

## Brief Biography of VITTORIO SILANO

Prof. Dr. Silano is Italian and holds a University degree in Chemistry (1965) and a PhD in Biochemistry (1971). His professional activities are as follows:



- between 1965 and 1986 he worked at the Italian National Institute of Health (Istituto Superiore di Sanita) in Rome (Italy), where he was, since 1982, Director of the Laboratory of Comparative Toxicology and Ecotoxicology;
- between 1987 and 1989 he worked at the Italian Ministry of Environment in Rome (Italy) where he was the Director General of the "Environmental Pollution Prevention and Reclamation Service" and between 1990 and 2007 at the Italian Ministry of Health, Rome (Italy) where between 31 July 2003 and 31 December 2007, he was Head of the Department for Innovation. This Department includes the following General Directorates: General Directorate for Health Research; General Directorate for Drugs and Medical Devices and General Directorate for Organization, Budget and Personnel.
- Previous positions Vittorio Silano at the Ministry of Health of Italy were as follows: (i) from 2001 to 2003 he was Head of the Department for Human Health Protection, Veterinary Public Health and International Relations; (ii) from 1998 to 2001 he was Director General for International Relations and Community Policies; (iii) between 1997 and 1998 he was Director General for Medicines Evaluation and Pharmaco-vigilance; (iv) in 1996 and 1997 Dr Silano was Director General for "Prevention" and Acting Director General for Medicines Evaluation and Pharmaco-vigilance; (v) in 1995 and 1996 he was Director General for "Prevention and Drugs"; and (vi) from 1989 to 1995 he was Director General for Food Safety and Nutrition.

Vittorio Silano retired from the Italian Ministry of Health on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 at the age of 67. Currently he is Professor at the II<sup>nd</sup> University of Rome (Tor Vergata), Faculty of Medicine .

During his entire career, Prof Silano has participated extensively in and contributed significantly to the work of several international organizations. These activities included:

### For the European Commission and other European Union Institutions:

- Since 1 July 2003: Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the European Food Safety Authority;
- Between 1997 and 2003: Vice-chairman of the European Commission (D.G. XXIV – SANCO) Scientific Steering Committee;
- Between 2001 and 2003: chairman of the *ad hoc* BSE/TSE Group and of the GBR Peer Group;
- Between 1998-and 2007: Representative of Italy in the High Level Committee on Public Health;
- Between 1999-2002: chairman of the Working Group on "Pharmaceuticals and Public Health" of the High Level on Public Health;
- During the year 1996: Member of the Medicines Evaluation (CPMP) Scientific Committee of the European Agency for Medicines Evaluation (EMA);
- During the year 1997 and part of the year 1998: member of the Management Board of the European Agency for Medicines Evaluation (EMA).
- From 1979 to 1987: Member of the EEC Scientific Committee for Food, vice-chairman of this Committee since 1982 and chairman from 1985 to 1987.
- Since 2003: Representative of Italy in the Herbal Medicinal Products Committee of the EMA.
- Since 2004: Representative of Italy in the European Commission High Level Group on health services and medical care and in the European Council High Level Group on the same subject.
- In 2006: Chairman of the European Centre for Diseases Control (ECDC) Panel on "Influenza".

### For the World Health Organization:

- In 1982: consultant in toxicology for WHO/EURO and currently (since last May 2010) Consultant to WHO/EURO on "Geographically-dispersed Offices";
- Over the years Vittorio Silano has acted as consultant in a number of UNEP and WHO Expert Groups including JECFA (food additives and contaminants) and JMPR (pesticides) and has served as a WHO/EURO assessor in case of chemical disasters and as member of the Programme Advisory Committee of the IPCS (International Programme on Chemical Safety).

- In 1990 and 1991: member of the WHO/HQ World Commission on "Health and Environment" that has produced the report entitled "Our planet, our health".
- Between June 1991 and April 1992: Director of the Rome Division of the WHO European Centre on "Environment and Health".

For the Organization for the Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

- For a number of years, Vittorio Silano represented Italy in the OECD Chemical Group and Management Committee.
- Between 1982 and 1984: Chairman of the Expert Group appointed by OECD to define criteria to set priorities among existing chemicals for health purposes.
- In 1985: Chairman of the OECD *ad hoc* expert meeting on hazard assessment of existing chemicals.

For the Council of Europe:

- Between 1979 and 1983: Member of the Toxicology Expert Committee on flavourings;
- Between 1983-1986: Member of the Toxicology Expert Committee on cosmetic products.
- He has also authored the Council of Europe report on "Plants and Plant Ingredients for cosmetic products".

Prof Dr Silano has produced 220 scientific papers, mostly published in international journals, and books. He has acted as member of the editorial board of a number of scientific journals. Prof Silano is the recipient of several awards in Italy and abroad in recognition of his excellent contributions to public health and agricultural sciences.