) including the creation of a European Forensic Science Area (EFSA20) and the development of forensic science infrastructure in Europe (3135th JUSTICE and HOME AFFAIRS Council meeting Brussels, 13 and 14 December 2011).

The aim of the EFSA20 is to foster cooperation between police and judicial authorities across the European Union. ENFSI will assist European Commission to make progress in the following areas:

1. accreditation of forensic science institutes and laboratories;
2. respect for minimum competence criteria for forensic science personnel;
3. establishment of common best practice manuals and their application in daily work of forensic laboratories and institutes;
4. conduct of proficiency tests/collaborative exercises in forensic science activities at international level;
5. application of minimum quality standards for scene-of-crime investigations and evidence management from crime scene to court room;
6. recognition of equivalence of law enforcement forensic activities with a view to avoiding duplication of effort through cancellation of evidence owing to technical and qualitative differences, and achieving significant reductions in the time taken to process crimes with a cross-border component;
7. identification of optimal and shared ways to create, update and use forensic databases;
8. use of advances in forensic science in the fight against terrorism, organised crime and other criminal activities;
9. forensic awareness, in particular through appropriate education and training of the law enforcement and justice community;
10. research and development projects to promote further development of the forensic science infrastructure.

In the ENFSI year 2013/2014 the Board together with the Standing Committees will work towards the strategic goals and make steps forward by means of concrete actions. The achieved results will be presented at the Annual Meeting 2014 and finally evaluated by the ENFSI membership in Bratislava.

This ENFSI Action Plan contains actions which will be performed by the Board and Standing Committees supported by Working Groups, Monopoly Programme responsible people and ENFSI Secretariat.

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



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

- Board together with R&D Standing Committee will establish an Overview of ENFSI members R&D projects.
- Board by delegating this task to R&D SC and with the support of ENFSI WG's will propose actions for EFSA20 tasks 7 and 10.

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

- Board will promote and follow the progress of Monopoly 2010 projects which are devoted to strengthening the evaluation of forensic results across Europe and encourage member-institutes to actively engage with these projects.

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

- Board will make maximum effort to launch the ENFSI new communication platform.
- Board will test an ENFSI e-newsletter as an additional way of communication and information exchange.
- Board will synchronise the strategic goals with ENFSI WG-s annual plans and will agree the WG-s annual targets in order to support membership interests.

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.

- Board together with QCC and EWG's will act as CEN-CENELEC "Liaison Organisation" and will sign a contract as stated in "CEN-CENELEC - The Concept of Partnership with European Organisations".

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

- Board by delegating this task to QCC and with the support of E&T, R&D and EWG's will propose actions for EFSA20 tasks 1-5.

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

- Board and E&T SC will invite all Member-Universities or Academies to establish an E&T core group to the support of E&T SC.
- Board by delegating this task to E&T SC and with the support of members and EWG's will propose actions for EFSA20 tasks 9.

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

Beside the above mentioned actions to ENFSI strategic goals 1, 5 and 6

- Board will seek support of EUROPOL and EUROJUST in preparing an action plan in regards to a vision for European Forensic Science 2020.



- Board with the support of Members and EWG's will propose actions for EFSA20 tasks 6 and 8.

Board will prepare the draft of ENFSI Strategic Plan 2015-2018, to be approved at ENFSI Business Meeting 2014 in Bratislava.