



Bundesamt für
Verbraucherschutz und
Lebensmittelsicherheit



Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

Joint Statement of Intent

between

**The Food Safety and Standards Authority of
India (FSSAI)**

and

**The Federal Office of Consumer Protection
and Food Safety (BVL)**

on cooperation in Food Safety

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is an independent national authority that was established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and reports to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of The Republic of India. FSSAI has been created for the implementation of food safety standards and regulations and the establishment of a risk management system to ensure the availability of safe food for human consumption.

The Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) is a national authority and was founded in 2002. Its main responsibility is risk management and risk prevention regarding the safety of the food chain. BVL is directly affiliated to the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture of the Federal Republic of Germany.

FSSAI and BVL (hereinafter referred to as 'Participants') understand that any and all cooperation by the Participants under this Joint Statement of Intent (JSI) is subject to the Participants' sole discretion, including the Participants' availability of funds, resources and legal authority.

The Participants wish to lay the foundation for a bilateral cooperation in the field of food safety to facilitate and support a mutual exchange of scientific and technical expertise and information, to strengthen the professional qualification of experts and to benefit from each other's knowledge and experience. In this respect, the Participants have the following intent:

Objectives of the Cooperation

The Participants intend to develop and maintain bilateral cooperation that will be based on mutual interest in the sphere of their respective competence and according to their capacities in the field of food safety and risk management.

Therefore, the Participants encourage the exchange of experience and knowledge of their staff experts to strengthen their expertise. Particular, but not necessarily exclusive fields of cooperation, may be the following:

- Equipment of official laboratories in the field of food safety
- Data and information management and evaluation in the field of food safety
- Organization of national food control programmes
- Information on food legislation and related standards
- Information on residues in food
- Risk and crisis management

In order to realize the exchange of experience and knowledge between the Participants, each Participant will establish a communication channel and name a corresponding unit or person in charge of the implementation of the exchange of information. Depending on resources of the Participants, the interchange of knowledge and experiences from their staff experts may, in a second step, be carried out and supported through, for instance, study visits, workshops, working groups, seminars and technical exchange.

The Participants approve that the information exchanged between them will be confidential and not publicly available as in accordance with applicable law, policies and procedures of each country unless there is an exception specifically established between the Participants.

The costs of implementing this intent will be covered by the regular budgets of the Participants, based on the principles of reciprocity and equality, unless the representatives of the Participants concur otherwise concerning specific issues or activities. The Participant responsible for organizing a meeting, workshop, study visit, etc. within the framework of this JSI will bear the costs of the respective activity. In principle, the responsibility for organizing an activity will lie with the Participant in whose country the activity will take place. Irrespective of this, each Participant will cover all expenses (e.g. the travel and accommodation expenses) for its respective participants notwithstanding the fact in which country the activity will take place.

General provisions

The JSI will come into effect upon the date of its signature.

Either Participant may at any time end the cooperation in terms of this JSI by informing in writing the other Participant of its intention three months in advance.


New Delhi, 5th October, 2015

**For the Food Safety and Standards
Authority of India**



Shri Ashish Bahuguna
Chairperson of the Food Safety and
Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
Republic of India

**For the Federal Office of Consumer
Protection and Food Safety**



Dr. Helmut Tschiersky
President of the
Federal Office of Consumer Protection
and Food Safety (BVL)
Federal Republic of Germany