



# Marc Weyland DIRECTOR

## ASTA

Administration des Services Techniques de l'Agriculture

## Profile

### WEYLAND Marc

Director of

"Administration des Services Techniques de l'Agriculture" (ASTA)



## Main Experience and Qualifications

- **Administrative skills:** Good experience in management, administrative and financial procedures, monitoring, evaluation, and quality control of products. Organizational and management experience include 7 years of experience as Director of ASTA.
- **Technical skills:** Broad multisector knowledge with focused technical expertise in relation to primary food production.
- **Institutional experience:** Collaboration and work with international institutions and organizations such as, the European Commission, the Council of the EU, the European Parliament, the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO), the Joint Research Center Sevilla (JRC), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development(OECD), the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV).
- **Diplomas:** Engineer/Agronomist (MSc) and Applied Biology and Genetics (MSc).
- **Multilingual:** Fluent in English, French, German and Luxembourgish.

## Work History

### April 2017 – Present Director- ASTA

Administrative, financial, and human resources management. Organization, coordination and supervision of the various divisions and departments of ASTA.

ASTA is the largest Administration (currently about 160 permanent staff members, mostly civil servants, annual operating budget 18. millions euros) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Viticulture and Rural Development. Implementing and executing the Government's policy and program concerning certain technical aspects of agriculture such as economic competitiveness , research and innovation, food and feed safety, quality controls, environment protection, etc., according to the relevant EU legislation (Common Agriculture Policy, food safety, and others), are the main assignments of ASTA. Composed by 4 divisions with more than 20 different departments, the administration is composed of a panoply of services and knowledge hubs, ranging from laboratories to implications and financial support of CAP rules. With a great variability of topics and competences, the management of ASTA is a challenging multitasking and multidisciplinary experience.

### Divisions of ASTA with their main departments and activities

#### Division of General Affairs

General direction department (human resources, finance, budget, IT);  
Legal department.

#### Division of Rural Engineering

Department for structural improvement  
(management of financial support of infrastructure investments on farms according to the CAP rules);  
Department for agro-meteorology;  
Department for geographic information system.

### **Division of Laboratories**

Various accredited laboratories for quality control, food and feed safety, and environmental monitoring;

Soil laboratory department;

Seed analysis laboratory department

(Accreditation by the International Seed Testing Association ISTA);

Milk analyses laboratory department (Quality control for dairies);

Forage analyses laboratory department (Quality control of green forages, feeding stuff and cereals);

Chemical analyses laboratory department

(Quality control of brandies, chemical analyses of feeding stuff, mineral and organic fertilizers);

Phytopathology laboratory department (on-going accreditation).

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### **Agronomic Division**

#### **September 2006 – April 2017 Head of Agronomic Division – ASTA**

Coordination of the working program and the activities of the various Departments of the Agronomic Division of ASTA

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#### **Main departments and main activities of the ASTA Agronomic Division:**

Animal production department (feedstuff controls);

Plant health department (controls and monitoring of harmful organisms, plant passport, authorization, registration and controls of plant protection products);

Organic agriculture department (controls and supervision of EU and national requirements);

Horticulture department (control of primary vegetable production and quality standards);

Agri-environment, innovation and research department (since 2017);

Plant production department (see below).

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#### **March 1991 – April 2017 Head of Plant Production Department – ASTA**

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#### **Main tasks and activities:**

Elaboration of the national seed legislation in conformity with the EU legislation and the OECD rules. Member of various working groups of the European Commission (for instance, Standing Committee on Seeds and Propagating material), the EU Council, and the OECD on seeds, propagating material, and Plants breeders' rights;

Supervision of production, certification and marketing of seeds and seed potatoes (1991-2013);

Field trials and variety testing for different species such as maize, grasses, legumes etc.

Management of the national list of recommended varieties in agriculture;

Member of the Administrative Council of the Community Plant Variety Office (1995-present);

Establishment and management of the first national agro-environmental measures (1991-1997) in the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy;

Elaboration of water protection measures against pollution from agriculture (directive 91/676/EEC);

Member of the national inter-ministerial committee on GMO (1997- present; Vice Chairman 1997-2002). Member of various technical working groups on GMO of the EU Council (leading to EC Regulation 1829/2003), the European Commission (COEX-NET) and the Joint Research Center (ECoB - European Coexistence Bureau);

Contribution to the National Inventory Report on GHG Emission and the National Action Plan on Climate Change Adaption Measures. Member of the working group on Agriculture and Climate Change (consequences and adaptation measures for agriculture) of the European Commission (since 2009);

Officer of the judicial police for quality control checks on seeds and detection of the adventitious presence of GM seeds in conventional seed lots (since 2010).

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## Education

#### **1990, MSc Engineer /Agronomist (“Ingénieur Agronome”)**

Institut National Polytechnique de Toulouse

Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Toulouse, France;

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#### **1988, MSc in Applied Biology and Genetics (Plant productivity)**

Université de Paris (Former Université Paris-Diderot / Paris 7), France;

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#### **1984, High school diploma – Section Natural Sciences - Latin**

Lycée Michel Rodange, Luxembourg.

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