Integrated Food Safety Information Network System

Submitted by: Korea
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May 2014

Integrated Foods Safety Information Network Bureau
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Introduction to MFDS
History of MFDS

- **1996**: Food & Drug Safety Headquarter was established under the Ministry of Health Welfare (MHW).
- **1998**: Korea Food & Drug Administration (KFDA) was raised to the status of administration under the MHW.
- **2010**: The KFDA relocated from Seoul to Osong.
- **2013**: Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) as an independent Ministry.
Importance of the newly established MFDS

Safety First

- Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) as an administrative control tower of safety management for food and drug
-Gov’t apply all available resources for eradicating adulterated foods

“I will certainly root out the four major social ills, which are sexual violence, school violence, home-wrecking crimes and adulterated foods” (Dec, 2012)
Ensuring Safety of the people to improve quality of life

Consumer-Driven safety management from Farm to Table

Realization of Safer and healthier lives of the people

Beyond safety, providing assurance to the people

- Core Strategies:
  - to eradicate adulterated foods
  - safety management from Farm to Table
  - consumer participation & ‘Safety First’ atmosphere

Virtuous cycle btw safety & proliferation

Correlation with public health policy
A New Era of Hope
Happiness for the People

MFDS will build foundation for Korea to eradicate adulterated foods and become a globally recognized nation for food and drug safety.
Food Safety Information Network
Status and Needs
The administrative process can be delayed because it takes more time to obtain information from other government agencies.

Administrative quality degrades due to duplicated processes when each agency deals with its own information.

For unified administrative processes, it is needed to establish integrated operation system for administrative information between the relevant agencies.
Lack of appropriate system for information sharing on food policies

- Shortsighted policy due to lack of information sharing on policies between food safety authorities
- Inconsistent responses by each agency on food incidents causing public concerns

Incident Occurrence

A city announced cadmium was detected in octopuses exceeding the safe limit → fishermen and dealers faced economic losses because of the reduction in consumption → MFDS announced risk assessment indicating that they were safe → there were aggravated public concerns (2010)

It is needed to establish a system for facilitating and enhancing information sharing among government agencies
Integrated food safety information network system

**Integrated Administrative System & Information DB**

- MFDS
- Local gov.
- MAFRA

**Integrated food safety system**
- License info
- Inspection of imports
- Reporting items
- HACCP, GMP
- Children’s favorite food

**Integrated food safety information**
- Standard
- Information on test results
- History trace
- Food poisoning occurrence
- False and exaggerated advertising
- Production performance
- Supervision • check
- recalls
- Administrative measure
- recalls • disposal

**EAI, web service, etc**

**Information Linkage**

1. **Integrated system for administrative task**
   - MFDS officers
   - Local gov.’s officers
   - Relevant agencies officers

   **Integration of food safety management information system**

2. **Joint information sharing system**
   - Share of integrated food safety information among government agencies
     - MAFRA
     - MOF
     - MND
     - MSPA
     - ME
     - MHE
     - MJ
     - KCS
     - DAPA
     - ME
     - MFIE
     - Other

3. **Food safety government portal system**
   - **Information disclosure to the public**
     - Industry
     - Organization
     - Public
     - Food industry
     - Associate
     - Child
     - ICT firm
     - University
     - Consulting
     - Research institution
     - Senior citizen
Action Plan
Establishment of integrated food safety information

- Integrating food safety administration and policy information among 12 government agencies
- Establishing integrated food safety administrative system (for government agencies) and food safety portal system (for the public)
- Eliminating institutional barriers by improving the law and guidelines of relevant authorities
  Serving as a leading agency in the Framework Act on Food Safety, obtaining each agency’s improvements → Implementing improvements in the relevant agency
Government-wide joint development through cooperation

- Organize & operate 「Committee for Integrated Food Safety Information Network」 (June 2013~)
  - Deciding effective policy, resolving differences among agencies, and supporting for collaborative TF team

- Organize & operate 「Collaborative TF team」 directly participated by employees from relevant agencies (July 2013~)
  - Overcoming limitations of integrated project among many government agencies and producing results in early stage

Committee for Integrated Food Safety Information Network
(Head: MFDS Commissioner)

Total support
(BH, Office for government policy coordination)

Policy consultation
Participated by Director-Generals of relevant agencies

Support for budget · manpower · technology
(MSF, MSPA, MS, ICT FP)

Collaborative TF team

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Customer-tailored food safety service

- Providing one-stop service by establishing portal system
- Providing tailored service to target groups such as consumers, industries, and academia
- Food safety risk forecast through various communication tools (Internet, SNS, and the press, etc.)

Integrated food safety information network

Portal system
- Domestic & overseas food safety information
- Distribution information on nonconforming food
- Information on false · exaggerated advertisements
- Incident rate of food poisoning

Risk prediction

Internet
SNS
Smartphone
Media
Consumer
Industry
Academia
Establishment of food safety system under public-private collaboration

- Providing risk information on time and making preemptive response under private-public collaboration
- Establishing the foundation for creating a new field of industry by opening information

Integrated food safety information network

- Early alert for hazardous food
- Disclosure of Data
- Creating new industries

Industry Collaboration Relevant agency

- ICT fusion(App., etc.)
- Food safety consultant
- Analysis business for food marketing
The Way Forward
Government can implement effective food policy

- Effective food safety management without barriers among agencies
  - Real-time management by generally collecting information necessary for administration
  - Comprehensive decision-making by analyzing statistic data and information on history
  - Improvement of administrative quality for food safety by jointly sharing information
- Performance of systematic food policy by sharing food related information ranging from food processing to sales

**Present**

Recall and disposal of India’s frozen shell contaminated with 5mg/kg cadmium in Taiwan

[MFDS] become aware the issue and requested food traceability information to the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF)

[MOF] checked traceability information on imported food

[MFDS][MOF] each agency took action after confirming final information (taking 2~3 days)

**Improvements**

Recall and disposal of India’s frozen shell contaminated with 5mg/kg cadmium in Taiwan

[MFDS] become aware the issue and check real-time traceability information on imported food of MOF through the integrated information network

[MOF] shares real-time risk information through the network

[MFDS][MOF] take rapid collaborative responses
Consumers can select safe food

- Help to choose safe food with hazardous food forecast
  - Notifying consumers of inspection results including hazardous foods and the list of businesses violating sanitary law
- Help to choose safe food providing objective and reliable information
  - Transforming from industry-centered information including advertisement to consumer-centered information
- Providing comprehensive information by linking and analyzing related information

**Present**

Checking food labels provided by manufacturers
Consumers purchase food based on label information, advertisement and experiences
  - Sodium caseinate in instant coffee mix
  - Highly caffeinated drinks

→ Both distrust and anxiety over food safety exist

**Improvements**

Checking comprehensive information provided by government
Consumers can purchase food based on comprehensive service, in which government provides information including safety statue of each product and manufacturers, nutrition, distribution and past history

→ Enable consumers to select safe food
Food industries can strengthen the competitiveness

- Establishing rapid and preemptive response system through cooperation between industry and government
  - Interact with each other by obtaining real-time data and take measures through early alert system for hazardous foods
  - Take preemptive action such as strengthened inspection of hazardous food and suspension of distribution

- Strengthening the competitiveness and developing project strategy by analyzing and making use of information

**Present**
Collect a mass of information through government, internet, the press, and fields
- Lack of systematic management leads to the difficulty in using information
- Repeat shortsighted and temporary responses
  - Detecting unintentional hazardous substances such as benzopytene in instant noodle powder and acrylamide in fried food

**Improvements**
Use tailored information service which the government provides each industry
- Systematically manage & analyze data
- Take preemptive action including development of alternative materials
- Develop new strategies for overseas material purchase, cost-saving and exports
Food industry creates new value

- Creating new jobs by using open information
  - Information analysts, food safety consultants, and food marketing experts who analyze and provide information
Food industry creates new value

- Creating a new field of industry by using open information
  - Integrating with food, ICT, and electronics industry

[Safety storage] Automatically indicates safety and stored food information provided by ICT industry
[Health management] Support for purchasing food and managing health through nutrition information on stored food provided by ICT industry
Thank you for your attention