



Spotlight on Action from past Stakeholder Forums

Dr Anne Astin, Chair
Implementation Standing
Committee

What has happened
since the last forum?



- Stakeholders identified several desirable developments, including:
 - Greater consistency in interpretation, implementation and enforcement of policies across jurisdictions; and
 - Increased training and education in food safety.



- Development of a strategy for consistent implementation and enforcement of regulations.
 - Endorsed by the Ministerial Council on 28 October 2005.
 - Defines the goals to be achieved by regulators for each operational component.



Strategy on consistent, implementation and enforcement

- Components included in the strategy:
 - Surveillance and monitoring
 - Regulatory and compliance arrangements
 - Food safety incident response and management systems
 - Coordination of food regulation between agencies and local government



Strategy on consistent, implementation and enforcement

- Components included in the strategy (continued)
 - Investigation, enforcement, corrective actions, sanctions, and prosecutions
 - Food industry support and education
 - Consumer education, and
 - reporting



Strategy on consistent, implementation and enforcement

- Implementation of the strategy will be through a work plan based on strategic consideration of the drivers for change.
- ISC will evaluate the performance against the objectives of the strategy at least every 5 years.
- Performance will be measured by evaluating the effectiveness of each mechanism against the baseline and the goals of the regulatory model.



Other achievements by the ISC

- Ministerial council endorsement of the national Food Safety Audit Policy;
- Development of the principles of consistent implementation of the Seafood Standard;
- Putting in place of a National Food Incident Response Protocol; and
- Development of a co-ordinated Food Survey Plan 2008-2011.



Other achievements by the ISC

- Additionally, progress has been made on a number of other projects, including:
 - Review of food recall protocols;
 - A model on enforcement policy;
 - Development of a model for consistent implementation and enforcement of the folic acid standard;
 - Commencement of a review of the home jurisdiction rule;



Other achievements by the ISC

- Additional progress (continued):
 - Development of a compliance model for the proposed Health Claims Standard; and
 - Development of an integrated model for standards development and consistent implementation
 - this will ensure that implementation issues are considered during the standards development process.



The activities undertaken by the ISC since the last forum should provide industry with greater certainty and confidence as to regulatory expectations



Policy Development Process

- Main issues raised by stakeholders at the last forum:
 - Better coordination and consultation;
 - Improved consumer access to policy consultation;
 - Early consideration of policy implementation; and
 - Transparency of reasons for decisions



Policy Development Process

- These issues have been addressed by:
 - Improving coordination and methods of consultation, and
 - Ensuring that the consultation process is easily accessible to stakeholders, and in particular, consumers.



Policy Development Process

- The Ministerial Council endorsed amendments to the *Principles and Protocols* document on 2 May 2008.
- To aid transparency, The Ministerial Council agreed on 4 May 2007 to publish grounds for any review of a standard it requests of FSANZ.
- The Ministerial Council has finalised the first Review of its operations and endorsed the implementation of the seven recommendations.

