

Challenges and Lessons Learned on inter-agencies communication

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Kazuyuki SUWABE
Deputy Director, Plant Product Safety Division,
Consumer Affairs Bureau,
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

1. Regulations on GMO in Japan

- (1) **Food Safety** ← **Food Sanitation Act**
(Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW),
Food Safety Commission (FSC))
- (2) **Feed Safety** ← **Feed Safety Act** (MAFF, MHLW, FSC)
- (3) **Environmental Safety** ← **Cartagena Domestic Act**
(Six ministries ; Min. of Environment (MOE), MAFF, MHLW,
Min. of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)
Min. of Education, Science and Technology (MEXT)
Min. of Finance (MOF))



Six ministries for env. safety are required to take into account consistency with decisions on Food and Feed safety of a GMO in question and to exchange information among them (*Ministerial Announcement on Basic Matters for the Cartagena Domestic Act*).

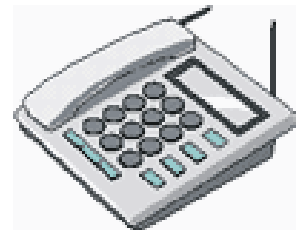
2. How to collaborate? (1)

- Among Six Ministries for environmental safety,
 - ✓ Inter-ministry communication committee
 - ✓ List of officials in charge
 - ✓ Face-to-Face Meeting
- For
 - ✓ Information sharing and exchanging
 - ✓ Discussion on common issues (e.g. points to consider in risk assessment of new GMO)



2. How to collaborate? (2)

- Cross-sectoral issue (e.g. food safety - env. safety),
 - ✓ No mechanism designated for GMO
(There is communication mechanism on food safety among MHLW, FSC & MAFF)
 - ✓ Exchange seating charts of MHLW, FSC & MAFF
 - ✓ Contact officials when necessary
- For
 - ✓ Information sharing and exchanging
(e.g. date of approval)
 - ✓ Cooperation in dealing with common issues
(e.g. LLP situation)



3. What lessons learnt and challenges?

- Officials move every few yrs, we need to
 - Keep the list of officials updated
 - Meet in person from time to time
- Possible Roles of int'l organisations may be;
 - ✓ Sharing list of nat'l contact points and meeting participants
 - ✓ Collecting and sharing cases that cross-sectoral collaboration succeeded or failed

