



# Working for and with authorities

**Kristof Bonnarens – DG SANTE**

# My Career to date

**Alcon**

 **CONFORMA®**

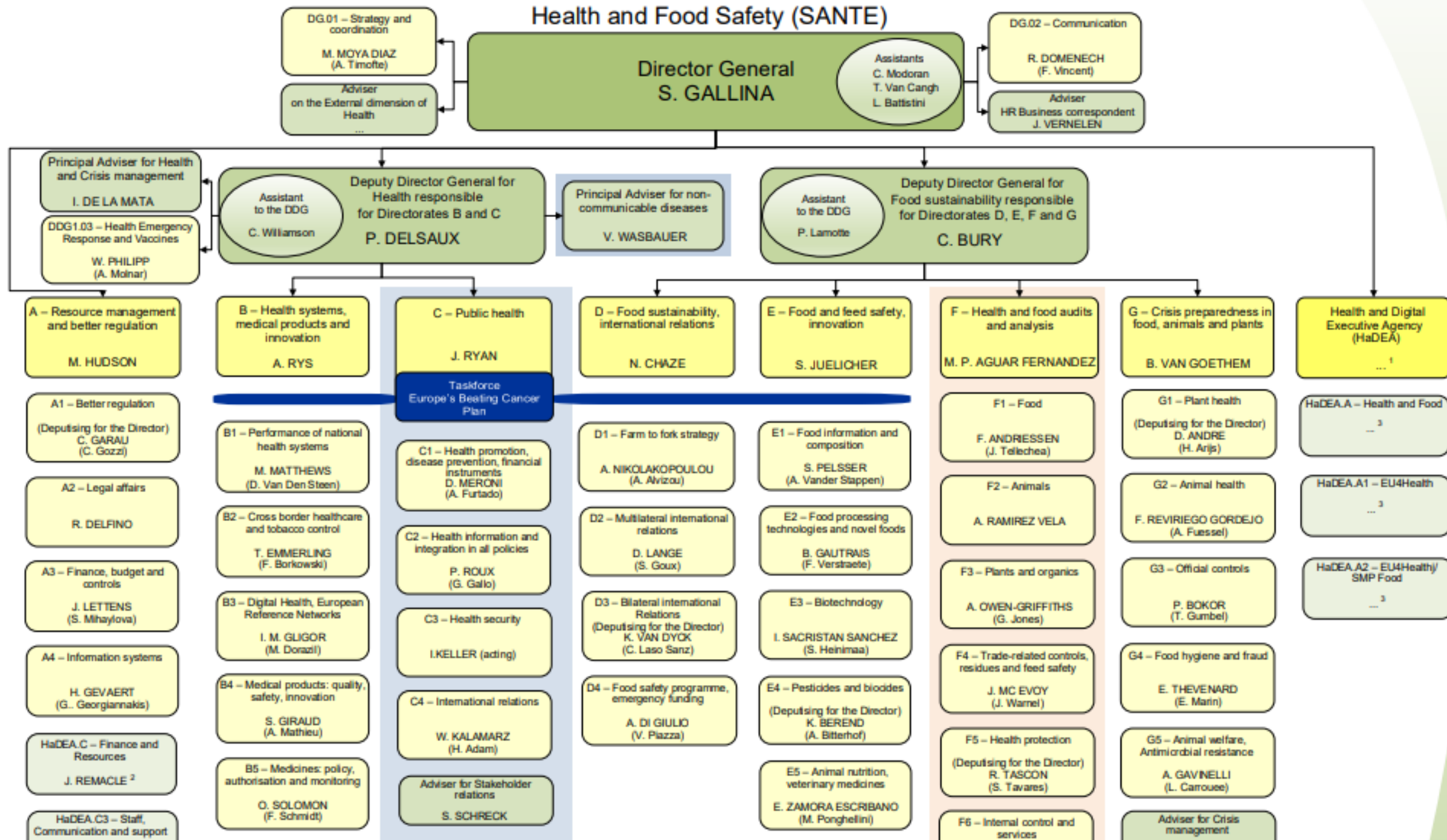
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# Health and Food Safety (SANTE)



# My main tasks

- Preparing for the implementation of the Clinical Trial Regulation
- Supervision of the development of the Clinical Trial Information System
- Coordination of DG SANTE's representation in the European Medicines Agency's Management Board
- Export authorisation of COVID-19 vaccines

# General thoughts on working for authorities

- Diverse set of tasks and functions related to biomedical topics
- Policy functions can be extremely detailed – expert work
- However, there is need to have a concrete mandate from the authority – team work required
- Networking with other experts through Europe and globally
- Recruitment pathway is defined in legislation – not always linked to the function !

# Objective recruitment through competencies

- Analysis and Problem Solving: Identify the critical facts in complex issues and develop creative and practical solutions
- Communicating: Communicate clearly and precisely both orally and in writing
- Delivering Quality and Results: Take personal responsibility and initiative for delivering work to a high standard of quality within set procedures
- Learning and Development: Develop and improve personal skills and knowledge of the organisation and its environment
- Prioritising and Organising: Prioritise the most important tasks, work flexibly and organise own workload efficiently

# https://epso.europa.eu/



English (EN) ▾





# Some specific advice

- First entry into any authority might be very unglamorous
- Active research required – usually not on the usual vacancy sites
- Inform yourself on the contract modalities (permanent – contractual – internships - ...) and payment grade
- Salary calculation is public domain but be mindful on specific rules (e.g. leave rights, conflict of interest, pension rights,...)
- Candidacies will be reviewed against a checklist that will be in the vacancy - completeness is key !
- Spontaneous candidacy might get you on a contact list.

# Thank you



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