



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

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An Introduction to the Draft APEC Framework on Food Safety Modernisation

Submitted by: Australia



**Second Expert Meeting on Trade
Facilitation Through an APEC Framework
on Food Safety Modernisation
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
21-22 May 2018**

An introduction to the draft APEC framework on food safety modernisation

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About the preparation of the draft Framework

Process

General comments received

Featured comments

Consideration of comments received

Current version

Objective of this meeting and process

Process



Santiago workshop (May or June 2019) - Seek endorsement by the APEC FSCF and SCSC, publish the Framework on APEC website, and explore possible future activities



Examples of general comments (1)

Additions and deletions

- Inclusion of a “Definition” section for relevant terms used in the Framework
- Inclusion of “implementation” as a key component in the Framework
- Inclusion of “traceability” in Principle 5
- Remove “efficient market”
- For Principle 1, recommend to use the term “minimization”
- For Principle 8, add "under a particular agreement" to have a clear scope between counterpart economies on equivalence
- Include web links to referenced international texts, if available



Examples of general comments (2)

Rephrasing

- Rephrase the Purpose as “this framework is to provide guidance to APEC economies on enhancing or modernising their food regulatory systems to ensure safe food for consumers and facilitate food trade”
- Rephrase the Scope to “while the primary focus of the framework is on food safety, the purpose of this framework is also to facilitate trade”
- Rephrase Principle 2 to “An APEC economy’s food regulatory system should ensure adequate consumer protection in a way that is least trade restrictive”.
- Rephrase Principle 8 as “The concept of recognition of food safety regulatory systems, i.e. the ability to recognise equivalence, should be clearly provided in the economy’s food regulatory system”



Examples of general comments (3)

- **International guidelines**

- Include FAO's "Food Safety Risk Analysis - A guide for national food safety authorities" into Principle 4
- Include Codex's "Principles and Guidelines for Monitoring the Performance of National Food Control Systems"



Featured comments

- APEC member economies should consider establishing an integrated domestic food safety administration system which should include the government institutional structure and the regulatory system. This should be a component of the Framework.
- Food safety system can be “regulatory” and “non-regulatory”. Should the Framework be on “regulatory system” only or both?
- In circumstances, “fraudulent or deceptive practices, adulteration of food, and other practices which may mislead consumers” may not be a food safety matter. Should the Framework cover “fraudulent and deceptive practices, adulteration of food and other misleading practices” when the issues are not food safety nature?



Consideration of comments

- All the comments have been of a highly value to the revision of the Framework, and have ben carefully considered
- Responses to the comments received have been provided in a document of “Addressing comments received from members of the Electronic Working Group” that has been circulated to the E-WG and participants of this expert meeting (hard copies have been provided in this meeting)
- The latest version of the draft Framework has taken into consideration of the comments received and the responses, and is tabled at this meeting (hard copies have been provided in this meeting)
- The three featured comments/issues have been incorporated into the Day 1 program of this meeting for discussion, recommendation and consensus building



Current version of the Framework

- The current version of the Framework is relatively complete for its key components

Introduction

Definitions

Principles

Development of a National Food Safety Regulatory System

Enabling environment

Set Strategy

System design and development

Implementation

Evaluation and improvement

Reference

- We anticipate further changes to the draft Framework, and aim to bring the Framework to a stage of **70% of the final shape** at this meeting



Objective of this meeting, process

- We aim to bring the Framework to a stage of **70% of FINAL** at this meeting
- Day 1
 - resolve the featured comments/issues about the Framework
 - embrace key principles that will assist the revision of the Framework
 - clear any major sticking issues about the Framework
- Day 2
 - valuable lessons learnt in food safety enhancement or modernisation
 - consensus building of the draft Framework
 - preparation for the 3rd expert meeting on food safety modernisation
 - key APEC food safety events in the remaining part of 2018



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