

Global Food Safety

The rapid globalization of food production and trade has increased the likelihood of international incidents involving contaminated food.

Food safety can not only be managed at the national level, but also requires closer linkages among food safety authorities internationally. This is important for exchanging routine information on food safety issues and ensuring rapid access to information in case of food safety emergencies.



WHO INFOSAN Secretariat

Department of Food Safety and Zoonoses
World Health Organization (WHO)
Avenue Appia 20,
1211 Geneva 27 SWITZERLAND
E-mail: infosan@who.int



FAO INFOSAN Focal Point

Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department
Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations (FAO)
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome ITALY
E-mail: infosan@fao.org



For more information visit

www.who.int/foodsafety/areas_work/infosan/en/



International Food Safety
Authorities Network

INFOSAN

Connecting Food Safety Authorities
to Reduce Foodborne Risks



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

What is INFOSAN?

The International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) is a global network of national food safety authorities, managed jointly by FAO and WHO with the secretariat in WHO

What is the purpose of INFOSAN?



INFOSAN Activities



EMERGENCY RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Monitor a variety of information sources to detect food safety events
- Assess and verify events in collaboration with network members
- Facilitate information gathering and dissemination for food safety events
- Share alerts on urgent issues
- In collaboration with FAO and WHO emergency operation teams provide technical assistance upon request to respond to food safety emergencies



OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Disseminate pertinent information through INFOSAN Information Notes
- Develop guidance and training tools related to food safety emergency management and international reporting
- Link INFOSAN outputs and recommendations with long-term capacity building activities conducted by FAO and WHO
- INFOSAN is a key element of FAO's Emergency Prevention Programme on Food Safety (EMPRES Food Safety) to exchange information pertaining to food safety with member states



Who are INFOSAN Members?

Each country designates one INFOSAN Emergency Contact Point and one or more INFOSAN Focal Point(s). Membership is restricted to government authorities responsible for national food safety

INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points



- Coordinate activities with other relevant national agencies involved with food safety incidents and emergency response
- Inform INFOSAN secretariat about food safety related incidents and emergencies of international significance
- Request international assistance through INFOSAN secretariat to respond to a food safety incident or emergency
- Respond to urgent questions from INFOSAN secretariat about international food safety related incidents and emergencies
- Take action on alerts disseminated through INFOSAN

INFOSAN Focal Points



- Receive INFOSAN Information Notes and messages
- Disseminate INFOSAN Information Notes to all interested parties
- Provide comments to the INFOSAN secretariat on topics of interest
- Communicate with other members of the network