



10 Years after the White Paper on Food Safety in Europe – Raising Awareness of New Challenges

“Today’s initiative is aimed at achieving a double objective. By restoring and maintaining the confidence of European consumers in the safety of food in the EU, the programme launched by this White Paper will not only effectively increase the quality of the everyday-lives of Europeans, it will also boost the competitiveness of the European Food industry.”

- Erkki Liikanen, Former Enterprise and Information Society Commissioner, January 2000

The Silken Hotel
Brussels

24th June 2010

Organised by



Centre for
Parliamentary
Studies



“An International Symposium for gathering knowledge, discussing the latest challenges and sharing best practices in food safety policy in Europe”

"This is a major initiative designed to promote the health of Europe's consumers by the establishment of world class food safety standards and systems. The proposals of the White Paper on Food Safety are the most radical and far-reaching ever presented in the area of food safety. They are, I believe, as essential prerequisite for Europe to have the highest possible standards in respect of food safety. Consumer confidence has been badly affected by the various food alerts and crises of recent years and months. I believe that our proposals in the White Paper should fundamentally address consumers' legitimate concerns in this regard with a view to restoring and maintaining confidence in food safety."

- David Byrne, Former European Commissioner for Health & Consumer Protection, January 2000

"Food safety is an issue of national, European and international significance. It affects all countries and has a substantial impact on both public health and economic activity. European consumers rightly expect and demand the highest level of safety when it comes to the food that they eat."

- Markos Kyprianou, Former EU Commissioner responsible for Health, July 2009

Abstract and Programme

Food safety policy in Europe not only concerns issues around human health and consumer protection, but also facilitates the smooth running of the EU single market. Ten years on from the European Commission White Paper on Food Safety, this high level international symposium will look into the lessons learned and good practices since the publication of the food safety framework in 2000. The symposium will seek to address current issues, identify new challenges in food safety policy and highlight areas which require multi-agency actions and awareness raising efforts at both EU and regional levels. Key issues to be discussed include:

- Bringing relevant practitioners closer to the decision makers
- Raising pertinent issues relevant to national and local levels
- Identifying existing problems which require multilevel actions
- Providing latest knowledge and findings in the field of food safety
- Delineating an integrated and comprehensive approach for increasing food safety in Europe

The *Centre for Parliamentary Studies* welcomes the participation of all key partners, responsible authorities and stakeholders. The symposium will support the exchange of ideas and encourage delegates to engage in thought-provoking topical debate.



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24th June 2010
The Silken Hotel, Brussels

- 09:00 *Registration and Morning Refreshments*
- 10:00 Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Mr. Peter Wight, Chairman, Committee on Food Policy and Consumers, Eurocommerce (confirmed)*
- 10:10 Introduction of Participants
- 10:20 **Session One: Lessons Learned from the Hygiene Package – Rethinking Current Challenges and Creating Solutions for the Future**
- Lessons Learned from Farm to Work Approach – Bringing Multilevel Experience Together
 - Food Producers' Responsibilities – Toward Good Hygiene Practice in Europe
- Speaker:*
Mr. Kris de Smet, Legislative Officer, Food Hygiene, Alert System and Training, DG SANCO, European Commission (confirmed)
- 10:45 First Round of Discussions
- 11:15 *Morning Coffee Break*
- 11:35 **Session Two: Towards Better Food Labelling in Europe**
- Making Food More Healthy and Accessible
 - Pre-packaged Food
 - Lessons Learned and Good Practices
 - Mind Mapping for Future Multilevel Initiatives
- Speakers:*
Mrs. Josephine Wills, Director General, European Food Information Council (EUFIC) (confirmed)
- 12:00 Second Round of Discussions
- 12:30 Networking Lunch



13:30 Session Three: Overcoming Food Contamination – Creating a Comprehensive and Integrated Approach

- Good Farming and Effective Production – What Can We Improve?
- Good Manufacturer Practices – Remaining Challenges
- Lessons Learned from Inspection Activities in the Europe
- Pesticides Package – Lessons Learned

Speaker:

Senior Representative, Confederation of the Food and Drink Industries in the EU (tbc)

13:55 Third Round of Discussions

14:25 *Short Coffee Break*

14:45 Session Four: Monitoring Food Production Chains – Staying Ahead of the Game

- National Control Systems – Some Good Examples
- Control Functions at Community Levels
- Recent Initiatives and Good Practices
- Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed – Good Practices

Speaker:

Mr. Jellen Goossens, Head of Sector, Food and Feed Control Sector, DG SANCO, European Commission (tbc)

15:10 Fourth Round of Discussions

15:40 Session Five: Controlling the Safety of Modified Food

- Additives, Flavourings and Enzymes: New Legislative Package – Implementation Challenges
- GM Foods: A Case of Politics vs Science?
- Novel Foods: Updating the Legislation to Meet New Challenges
- Risk Assessment and the Role of EFSA
- Science, Technology and Legislation – Looking into the Future

Speaker:

Mr. David Jukes, Senior Lecturer in Food Regulation, University of Reading (confirmed)

16:05 Fifth Round of Discussions

16:35 Chair's Summary and Closing Remarks

16:40 *Networking Reception and Refreshments*

Symposium Close