









# The National Food Council



#### Reporting to:

The Ministry for the Ecological Transition

The Ministry of the Economy, Finance and the Recovery

The Ministry for Solidarity and Health

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food

#### **National Food Council**



## The National Food Council

#### **Independent advisory body**

The National Food Council is an independent advisory body that reports to the ministries responsible for the environment, health, consumption, and agriculture.

It is consulted on the definition of public food policy and provides its opinions to decisionmakers in government and agents in the food sector.

In particular, it can be consulted on the main thrusts of policy in relation to:

- Food quality
- Information for consumers
- Food security
- Access to food
- The prevention of, and feedback on, food crises
- etc.

#### Food parliament

Positioned as a "food parliament", the NFC has for 35 years developed a consultation process that incorporates the **concerns of society and of areas of the economy**. Discussions take account of the realities of the professional world and consumer expectations.

The NFC also has a mandate to incorporate guidelines for **citizen participation** in its activities.

#### **Presidency**

For the 2020-2023 mandate, the NFC is led by Mr. Guillaume GAROT, the member of parliament (Député) for La Mayenne and a former Deputy Minister for Agribusiness.

#### **Interdepartmental governance**

The four ministries to which the NFC reports participate in the preparation of the opinions of the NFC in order to provide clarification and expertise.

The administration does not vote on opinions: in fact, ministries neither approve nor disapprove of the opinions and recommendation set out in the opinions. Opinions and recommendations expressed must be considered those of their author, i.e. the NFC plenary session. The government is not bound by the opinions of the NFC.

The NFC issues opinions and recommendations

The purpose of the consultation organised by NFC is to issue recommendations.

An NFC opinion is a collective document, the result of the participation of members of a consultation group and of the interdepartmental secretariat.

It is published once adopted at the plenary session of the NFC.

It is aimed at players in the food sector, in particular public authorities, to enrich public decision-making and incorporate the opinions of various stakeholders.





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#### **Operation of the National Food Council**

Under the aegis of the President, the interdepartmental secretariat of the NFC organises three plenary sessions a year. The purpose of these sessions is to adopt the opinions resulting from consultation groups and to decide on future subjects for consultation.

The NFC is open to one of the ministers to which it reports, any other consultative bodies that report to the State or to one of its public bodies, one of the colleges that constitute the NFC, or even to its President.





A **subject** for the consultation group is chosen by members of the NFC plenary session.



A draft opinion and recommendations are prepared and put to a vote by members of the NFC plenary session.

More specifically ...

A **work mandate** is prepared, then adopted by members of the session.

A President is chosen and associated with the works.



The members of the **consultation group** meet each month.

While the group is open, the works remain confidential.





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#### Members of the National Food Council\*

63 members in 8 colleges	9 voting members
<ul><li>Consumer associations</li></ul>	Anses
Civil society (environmental protection associations, animal	■ INRAE
protection associations, food assistance associations, health	■ INSERM
system user associations, etc.)  Agricultural producers	■ IFREMER
Processors and craftsmen	■ ADEME
Distributors	■ INC
Restaurateurs	■ AMF
Unions for workers in agriculture, agribusiness, and distribution	■ ADF
Qualified persons	■ ARF
Representatives of the French parliament.	
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In addition, the ministries in charge of agriculture, social cohesion, business and handicrafts. consumption, the economy, national education, employment, the environment, industry, overseas departments and territories, fishing, research, and health, participate in consultation discussions.

\*In accordance with Decree no. 2018-904 of 22 October 2018

