Symposium "Ensuring Food Safety: An Important Challenge Today"

#### [Myanmar]

### Food Safety in Myanmar\*1

Tun ZAW1

## Food Safety in Myanmar

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#### **Background**

- Legislations;
- The National Food Law (1997)
- The Amendment of the National Food Law (2013)
- Currently drafting new Food Law
- Standard of reference;
- Codex standards (and others).

#### Food Safety Control Mechanism

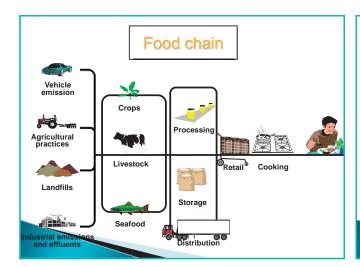
- Myanmar Food and Drug Board of Authority chaired by minister for health
- Central Food and Drug Supervisory
  Committee chaired by Director General, FDA
- The Department of Food and Drug Administration is the regulatory/implementing agency for food and drug safety, guided by above-mentioned steering bodies.

### Food Safety Control Mechanism

- Food safety control system in Myanmar is multiagency approach along the food-chain.
- In collaboration with other stakeholder departments and agencies;
- Department of Agriculture
- Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department
- Department of Fisheries
- Department of Consumers Affairs
- Municipal Health Departments
- Custom Department
- · Disease Control Unit, Dept. of Public Health
- Consumers Organizations and etc.

<sup>\*1</sup> This article is based on a presentation made at the Symposium "Ensuring Food Safety: An Important Challenge Today" held at the 30th CMAAO General Assembly and 51st Council Meeting, Yangon, Myanmar, on September 23-25, 2015.

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#### Food Safety Control works

- GMP Inspection and Certification of domestic manufacturing facilities
- Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification
- Post-market Surveillance
- Switching to Risk-based approach

### Food Safety Control works

- Certified food manufacturing plants;
  - Bottled drinking water 816
  - Others 504
- Import Health Certificates
  - Year 2014 8644
- Post-market surveillance
  - Year 2014-15 7469 market samples

#### **Food Safety Hazards**

- Microbiological;
  - Staphylococcus
  - · Salmonella Shigella
  - Vibrio cholerae
  - E. coli

#### **Food Safety Hazards**

- Chemicals;
  - Dyes
  - · Rhodamine B
  - Auramin O
  - Orange II
  - Sudan
  - Non-permitted additivesBorax
  - · Salicylic acid
  - Formalin

#### **Food Safety Hazards**

- ▶ Chemicals (contd.)
  - Contaminants;
  - · Pesticide residues
  - Toxins
  - Heavy metals

# Information, Education, Communication

- Public announcements
- Information networks
- Education/awareness program
- Education materials











# Information, Education, Communication



#### **Needs and Gaps**

- Budget
- Institutional capacity
- Analytical capacity
- ▶ To strengthen risk analysis
- Concerted action among stakeholders

### Recent development

- Drafting new food law, expecting to submit upcoming parliament
- Just launch FDA website; www.fdamyanmar.gov.mm

#### Way forward

- Switching to risk-based food control system
- Strengthen capacity building for food control officials
- Develop food safety regulations
- Develop stakeholders network
- Decentralization of food safety control works to provincial FDAs

Thank you all!