

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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China - Peoples Republic of

Post: Beijing

Ministry of Health Areas of Focus for 2012

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

On February 2nd, 2012 , the Ministry of Health (MOH) unveiled its areas of focus for 2012. One of the MOH's areas of focus is food safety and supervision. It also sets tasks to be completed in 2012.

General Information:

One of the MOH's areas of focus for 2012 will be the strengthening of the food safety regulatory system and reinforcement of health supervision. MOH pledges to advance food standard review (review the existing standards, annul the standards that no longer applicable, or replace the old standards with updated standards, or combine standards that address the same issue) and formulate new food safety national standards.

The priority of MOH's work in 2012 will include:

- Basic standards formulation (including food contaminants, microbial limit and food additive use);
- Formulation and revision of food production operation standards and food testing methods; and
- Tracking standard implementation.

The Ministry also plans to formulate and implement the national food safety risk monitoring plan and the program that prioritize risk assessment program.

Other work to be engaged includes:

- Advancing capacity construction of national and local food safety risk monitoring and assessment institutes;
- Organizing the establishment and improvement of safety risk monitoring and assessment database and information sharing platform, and reinforcing food safety risk monitoring and quality control work nationwide;
- Continuously updating the "black list" of harmful substance that might be illegally added in food;
- Strengthening food safety risk exchange work;
- Regulating epidemiological investigation, and enhance investigation capability of reasons of food borne disease, and appropriately handle food safety incidents;
- Regulating and attacking illegally added chemical pharmacy into healthy food, and improving catering safety and health food safety monitoring mechanism.

Full text of the Work Plan can be found at:

<http://www.moh.gov.cn/publicfiles/business/htmlfiles/mohbgt/s7696/201202/54032.htm>.