



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA**

Eighteenth Session

Tokyo, Japan, 5 – 9 November 2012

**NATIONAL FOOD CONTROL SYSTEMS AND CONSUMER PARTICIPATION IN FOOD
STANDARD SETTING**

(REPLIES TO PART A OF CL2012/14-ASIA)

(Indonesia, Japan and Philippines)

Question 1: Strengthening National Food Control Systems

Q1.1 Structure and organisation of national food control system

Have your country taken any developments/actions to improve national food regulatory systems? Please write “YES” or “NO”. If your answer is “YES”, please describe the developments/actions you have taken. Developments/actions may include development or update of structure and organisation of national food control system including actions relating to: National food law and regulations; food control management e.g. food administration structures, initiatives to improve multi-sectoral collaboration; inspection services; laboratory infrastructure; information dissemination; training etc.

INDONESIA

YES

The authority of food controlling in Indonesia involves several institutions such as Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, National Agency of Drug and Food Control (NADFC), Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Trade and Local Government.

Ministry of Agriculture has responsibility in controlling the safety of fresh foods from farms and animal husbandries.

Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries has responsibility in controlling the safety of fish and marine products.

NADFC has responsibility in controlling processed food.

Ministry of Trade has responsibility in controlling food products which comply with the requirement of compulsory national standard such as wheat, packaged drinking/mineral water, refined sugar, and cacao powdered,

Ministry of Industry has responsibility in supervision in the factory of compulsory national standard products by Standard Supervisory Officer in Factory.

Local Government has responsibility in controlling the safety of ready to eat and street foods, and household foods produced locally.

Indonesia takes continuous improvement for national food regulatory system. The actions of Indonesia include:

- keep update the development of International Standard
- conducts e-registration to register food distributed in Indonesia
- established Integrated Food Safety System

- works on the improvement of modern laboratory
- improves the capacity of IT services
- improves human resources capacity through training and education

JAPAN

NO

PHILIPPINES

YES, specifically:

1. The national food regulatory system is being strengthened through the joint effort being undertaken by the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of Health (DOH) in clarifying and coordinating overlapping control functions.
2. The Philippines has also been engaged in a 3 –year capacity building program for its food control system.
3. The Codex Contact Point has been transferred to an agency in the DA with a broader mandate to better implement its tasks and strengthen coordination with the DOH.
4. The National Codex Committee is strengthened and renamed the National Codex Organization (NCO).
5. The Philippine Departments of Health and Agriculture allocated funds for regular attendance of delegates to the Codex meetings.
6. The Philippines has strengthened its food regulatory systems for processed food under the DOH-Food and Drug Administration through the passage of Republic Act No. 9711 which includes the creation of a food research and standard development division.

Furthermore, per Republic Act 9711 known as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Act of 2009, the Philippine FDA was strengthened in terms of regulatory capacity by establishing adequate testing laboratories and field offices, upgrading its equipment and augmenting its human resource complement among others, it likewise stipulates the creation of the Center for Food Regulation and Research (CFRR) where all processed food (except meat) concerns will be under it.

Likewise, A Food Safety Bill which describes and delineates the roles on food safety of the major government offices such as the Department of Health and Department of Agriculture is underway and is currently in the Third Reading in the Philippine Congress.

Q1.2 Codex Contact Point and/or National Codex Committee

Please choose following developments/actions you have taken in your country to strengthen Codex at the national level and promote more effective participation in Codex. If you choose (a), (b) and/or (c), please describe the developments/actions you have taken;

- (a) Strengthening the Codex Contact Point
- (b) Strengthening the National Codex Committee or alternative scheme/framework
- (c) Others
- (d) None

INDONESIA

(a) Strengthening the Codex Contact Point

Indonesia has established Guideline for handling Codex activities in Indonesia in order to ensure the effectiveness of our participation in Codex works.

(b) Strengthening the National Codex Committee or alternative scheme/framework

- NCC conducts regular meeting to consider recent Codex issues as reference for National policy.
- NCC conducts capacity building for Mirror Committee Codex Secretariat in Indonesia
- NCC invites stakeholder to actively participate in the Codex Meeting, eWG discussion and in the development of national position

JAPAN

(b); The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) organize a consultative committee on Codex activities with the cooperation of the Consumer Affairs Agency (CAA). The committee consists of 14 representatives of academia, industry, producer and consumer. This consultative committee is held in public and three or four times a year at appropriate timing between sessions of the Codex Commission and Committees.

PHILIPPINES*(a) Strengthening the Codex Contact Point*

The Philippine Codex Contact Point is elevated to a higher office under the Department of Agriculture.

(b) Strengthening the National Codex Committee or alternative scheme/framework –

The creation of the Philippine National Codex Organization (NCO) jointly undertaken by the Agriculture and Health Departments. The NCO implements the consultative processes for establishing the country positions. NCO members come from the government agencies, academe, individual expert, food associations, private organizations etc. that have interest in codex standards and related texts. The work of NCO parallels that of Codex. The basic working Committees of the NCO, the Sub Committees or Tasks Forces have equivalent Committees or Tasks Forces at Codex.

Within the Philippine National Codex Organization (NCO).

As the CCASIA meets only every two years, the Philippines included updates for the last two years:

1. The NCO completed its Manual of Operations (MOP) in March 31, 2010. The Manual is officially signed by the Secretaries of the Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture. The MOP describes the processes to be used by the members of the various NCO bodies to help them in the performance of their duties and responsibilities in Codex work. It enables governments, competent authorities, food industries, private organizations, farmers, consumers and others concerned to understand the NCO as an organization. It was developed to serve as guide of the NCO members to effectively implement the NCO tasks. The MOP also has a section on the criteria for the selection of country delegates from government and the private sector to Codex meeting. An orientation/seminar on the MOP for NCO members and selected stakeholders is scheduled on the 2nd semester of 2010. Likewise, the MOP will be printed for distribution and posted in DOH website.
2. The National Codex Organization provides a venue for consultation of interested stakeholders in NCO-Sub-Committees (SCs) or Task Forces (TFs). The latter replicate the relevant Codex Committees at the national level. The national food manufacturer associations, professional food associations and food industry are members in the different SCs or TFs. The NCO SCs or TFs draft country positions, generate information and comments on Codex agenda items through its meetings, the holding of public consultations, surveys, etc. Draft country positions are circulated electronically for comments to the SC/TF members and the final draft is then circulated to the Technical Committee (TC) for comments and for review of cross-cutting issues. The TC is comprised of Chairs of different SCs or TFs, private sectoral representative and Food association among others. The official country position is endorsed by the TC Chair and submitted by the Philippine CCP to the Codex Secretariat.

Question 2: Promotion of Codex Standards and Related Texts

(For Actions 5.2 of the Strategic Plan for the CCASIA 2009-2014)

Please describe any significant actions that your country has taken to increase awareness on the importance of Codex among relevant stakeholders, including consumers, food industries etc.

INDONESIA

In order to increase awareness on the importance of Codex amongst relevant stakeholders, Indonesia has conducted some activities as follow :

1. Codex standards and related texts is the main reference in the elaboration of regulation and standards
2. Capacity Building on Codex matters organized by CCP Secretariat

3. Dissemination on the report of Codex meetings by Coordinator of Mirror Committee
4. Consolidation of national position before attending Codex meetings, involving relevant stakeholders

JAPAN

MHLW and MAFF have maintained and improved their websites to disseminate relevant information on Codex itself, its activities and the consultative committee mentioned in Q1.2 for increasing awareness of the importance of Codex.

PHILIPPINES

Codex standards and related texts are either used as reference in the development of national standards/regulations or are reviewed and checked whether it is applicable to national needs and interest for possible adoption (e.g. Philippine National Standard for Fermented Milk, which adopted the Codex standards with modifications).

The process involves a recommendation to the Department of Health or the Department of Agriculture of Codex standards/texts by the local equivalent of Codex committees whose chairs come from either the Department of Health or the Department of Agriculture. The chairs of these local equivalent of committees head Philippine delegations to Codex meetings, lead the consultative processes in their committees and are responsible for reaching the objectives of country participation at Codex, through the National Codex Organization.

Food Associations, academe, Food experts, and other concerned government agencies/non-government organizations and food industry are members of SC that develops country positions. They also serve as multipliers of information on codex in their respective organizations. The NCO also presents Codex information to various groups/associations.

Question 3: Strengthen Communication and Coordination

(For Actions 2.2, 3.3, 4.4 of the Strategic Plan for the CCASIA 2009-2014)

Q3.1 Use of electronic communication systems

Please choose the following developments/actions you have taken in your country to optimise the use of electronic communication systems. If you chose any option from (a) to (e), please describe the developments/actions you have taken:

- (a) E-discussions amongst member countries on issues of mutual interest
- (b) Sharing of national positions/written comments on issues of interest to the region
- (c) Development of web page for Codex Contact Point
- (d) Action to promote regional networking among Codex Contact Points to improve communication and share experiences on Codex and related issues
- (e) Others
- (f) None

INDONESIA

- (b) Sharing of national positions/written comments on issues of interest to the region

Indonesia shares its National Position to other ASEAN countries through ASEAN Task Force on Codex

- (c) Development of web page for Codex Contact Point

Indonesia has a National Codex Website which has been established since 2009, however for the time being, the website is in the process of maintenance for the further development.

- (d) Action to promote regional networking among Codex Contact Points to improve communication and share experiences on Codex and related issues

Indonesia maintain its communication/networking with other NCC

JAPAN

(e); As the Coordinator for CCASIA, Japan is establishing the web page for CCASIA on the home page of MAFF.

PHILIPPINES

(a) *E-discussions amongst member countries on issues of mutual interest*

NCO Sub-Committees are members of electronic Working Groups (eWG).

(b) *Sharing of national positions/written comments on issues of interest to the region*

This takes place as an integral part of an electronic working group activity. Members of the NCO participated in the electronic working group and prepared national positions/written comments on issues of interest to the region. The Department of Health posts all its advisories in the website.

(c) *Development of web page for Codex Contact Point*

NCO e-Library initiatives is underway

Q3.2 Participation in Codex activities

Q3.2.1 Have you submitted relevant and qualified data to FAO/WHO expert bodies? Please write "YES" or "NO". If your answer is "YES," please describe the data you have submitted.

INDONESIA

YES

Indonesia has submitted data on Beta-cyfluthrin in Cabbage collected in Indonesia to JMPR

JAPAN

YES

Japan has been providing toxicological data and small scale survey data for many years.

Japan has been conducting surveillance/monitoring extensively since 2006. We have provided following occurrence data or toxicological data to JECFA in response to its request.

i) Cadmium: surveillance data in agricultural and fishery commodities, epidemiological study (Dec 2003 and Sep 2004)

ii) Dioxin: monitoring data in agricultural, livestock and fishery commodities (Dec 2003 and Dec 2004)

iii) Acrylamide: surveillance data in processed foods (Sep 2004)

iv) Deoxynivalenol: surveillance data in wheat and barley (Oct 2009 and Dec 2011)

In recent 2 years, we also provided the following data in response to Call for data from FAO/WHO expert bodies.

i) Fumonisin occurrence data in feed (2007-2010) (JECFA, Feb. 2011)

ii) Information related to surveillance system, monitoring/inspection system, control/management measure and food poisoning data for foodborne parasitic diseases in Japan (JEMRA, Aug 2011)

iii) Survey results of histamine concentration in fish and fishery products and food poisoning data related to histamine in Japan (JEMRA, Dec 2012)

iv) Reports of toxicity and bioavailability study on aluminium containing food additives in rat (JECFA, Nov 2010)

v) Technological data for the test methods of aluminium oxide and silicon dioxide in titanium dioxide (JECFA, Nov 2011)

PHILIPPINES

NO

Q3.2.2 Please describe any significant barriers or difficulties that you have experienced in participating in Codex work, including electronic working groups (i.e. technical, financial etc)

INDONESIA

- Indonesia has difficulties to provide scientific data as the basis of national position.
- Indonesia has limited budget to involve expert.

JAPAN

Regarding participation in electronic working groups, Japan sometimes experienced miscommunication problems related to sending and receiving messages through e-mails. In some cases, Japan Codex Contact Point did not receive kick-off messages from leading countries and Japanese participants did not receive draft document from leading countries. We should solve this type of miscommunication problem, in order to facilitate Codex works.

Q3.2.3 Please write name of the funding you used during this period for activities related to Codex.

INDONESIA

Since 2011, Indonesia has graduated from Codex Trust Fund. Thus all Codex activities, such as active participations and scientific studies, are funded by Government of Indonesia

JAPAN

None

PHILIPPINES

Limited local source of scientific data. Need to strengthen our research capability on gathering scientific data.

Q3.3 Development of network

Please describe any developments/actions you have taken to establish scientific and technical networks amongst the experts and institutions in the countries of the region.

INDONESIA

Indonesia becomes an observer in ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (ARASFF) and established Indonesia Food Safety Network.

JAPAN

At the 20th CCRVDF session in Puerto Rico, May 2012, Japan proposed to start e-mail communication among Asian countries/districts. So far, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Indonesia and Hong Kong expressed their willingness to join it.

PHILIPPINES

The Philippines through the NCO has established scientific and technical networks through the Sub-Committees where all relevant stakeholders share their expertise and data particularly in the development of country positions. However, we have limited access to scientific studies as strong basis for our country positions.

Question 4: Training and Capacity Building

(For Actions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 4.6, 4.7, 5.1, 5.3 of the Strategic Plan for the CCASIA 2009-2014)

Q4.1 Training programmes/workshops for member countries in the region

Have you organised or participated in any training programmes/workshops for member countries in the region or provided assistance to member countries in the region related to work of the Codex? Please write "YES" or "NO". If your answer is "YES," please provide name of the training programmes/workshop and the international organisation and/or country that supported the programme/workshops, if any. In addition, please choose from following options that best describe the objective of the each programme and/or assistance.

- (a) To facilitate the development of the scientific and/or technical capacity
- (b) To strengthen food regulatory system
- (c) To strengthen Codex Contact Point and/or National Codex Committee
- (d) To organise on-the-job training for Codex Contact Point to observe the management of Codex Works
- (e) To increase harmonisation of their national legislations with the related Codex standards
- (f) Others (please describe)

INDONESIA

YES

(f) Others (please describe)

Indonesia participated in:

No	Event	Date	Organizer	Funding
1	CCASIA SPS Workshop (related to CCGP, CCCF, CCRVDF)	Bangkok, Thailand, 31 January-2 February 2012	US Codex and Thailand Codex	US Codex
2	CCASIA SPS Workshop (related to CCFFP, CCNFSUDU, CCFH)	Tokyo, Japan, 23 -26 August 2012	US Codex and Japan Codex	US Codex

JAPAN

YES

Programme/ workshop (i) – objective: (b)

For principles and further activities for Codex implementation, Japan fully supported the FAO regional project "Enhancing Food Safety by Strengthening Food Inspection Systems in ASEAN Countries" (GCP/RAS/222/JPN). Five regional workshops were organized for policy makers to enhance their understanding of food inspection and certification systems necessary to strengthen food safety and quality in ASEAN countries;

- i) The first workshop: "Modern Principles for Food Inspection and Certification" (April 2009, Indonesia)
- ii) The second regional workshop: "Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems" (March 2009, Thailand)
- iii) The third regional workshop: "Good Practices and HACCP" (October 2009, Singapore)
- iv) The fourth regional workshop: "SPS Measures and their Impact on Food Inspection and Certification including Managerial Aspects" (August 2010, Thailand)
- v) The fifth regional workshop: "Final Strategy Workshop" (May 2011, Vietnam)

Programme/ workshop (ii) – objective: (b)

For principles and further activities for Codex implementation, under the FAO regional project “Enhancing Food Safety by Strengthening Food Inspection Systems in ASEAN Countries” (GCP/RAS/222/JPN), three national training courses were organized to train food inspectors on the food inspection and certification systems necessary in support of their country-specific issues;

In addition to the regional training courses, three national training courses were organized in support of their country-specific issues;

i) “Strengthening Food Import Inspection and Certification” (September 2010, Lao PDR)

ii) “GHP/GMP Inspection – Principles and Practices” (October 2010, Cambodia)

iii) “Risk-based Food Inspection for Domestic Food Control” (March 2011, Myanmar)

Programme/ workshop (iii) – objective: (b)

For principles and further activities for Codex implementation, Japan funded the Inception Workshop of FAO’s regional project “Support to Capacity Building and Implementation of International Food Safety Standards in ASEAN Countries” (GCP/RAS/280/JPN) (September 2012, Thailand)

All ASEAN countries will participate in the workshop and also Japan will participate as the donor country and Japanese experts will work as resource persons. Although the objective of the workshop covers all objectives from (a) to (e), objective (b) is most relevant to the workshop.

Programme/ workshop (iv) – objective: (a)

Japan has been supporting the Project for Strengthening Capacity of Inspection System for Ensuring Safety of Agro-Fishery Foods to assist training, soft infrastructure and hard infrastructure. (1 Dec. 2011 – 30 Nov. 2014, Viet Nam)

- Dispatch of experts, study tour, training and provision of equipment

Programme/ workshop (v) – objective: (b)

Japan supported the Project for Strengthening the Food Safety Management System to assist training and soft infrastructure. (1 Feb. 2009 – 31 Jan. 2011, China)

- Dispatch of experts and study tour

Programme/ workshop (vi) – objective: (a)

Japan provided the Training Course on Mycotoxin Inspection for Food Safety to assist training and soft infrastructure for 7 people including Asian officers. (31 Jan. 2011 – 23 Apr. 2011, Mongolia and Thailand)

Programme/ workshop (vii) – objective: (b)

Japan provided the Seminar for Food Safety Policy Making and Management to assist training and soft infrastructure for 6 people including Asian officers. (27 Nov. 2011 – 10 Dec. 2011, Indonesia, Cambodia and Myanmar)

Programme/ workshop (viii) – objective: (a)

Japan provided the Training Course on Mycotoxin Inspection for Food Safety to assist training and soft infrastructure for 6 people including Asian officers. (31 Jan. 2012 – 21 Apr. 2012, Mongolia, Sri Lanka and Myanmar)

Programme/ workshop (ix) – objective: (b)

Japan dispatched Advisor for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Policy and Planning to assist soft infrastructure in Viet Nam. (7 Jul. 2009 – 14 Oct. 2011)

Programme/ workshop (x) – objective: (a)

Japan has been contributing to FAO on SPS related technical assistance for ASEAN developing countries for training and soft infrastructure. (2011 – 2015, ASEAN developing countries)

Programme/ workshop (xi) – objective: (a)

Japan has been contributing to STDF on SPS related technical assistance for developing countries for training and soft infrastructure. (2009 - , global including Asian countries)

PHILIPPINES

YES

(a) *To facilitate the development of the scientific and/or technical capacity*

1. “Training on Course for Asia and the Pacific” – FAO-WHO Bali, Indonesia, 13-15 November 2008
2. “The Use of Science throughout the Food Chain for Safe Foods” – FAO-WHO
1. Workshop, 18-20 November 2010, Bali, Indonesia
2. “CCASIA Colloquium” – USDA sponsored, August 22-24, 2012, Japan

(b) *To strengthen food regulatory system*

Regional Workshop on “Principles and further activities for CODEX implementation” - FAO/WHO sponsored, 17-19 September 2012, Bangkok, Thailand

Q4.2 Training within the country

Have you organised any training programme for technical persons and policy makers responsible for the elaboration of food safety policy in your country on the significance of and needs of considering Codex standards and related texts? Please write “YES” or “NO”. If your answer is “YES,” please describe the outline of training programme with name of supporting international organisation and/or country, if any.

INDONESIA

YES

No	Event	Date	Organizer	Outline training programme
1	Workshop and training on risk analysis	2010	NAFDC and WHO	- Risk Analysis - Chemical risk assessment
2	Workshop on Codex	2011	CCP Indonesia	- Understanding CAC - Handling of Codex Activities in Indonesia - Preparing National Position - Procedures Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts - Science and Risk Analysis in Codex Works - Mock Session of Codex Meeting

JAPAN

YES

We conduct seminars for both public sector and industry on the importance of Codex standards and activities.

Q4.3 Need for capacity building and training to strengthen the national food control systems

Q4.3.1 With regard to matters related to national food control systems, please choose from the options below and describe capacity building need.

- (a) Development and/or update of food control systems (e.g. development of HACCP, traceability and recall system, incorporating risk analysis, revision of laws and/or regulations)
- (b) Strengthening implementation of the food regulatory systems, including capacity of inspection and analysis (e.g. enhancing equipment, sampling plan, analytical method and laboratory)

- (c) Enhancing coordination and communication among stakeholders, including consumers, food industries etc.
- (d) Others

INDONESIA

(a) Development and/or update of food control systems (e.g. development of HACCP, traceability and recall system, incorporating risk analysis, revision of laws and/or regulations)

The following Capacity Buildings are needed:

- method and procedure on traceability including recall system
- implementation of risk analysis in food control system
- Regulatory Impact Assessment
- HACCP

(b) Strengthening implementation of the food regulatory systems, including capacity of inspection and analysis (e.g. enhancing equipment, sampling plan, analytical method and laboratory)

The following Capacity Buildings are needed:

- Good Regulatory Practices
- Sampling plan and analytical method development

JAPAN

(c); In order for enhancing coordination and communication among stakeholders, the consultative committee consists of 14 representatives (4 members from academia, 4 members from industries, 5 members from consumer organizations and 1 member from producer of agricultural products) .

PHILIPPINES

YES

(a) Development and/or update of food control systems (e.g. development of HACCP, traceability and recall system, incorporating risk analysis, revision of laws and/or regulations)

Need training on the following:

- a. formulation of food code/law;
- b. risk analysis;

(b) Strengthening implementation of the food regulatory systems, including capacity of inspection and analysis (e.g. enhancing equipment, sampling plan, analytical method and laboratory)

Post market monitoring using appropriate sampling plan/design

(c) Enhancing coordination and communication among stakeholders, including consumers, food industries etc.

Effective coordination and implementation of food safety down to the local government units

Q4.3.2 With regard to matters related to Codex Contact Point and/or National Codex Committee, please describe capacity building need.

INDONESIA

The following Capacity Buildings are needed:

- Understanding Codex and handling codex document

PHILIPPINES

The training of Technical Committee members of the NCO including the Sub-Committee and Task Force Chairpersons on risk analysis, actual observations, study/visits on countries doing risk analysis.