

Ploufragan, 29 November 2018

Press release

ANSES and CEA join forces to strengthen technological innovation in order to safeguard health

During the symposium organised to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the creation of the ANSES Laboratory in Ploufragan (Côtes d'Armor), on Thursday 29 November 2018, Roger Genet, Director General of ANSES, and Stéphane Siebert, Director of Technological Research at the CEA, signed a framework partnership agreement aimed at strengthening their cooperation to develop innovative technological tools in order to improve responsiveness in the fields of animal and plant health and food safety.

The French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) and ANSES are already working together on research aimed at improving the detection and characterisation of pathogens and physical and chemical contaminants, particularly to combat the biological and chemical terrorist threat in France.

In view of the synergies in their missions, ANSES and the CEA decided to pool their expertise in areas of key importance to health. The two organisations are therefore now formalising a unique partnership that aims to use the innovative technologies developed by the CEA to support actions in the field to detect, control and prevent health risks.

Under this partnership, around ten collaborative projects will make it possible, for example, to:

- develop biosampler devices or sensors to collect and detect a very broad spectrum of pathogens at an early stage, *in situ*, in livestock or crops;
- assess lipid nanoparticles for delivering vaccines (e.g. against *Campylobacter* in poultry production);
- establish a rapid response unit for identifying emerging viruses in animals and developing detection tests and vaccines, in order to provide the public authorities with a prompt response in the event of a health crisis.

These various areas of scientific cooperation testify to the shared desire of ANSES and the CEA to develop technological innovation in order to safeguard health.

The **CEA** is a public research organisation that operates in four areas: defence and security, nuclear and renewable energies, technological research for industry and fundamental research. Drawing on its widely acknowledged expertise, the CEA actively participates in collaborative projects with a large number of academic and industrial partners. With its 20,000 researchers and employees, it is a major player in the European Research Area and has a growing international presence. Its technological research department creates technological innovation to improve the competitiveness of companies through product performance and differentiation. It deploys this dynamic throughout all French regions by supporting its local partners in their innovation approach, thereby contributing to the creation of value and of sustainable jobs in the regions that meet industrial needs as far as possible.

www.cea.fr

ANSES has a central role in assessing health risks in order to inform public policy in the areas of food, the environment, work, animal health and welfare, and plant health. Through its expert appraisal, research, reference, monitoring and surveillance missions, it applies a comprehensive and cross-cutting approach to assess all the risks (microbiological, physical or chemical) to which an individual can be exposed, intentionally or not, at all ages and times of their life.

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