

Candidate for Councilor

Dr. Moez Sanaa



A veterinarian by training, received his postgraduate degree in Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Master and PhD, from the University of Paris XI, France, specializing in Biostatistics and Public Health.

He worked as a researcher and professor at the National Veterinary School of Maisons-Alfort, France, from 1993 to 2009. In this context, he set up a research team in quantitative veterinary epidemiology that dealt with different zoonotic diseases, such as Tuberculosis and Brucellosis, as well as transmissible and non-transmissible animal diseases impacting animal welfare and livestock productivity. Also, special emphasis has been put on the development of statistical tools for proper analysis of correlated data, marginal and mixed models for correlated quantitative, qualitative and survival data. From 2002 to 2009, his research work was oriented towards the articulation between epidemiology and risk analysis applied to food safety issues and the development of various probabilistic models for microbiological risk assessment in food (e.g., *Salmonella*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *E. coli*, *Campylobacter* in different food commodities).

After 2009, he joined the French National Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health Safety (ANSES) where he initially led transverse missions to harmonize the approaches to health risk assessment used in the different fields of activity of ANSES (Animal health, Plant health, Food safety, consumer product safety, and occupational health) focusing mainly on the handling of the uncertainties and the analysis of the weight of evidence. He then took the responsibility of the food safety risk assessment cluster from 2012 to 2021, including chemical and biological risks, with the management of different expert panels (Food chemical contaminants, Food additives, biological hazards, and GMO). Between 2017-2018, he joined US-FDA for 15 months to leverage Whole Genome Sequencing of microbiological pathogens for better understanding and response to food safety events and their use in microbiological risk assessment.

In 2021, he joined the WHO, Department of Nutrition and Food Safety, to lead the Standards and Scientific advice for food and Nutrition unit (SSA). Under his responsibility, the unit provides science-based food safety risk assessments and related evidence-based guidance on foodborne hazards, nutrient requirements across life stages as well as food safety and nutrition policy recommendations.

Currently, Dr. Sanaa is focusing his endeavor on developing methodological approaches to provide scientific advice for healthy and sustainable diet. The aim is to approach diet in a more comprehensive manner along three main lines: the nutritional benefits of diet and the prevention of adverse effects such as obesity, cardiovascular diseases, and cancers; the health risks associated with chemical and biological contaminants, additives, and residues of pesticides and veterinary drugs; and the impact of production systems on animal health and welfare and the health of the environment.

Dr. Moez Sanaa has been a member of the SRA for more than 20 years and participates on a regular basis to the annual meetings and has served as chair of the Microbial risk analysis specialty group.

He has been an active member of two European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) panels, 6 years Animal Health and Animal Welfare panel, and 6 years biological hazards panel. He has been contributing to more than 100 EFSA scientific reports. Between 2019 and 2021, he served as a member of the EFSA Advisory Forum as a representative of France.