

Framework for Action on Food Safety in the WHO South-East Asia Region



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

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FOREWORD

Unsafe food undermines food and nutritional security, human development and international trade. Today food safety is facing numerous challenges such as adulteration, microbiological, chemical and radio nuclear contamination. On the other hand, food should be safe and healthy as obesity, diabetes, cancer are emerging public health challenges due to high intake of salt, sugar and trans-fat and unhealthy lifestyle.

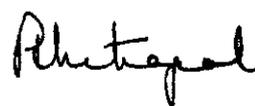
Food safety is complex in nature as it should be taken care from primary production level to consumption level and it may be contaminated anytime and anywhere in food-chain system. The theme of the first World Food Safety Day 2019 was “Food Safety is Everyone’s Business”. This message is most meaningful as food safety is a shared responsibility. At the same time, public health concerns due to misuse and overuse of antibiotics which consequently lead to anti-microbial resistance (AMR) is an emerging issue. The use of antimicrobials in farm animals for disease treatment, growth promotion and to improve feed efficiency plays a major role in the emerging public health crisis of AMR.

Food safety is one of the core capacities required for IHR implementation and it is one of the 19 technical areas to be assessed under Joint External Evaluation (JEE). The Regional Strategy for Food Safety 2014-2018 has contributed to good progress in food safety across the South-East Asia Region by strengthening Codex and foodborne disease surveillance activities.



As our food supply becomes increasingly globalized, the need to strengthen food safety systems in and between all countries is becoming more and more evident. The development of Regional Framework based on strengthening Codex and food control system is important as all countries are trying to harmonize food standards in order to provide safe and healthy food for all. Since WHO is currently working to implement the Thirteenth General Programme of Work 2019–2023 and the Codex Secretariat has developed the Codex Strategic Plan for 2020–2025, the development of this Framework for Action on Food Safety in the WHO South-East Asia Region is most timely. The WHO/FAO/African Union Global Food Safety Conference held in Addis Ababa and the follow-up conference in Geneva in 2019 highlighted the integral role of food safety in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These global initiatives brought together key stakeholders such as representatives from ministries of agriculture, health and trade, food industries, consumer societies and international partners with the aim of achieving high-level political commitment to scale up food safety in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These conferences mentioned, among others, the importance of increasing investment in national food control systems, enhancing risk-based approaches and capacity-building for managing food safety emergencies. These initiatives will ensure the safety of food supplies in informal and formal markets, with specific attention to vulnerable populations but also raise high expectation from Member States.

The Framework for Action on Food Safety in the WHO South-East Asia Region has been built on the achievement and lessons learnt from the Regional Food Safety Strategy 2014–2018. The Framework for Action aims at providing guidance to Member States, WHO and partner agencies for the next six years to help achieve the desired goal. I am confident that this Framework will contribute promote safe and healthier food for all individuals by strengthening food control system through multisectoral collaboration and public private partnership.



Dr. Poonam Khetrpal Singh

Regional Director
WHO Regional Office for South East Asia
New Delhi



ACRONYMS

AEC	ASEAN Economic Community
AFSRF	ASEAN Food Safety Regulatory Framework
AMR	antimicrobial resistance
APSED	Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies
ARASFF	ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
ASCC	ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
BAFRA	Bhutan Agriculture and Food Regulatory Authority
CCASIA	FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia
CSIs	cottage and small industries
CTF	Codex Trust Fund
DALY	disability-adjusted life-year
DFTQC	Department of Food Technology and Quality Control
EBS	event-based surveillance
ECP	emergency contact point
EPEC	enteropathogenic E. coli
ESBL	extended-spectrum beta-lactamase
EURASFF	European Union Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

预览已结束，完整报告链

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