

An agency open to society

→ ANSES's governance model embodies the principles guiding its work: independence, transparency, scientific excellence and openness to society.



A variety of stakeholders contribute to the definition of ANSES's strategic orientations

through the Board of Administrators, which includes representatives of the State, various associations, professional bodies, inter-branch employers' organisations, trade union organisations and elected officials, but also through its five thematic steering committees, whose participants include other representatives of civil society.



THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS

discusses ANSES's general orientations, budget and annual work programme, and also has an internal audit committee.

"The Board of Administrators is unique in its plural composition, which reflects the Agency's openness.

Elected officials, professional and trade union organisations and associations typifying its areas of activity have a seat and a right to vote alongside its supervisory ministries. I can't help but notice, at each of the meetings I chair, the value of such participation.

We discuss fundamental, strategic issues, dialogue is constructive, and our common goal is a robust agency working for the benefit of all."



Benoît Vallet
Chair of the Board of Administrators



THE SCIENTIFIC BOARD

, multidisciplinary and international, it guarantees the high standards and independence of the scientific expert appraisal process at the Agency.

"The Scientific Board functions as an independent body, to guarantee the excellence and consistency of ANSES's scientific work. It cares deeply about the quality and independence of its expert appraisals, and carries out methodological work designed to optimise the health risk assessment process. This work focuses in particular on integrating the weight of evidence, the analysis of uncertainties, the understanding of the exposome, and the credibility of expertise."



Isabelle Momas
Chair of the Scientific Board



THE COMMITTEE FOR ETHICAL STANDARDS AND PREVENTION OF CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

produces opinions and recommendations for the General Directorate in all areas of the Agency's activity

"There are significant uncertainties and risks in health and environmental safety. The challenge with ethical standards is to guarantee the rules of independence, transparency and plurality of experts so that, even in the absence of certainty, they can produce credible opinions that help in decision-making and provide insights on the need for further knowledge in order to progress."



Gabrielle Bouleau
Chair of the Committee for Ethical Standards and Prevention of Conflicts of Interest

The principles guiding our work

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO RISKS

Acting at the interface between **human, animal and plant health**

TRANSPARENCY & INDEPENDENCE

Expert appraisal work made **public**
All our activities comply with **principles of ethics and scientific integrity**

SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

Experts recognised in their field
Reference scientific **methods**
All scientific knowledge taken into account

OPENNESS & DIALOGUE

Stakeholders represented in the Agency's **governance**
Dialogue committees on topics that are key issues for society

→ In addition to involving stakeholders in its governance, ANSES has developed its dialogue committees and entered into innovative collaborations enabling it to take part in broader mechanisms for consultation and debate with society.

Ever since it was founded, the Agency has followed an approach based on transparency and information sharing. It has set up dialogue committees and platforms on subjects generating high expectations or controversy within society: radiofrequencies, nanotechnologies, biotechnology and plant protection products. Twice a year, ANSES scientists and experts discuss their work with associations, trade unions and industry.

In 2022

Creation of the "Biotechnology, environment and health" Dialogue Committee

After having been entrusted with new missions in the field of biotechnology, ANSES will in 2022 set up a fourth dialogue committee devoted to ANSES's work on this subject. Like the other dialogue bodies, it provides a forum for discussing ANSES's scientific methods and working with stakeholders. It is not the committee's role to deal with ethical or societal issues, which will be the responsibility of the National Consultative Ethics Committee (CCNE) for the former and the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE) for the latter. It brings together stakeholders with an interest in biotechnology's various fields of application, including agriculture and medicine.

ANSES AND THE CNDP: COMMITTED TO INFORMING AND INVOLVING THE PUBLIC

The health crisis of the last two years has highlighted the public's growing desire to better understand and voice its expectations on health and environmental issues.

It has also brought to light two conflicting trends: on the one hand, high demand for scientific insights, and on the other, a proliferation of information sources and distrust of public institutions. This context led ANSES and the National Commission for Public Debate (CNDP) to enter into a renewable three-year partnership with three objectives:

- ↘ Improve the information provided to the public under participatory procedures organised or supported by the CNDP, in light of established scientific knowledge and associated uncertainties;
- ↘ Strengthen dialogue and opportunities for public involvement within the scope of ANSES's missions, especially when it receives requests regarding topics that raise questions or are controversial with the public;
- ↘ Jointly reflect on the role of scientific knowledge and expert opinions in public debate.