

## INFORMATION NOTE

### Authorities Responsible for Food Safety Regulation and Agriculture/Fisheries Promotion in Selected Places

**Table — Authorities responsible for food safety regulation and agriculture/fisheries promotion in selected places<sup>1</sup>**

	Agriculture in Gross Domestic Product (estimated figure)	Agricultural population (number of people/ percentage share in the entire population)	Authorities responsible for food safety regulation		Authorities responsible for agriculture/fisheries promotion	
			Policy formulation	Implementation	Policy formulation	Implementation
Australia	2004: 3.4%	2003: 859 000/ 4.3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A division of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, namely the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service</li> <li>Food Standards Australia New Zealand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two divisions of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, namely the Industry Development and the Rural Policy and Innovation</li> </ul>
Canada	2004: 2.3%	2003: 728 000/ 2.3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</li> <li>Health Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Canadian Food Inspection Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Farm Products Council</li> <li>The Canadian Grain Commission</li> <li>Fisheries and Oceans Canada</li> <li>The Canadian Dairy Commission</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the Appendix for the responsibilities of each authority.

**Table — Authorities responsible for food safety regulation and agriculture/fisheries promotion in selected places (cont'd)**

	Agriculture in Gross Domestic Product (estimated figure)	Agricultural population (number of people/percentage share in the entire population)	Authorities responsible for food safety regulation		Authorities responsible for agriculture/fisheries promotion	
			Policy formulation	Implementation	Policy formulation	Implementation
Republic of Korea	2004: 3.2%	2003: 3 455 000/ 7.0%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</li> <li>The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three divisions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, namely the Foodgrain Policy Bureau, the Agricultural Marketing Policy Bureau and the Livestock Bureau</li> <li>The Korea Food and Drug Administration under the authority of Ministry of Health and Welfare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</li> <li>The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five divisions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, namely the Foodgrain Policy Bureau, the Agricultural Marketing Policy Bureau, the Livestock Bureau, the Agricultural Structure Policy Bureau and the Rural Policy Bureau</li> <li>Two divisions of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, namely the Fisheries Policy Bureau and the Fisheries Resources Bureau</li> </ul>
Singapore	2004: Negligible	2003: 5 000/ 0.1%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of National Development</li> <li>The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of National Development</li> <li>The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority</li> </ul>

**Table — Authorities responsible for food safety regulation and agriculture/fisheries promotion in selected places (cont'd)**

	<b>Agriculture in Gross Domestic Product</b> (estimated figure)	<b>Agricultural population</b> (number of people/ percentage share in the entire population)	<b>Authorities responsible for food safety regulation</b>		<b>Authorities responsible for agriculture/fisheries promotion</b>	
			<b>Policy formulation</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	<b>Policy formulation</b>	<b>Implementation</b>
Taiwan	2004: 1.76%	2004: 2 500 000/ 11%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council of Agriculture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three departments under the authority of the Council of Agriculture, namely the Agriculture and Food Agency, the Fisheries Agency, and the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine</li> <li>• The Department of Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council of Agriculture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three departments under the authority of the Council of Agriculture, namely the Agriculture and Food Agency, the Fisheries Agency, and the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine</li> </ul>
United Kingdom	2004: 1%	2003: 1 001 000/ 1.7%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</li> <li>• The Department of Health</li> <li>• The Food Standards Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Food Standards Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Meat and Livestock Commission</li> <li>• Food from Britain</li> <li>• The Marine Fisheries Agency</li> </ul>

## Appendix

### **The Responsibilities of the Authorities Responsible for Food Safety Regulation and Agriculture/Fisheries Promotion in Selected Places**

#### **Australia**

##### The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

A.1 The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is the highest government body responsible for Australia's agricultural, fisheries, forestry and food industries. It makes and implements policies on both food safety regulation and agriculture and fisheries promotion, which include:

- (a) developing and delivering policies and programmes to build portfolio industries' business capacity and self-reliance;
- (b) minimizing the impacts of pests, diseases and contaminants and contributing to the health and welfare of farm animals, such as managing risks associated with agricultural and veterinary chemical use and leading national responses to emergencies arising from contamination incidents and incursions;
- (c) promoting more profitable, competitive and sustainable agricultural, food, fisheries and forestry industries, such as ensuring its portfolio industries to have access to world class biotechnology and markets;
- (d) assisting the development of Australia's food supply chain from producer to processor to consumer, such as helping industries form strategic alliances; and
- (e) maintaining and improving market opportunities, such as enhancing agricultural co-operation with key trading partners.

##### The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

A.2 The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service is a division of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Its responsibilities include providing quarantine inspection for animals, plants and animal or plant products imported into Australia, and inspection and certification for a range of agricultural products exported from Australia.

### The Industry Development of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

A.3 The Industry Development is a division of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Its responsibilities include developing and advising on policies and facilitating the implementation of government decisions on matters impacting on agricultural industries, in particular those matters dealing with industry structures, supply chain competitiveness, structural adjustment and support, and market access and development.

### The Rural Policy and Innovation of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

A.4 The Rural Policy and Innovation is a division of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Its responsibilities include developing and implementing a range of policies and programmes to build the capacity of rural businesses, aiming to promote self-reliant, profitable, competitive and sustainable farm businesses and industries Australia-wide.

### Food Standards Australia New Zealand

A.5 Established under the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991, Food Standards Australia New Zealand is a bi-national statutory authority that develops food standards for composition, labelling and contaminants, including microbiological limits, that apply to all foods produced or imported for sale in Australia and New Zealand. Its responsibilities cover food safety regulation only, including:

- (a) developing standards for food manufacturing, labelling, processing and primary production;
- (b) co-ordinating national food surveillance, enforcement and food recall;
- (c) undertaking dietary exposure modelling and scientific risk assessments; and
- (d) providing risk assessment advice on imported food.

## **Canada**

### Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

A.6 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is the highest government body responsible for formulating policies on food safety regulation and agriculture/fisheries promotion.

### Health Canada

A.7 Health Canada is responsible for establishing standards related to the safety and nutritional quality of all food sold in Canada.

### The Canadian Food Inspection Agency

A.8 The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is established under the Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act. Under section 11 of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act, CFIA is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act, the Canada Agricultural Products Act, the Feeds Act, the Fertilizers Act, the Fish Inspection Act, the Health of Animals Act, the Meat Inspection Act, the Plant Breeders' Rights Act, the Plant Protection Act, the Seeds Act, the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and certain sections of the Food and Drugs Act which relate to food.

### The National Farm Products Council

A.9 The National Farm Products Council (NFPC) helps improve farm-product marketing between Canadian provinces and territories and internationally. NFPC supervises the operations of four national marketing agencies, which are:

- (a) Canadian Egg Marketing Agency;
- (b) Canadian Turkey Marketing Agency;
- (c) Chicken Farmers of Canada; and
- (d) Canadian Broiler Hatching Egg Marketing Agency.

A.10 The four agencies are mainly responsible for:

- (a) implementing marketing plans; and
- (b) allocating production quotas.

A.11 NFPC also supervises the operation of the Beef Cattle Promotion and Research Agency. This Agency promotes beef marketing through advertising, promotion and consumer education programmes, and through product and nutrition research.

#### The Canadian Grain Commission

A.12 The Canadian Grain Commission is a federal government department. Its functions include:

- (a) marketing Canadian grain in overseas markets;
- (b) establishing the grain grading guidelines;
- (c) licensing grain dealers; and
- (d) settling the disputes over grain quality between buyers and sellers of grain.

#### Fisheries and Oceans Canada

A.13 Fisheries and Oceans Canada is a federal government department responsible for developing and implementing policies and programmes in support of Canada's economic, ecological and scientific interests in oceans and inland waters.

#### The Canadian Dairy Commission

A.14 The Canadian Dairy Commission, being a crown corporation, implements marketing programmes to promote consumer awareness and utilization of Canadian manufactured dairy ingredients.

### **Republic of Korea**

#### The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

A.15 The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is the highest government body responsible for making farm policies on areas covering food safety regulation and agriculture/fisheries promotion, which include:

- (a) securing farm household income and management, such as expanding off-farm income sources;

- (b) fostering agriculture into a competitive, environment-friendly and high quality industry, such as establishing a tighter system for food safety control; and
- (c) developing rural communities and improving their welfare, such as expanding the farm-oriented social safety net.

The Foodgrain Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

A.16 The responsibilities of the Foodgrain Policy Bureau cover both food safety regulation and agriculture promotion, including:

- (a) directing and supervising the National Plant Quarantine Service;
- (b) supervising the business about genetically modified agricultural products and the safety of the products;
- (c) establishing and supervising a comprehensive plan for food production; and
- (d) fostering environment-friendly agriculture.

The Agricultural Marketing Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

A.17 The responsibilities of the Agricultural Marketing Policy Bureau cover both food safety regulation and agriculture promotion, including:

- (a) certifying the quality of traditional foods;
- (b) directing and supervising the national quality management service; and
- (c) fostering agricultural product processing industries and fruits and flowers industries.

The Livestock Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

A.18 The responsibilities of the Livestock Bureau cover both food safety regulation and agriculture promotion, including:

- (a) regulating the unlawful distribution of livestock products;
- (b) handling affairs relating to the quarantine of imported and exported animal and livestock products;
- (c) operating a grading system for livestock products;



- (d) promoting the poultry raising industry, such as improving the quality of chicken; and
- (e) improving the environment for raising domestic animals.

The Agricultural Structure Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

A.19 The responsibilities of the Agricultural Structure Policy Bureau cover agriculture promotion only, including:

- (a) managing agricultural promotion regions and preserving agricultural land;
- (b) fostering agricultural ventures;
- (c) establishing and operating plans for the agricultural land management fund; and
- (d) improving the systems related to the planning of agricultural land policies and taxes.

The Rural Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

A.20 The responsibilities of the Rural Policy Bureau cover agriculture promotion only, including:

- (a) enhancing the quality of the life of agricultural and forestry and fishery manpower;
- (b) advertising tours to farming villages;
- (c) planning the development of farming villages; and
- (d) improving the quality of water for agriculture.

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

A.21 The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries is the highest government body responsible for making policies relating to, among others, the development of fisheries, including:

- (a) keeping domestic seas healthy and productive;
- (b) promoting a high valued-added and knowledge-based marine industry;
- (c) establishing sustainable fishery production fundamentals;

- (d) commercializing marine minerals, energy and space resources; and
- (e) expanding marine and fisheries diplomacy and enhancing the co-operation between South Korea and North Korea.

#### The Fisheries Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

A.22 The Fisheries Policy Bureau is a division of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Its responsibilities cover fisheries promotion only, such as providing assistance to the fishery industry and fishing villages, and promoting the safe and sanitary distribution of fishery products as well as developing fisheries-related infrastructures.

#### The Fisheries Resources Bureau of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

A.23 The Fisheries Resources Bureau is a division of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Its responsibilities cover fisheries promotion only, such as restructuring offshore and coastal fisheries, strengthening fishery co-operation with other Northeast Asian countries, building aquaculture infrastructures to improve the competitiveness of the local aquaculture, and managing fish stocks.

#### The Ministry of Health and Welfare

A.24 The Ministry of Health and Welfare is responsible for, among others, making and implementing policies to enact the Food Sanitation Act. Its responsibilities include:

- (a) reinforcing the food safety policies, such as implementing a surveillance system on the food manufacturing process, establishing labelling standards for genetically modified organisms to ensure the safety of foods made using biotechnology, and reforming the imported food management system;
- (b) ensuring safety for health functional foods, such as offering specific guidelines for health claims;
- (c) ensuring transparency of the food safety system;
- (d) promoting the Food Promotion Fund, such as using the Fund to support projects to enhance food sanitation; and
- (e) promoting the good food culture.

### The Korea Food and Drug Administration

A.25 The Korea Food and Drug Administration is a food and drug safety control body operating under the authority of the Ministry of Health and Welfare. Its responsibilities include:

- (a) developing, consolidating and co-ordinating policies on food;
- (b) developing general plans on food safety management;
- (c) surveillance for food contamination and adulteration;
- (d) reviewing standards and specifications for food; and
- (e) testing and evaluating the safety and/or efficacy of data submitted for approval regarding food.

## **Singapore**

### The Ministry of National Development

A.26 The functions of the Ministry of National Development include:

- (a) ensuring that basic needs such as safe food and shelter are adequately met; and
- (b) promoting agrotechnology industries.

### The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority

A.27 The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA), established under the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority Act, is an agency responsible for food safety regulation and agriculture promotion. Under section 11 of the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority Act, the functions of AVA include:

- (a) regulating the safety and wholesomeness of food for supply to Singapore;
- (b) promoting and regulating animal and fish health, animal welfare and plant health;
- (c) promoting, facilitating and regulating the production, processing and trade of food and products related to or connected with the agri-food and veterinary sectors;

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- (d) developing, managing and regulating any agrotechnology park, agri-biotechnology park, mari-culture park, fishing harbour, and any other agri-food and veterinary centre or establishment; and
  - (e) promoting the development of the agri-food and veterinary sectors.

## **Taiwan**

### The Council of Agriculture

A.28 The Council of Agriculture (COA) is the decision-making body responsible for the development of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, livestock raising and food administration in Taiwan. The policies decided by COA are implemented by a number of separate agencies and bureaux with specified statutory responsibilities, namely the Agriculture and Food Agency, the Fisheries Agency, the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine and the Bureau of Agricultural Finance.

### The Agriculture and Food Agency

A.29 The responsibilities of the Agriculture and Food Agency cover both food safety regulation and agriculture promotion, including:

- (a) drafting, implementation, and supervision of policies, laws and regulations, programmes and plans relating to agriculture and food;
- (b) crop production improvement, strategic planning and supervision of special zones and stabilization measures relating to production and sale;
- (c) natural disaster relief for agriculture and food industries, and strategic planning and supervision of general pest and disease control;
- (d) supervising agricultural and food product trading systems and market management;
- (e) promotion of domestic agricultural products;
- (f) supervision of agricultural and food product processing;
- (g) strategic planning, implementation and supervision of pesticide, fertilizer, seed and seedling, and agricultural machinery inspection service;

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- (h) drafting, implementation and supervision of grain management services, and rice inspection and grading system; and
  - (i) drafting, implementation and supervision of fertilizer purchase, sale, storage and shipment plans.

### The Fisheries Agency

A.30 The responsibilities of the Fisheries Agency cover fisheries promotion only, including:

- (a) drafting and supervision of policies, laws and regulations, programmes and plans relating to fisheries;
- (b) research and planning concerning fisheries science and fisheries pollution control;
- (c) assistance to and supervision of associations for fishermen and the fishing industry;
- (d) training of extension personnel for the fishing industry;
- (e) supervision and support of shipment, sale, processing for fish, fishermen's benefits and financing for the fishing industry;
- (f) international fisheries co-operation, and co-ordination of foreign affairs relating to fisheries; and
- (g) conservation, cultivation, management, research and assessment of fisheries resources; planning, implementation, supervision and co-ordination of the aquaculture industry.

### The Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine

A.31 The responsibilities of the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine cover food safety regulation only, including:

- (a) drafting, implementation and supervision of policies, laws and regulations, programmes and plans relating to animal and plant disease and pest control, quarantine, veterinary drugs, animal hygienic material, veterinary public health, quarantine personnel and veterinarian management, inspection of livestock and poultry slaughter sanitation; and slaughterhouse registration and management;
- (b) disease and pest control reporting, information collection, risk analysis, consultation, dispute resolution and advisory services relating to domestic and foreign animal and plant disease and pest control, quarantine, and livestock and poultry slaughter management;

- (c) inspection and treatment for diseases of imported and exported animals, and the products of livestock, poultry and fishery;
- (d) inspection and treatment for harmful organisms of imported and exported plants and plant products; and
- (e) issuance, examination, management and supervision of phytosanitary certification for imported and exported plants, animals and their products, and inspection of livestock and poultry slaughter sanitation.

#### The Bureau of Agricultural Finance

A.32 The responsibilities of the Bureau of Agricultural Finance cover agriculture promotion only, including:

- (a) planning of the agricultural financial system and regulatory policies;
- (b) drafting, implementation and interpretation of relevant laws and regulations governing agricultural finance;
- (c) handling of liquidation and re-organization affairs relating to agriculture;
- (d) interdiction, punishment and handling of violations of relevant laws and regulations governing agricultural finance; and
- (e) providing guidance for agricultural loan and drafting and supervision of interest rate differential subsidiary policies.

#### Department of Health of the Executive Yuan

A.33 The Department of Health of the Executive Yuan is responsible for, among others, enhancing food safety. Its responsibilities include promoting self-management of sanitation in the food industries, implementing a food safety control system for fishing products and enhancing the management of genetically modified foods.

## **United Kingdom**

### The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

A.34 The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is the highest government body responsible for:

- (a) bringing all aspects of the environment, rural matters, farming and food production together;
- (b) serving as a focal point for all rural policies relating to people, the economy and the environment; and
- (c) playing roles in both the European Union and global policy making, so that its work has a strong international dimension.

A.35 As regards the aspect of food, Defra performs the following functions:

- (a) ensuring food safety;
- (b) marketing agricultural products and processed food;
- (c) promoting the development of the food industries such as processing, distribution, trade, retail and catering; and
- (d) assisting the agriculture and fishing industries.

### The Department of Health

A.36 The Department of Health is responsible for establishing food safety standards in the United Kingdom.

### The Food Standards Agency

A.37 The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is established under the Food Standards Act. Its responsibilities include:

- (a) protecting public health;
- (b) providing information and advice;
- (c) ensuring that food law is effectively enforced;
- (d) co-ordinating research and development and surveillance; and
- (e) developing policy and representing the United Kingdom on food matters in Europe.

### The Meat and Livestock Commission

A.38 The Meat and Livestock Commission works with the British meat and livestock industry (cattle, sheep and pigs) to improve its efficiency and competitive position, and to maintain and stimulate markets at home and abroad.

### Food from Britain

A.39 Food from Britain, an executive agency of Defra, is responsible for helping British food and drink companies to develop overseas markets.

### The Marine Fisheries Agency

A.40 The Marine Fisheries Agency, an executive agency of Defra, is responsible for promoting the fishing industry, issuing fishing licences and setting fisheries quotas.

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