



NRCS Proactive Approach to Food Safety to Prevent Food Safety Incidents and Product Recalls

June 2024







7 June 2024 World Food Safety Day

Food safety: prepare for the unexpected



Presentation Content



- Pro-active approach elements
- Organization of National Food Safety Authorities
- Synergy and Collaboration between NFSA's
- International Food safety incident processes
- Technical Regulations and FBO Obligations
- Product recall processes and protocols
- Recall Classification and Characterization
- Food Safety Incidents and recalls
- Essential Conclusions



Pro-active Approach Elements







Regulatory approach is aligned with key WFSD messages
Updating National Food safety Emergency Plans
Regulatory preparedness

Strengthen National Food Control Systems
Multi-sectoral collaboration

Improved communication with FBO's and consumers Effective inspection and official control program

South African Food Safety Authorities





DTIC (NRCS)

- Competent Authority for all Seafood and Processed Meat Products
- Competent Authority for all aqua-cultured seafood products at establishment level
- Import control
- Certification of exports
- TBT Enquiry Point (SABS)
- Codex CCFFP & CCFICS coordinator



DOH

- Food Safety & Nutrition Competent Authority
- Import control
- Food Labelling
- Environmental Health Services
- CODEX Contact Point
 & CAC
- coordinator
- INFOSAN Emergency Contact Point
- RASFF Contact Point



DALRRD

- Terrestrial Animal and Plant Health Competent Authority
- Veterinary Public Health
- Ensuring Good Agricultural Practices
- Import & Export
 Control of
 Agricultural
 Products
- Land reform and Rural Development
- SPS Enquiry Point



forestry, fisheries & the environment Department: Forestry, Fisheries and the Environme

DFFE

- Aquatic Animal Health Competent Authority
- Licencing of vessels and FBO's
- Aquaculture authorisations
- Marine resource management
- IUU Contact Point



BMA

- Import Control Food Safety
- Phyto-sanitary controlBiosecurity



NCC

- Monitor the consumer market
- Investigate alleged prohibited conduct and offences
- Enforce compliance notices

Synergy and Collaboration









Food Recalls
Food safety
Incidents
Food safety
networks

Food recalls-Processed Meat Food Imports
Control

Codex
SPS Committee
Food safety
Foum

Collaboration

MIT-LM

Import Controls

MoU's



Food Recalls

International Food Safety Incident Management processes



INFOSAN

EU RAASF Notifications CODEX Guidelines

Notification to DoH

Food Safety Authorities

NCC-Consumer Protection Act& Regulations

Protocols and processes

Collaboration
Communication
and
Cooperation

Multi-sectoral involvement

Product recall processes

Identification recall and withdrawal of product

Technical Regulations& FBO Obligations



Codex Food Emergency Guidelines

FSMS based on Codex

Risk Based Monitoring Program Trace-ability clause in all food
Standards

Obligation of FBO to report all NC's to VC's

General Labelling of Products

FBO FSMS compliance-mock recall & trace-ability

NRCS Product Recall Protocol and Processes



Notification or Identification of Food safety Incident

- Confirmation of risk to consumer
- Classification of recall
- Initiate the recall
- Horizon scan

NRCS Sanctioning process

- Directive
- Technical Committee

meeting

Resolution

Verification

of Product Technical Committee meeting

Review of Recall

process

- Improvement
- Updating of **Procedures**

Product recall

- Communication with DoH and other FS **Authorities**
- Tracking location of recalled product

Termination of Recall

FBO process

Performance criteria

Review of

documentation

and processes

Determine the

extent of risk

Request for

corrective &preventative actions

- Notification to **FBO**
- Consolidation of volumes

Product handling

- Rework
- Destruction
- •Re-export

Verification of FBO **FSMS**

- Effectiveness of CA
- Performance of critical processes

Verification of Resolution Decision

Recall classification and Characterization



Extent of

Importing and

Exporting Countries

		Related		Collaboration
Class I	Involves a health hazard situation where there is a reasonable probability that eating the food will cause health problems or death	Yes	 Clostridium botulinum toxin in canned food Listeria monocytogenes and Salmonella in ready-to-eat foods- processed meat 	All FS Authorities Media release Importing and Exporting Countries FBO Industry Consumer Groups and associations Laboratories
Class II	Involves a potential health	yes	 Norovirus contamination in seafood 	Most FS Authorities

Classification **Food Safety Risk Food Safety Examples**

not cause immediate

adverse health

consequences

importing and in searood nazaro situation where there is a remote A food that contains yeast **Exporting Countries** or mold contamination probability of adverse **Industry**

health consequences from **FBO** eating the food product Involves a situation in Class III Presence of foreign materials Some FS Authorities No which eating the food will Incorrect declaration on the **FBO**

label such a low net mass

Food Safety Incidents and Recalls



product in

the trade

recalled

						7
Time Period	Product	Classification	Туре	Consumer Risk	Quantity (cans)/kg	Outcome
November 2023	Canned Fish	Class I	Regulatory	High- risk Products not controlled	255	Effective-all affected product destroyed
November 2023	Processed Meat	Class I	Regulatory	High- risk Products not controlled	556	Effective-all affected product destroyed
July 2023	Canned Tuna	Class I	Voluntary	High- Risk Products Dented cans	1010	Effective-all affected product destroyed
2023/2024	Canned	Class I	Voluntary	High-rust on	283961	Effective-all

internal

sides of cans

Abalone

Essential Conclusions



- Regulatory preparedness is essential
- FBO preparedness compliments Regulatory processes
- Continuous improvement and review of Regulatory processes important to prevent food safety incidents and product recalls
- Multi-sectoral collaboration ensures effective identification, location and withdrawal of implicated food products
- Compliance by FBO's and effective FSMS
- Involvement of all role-players including consumers
- Effective Inspection Systems









