International Standards and Guidelines for Performing Risk Analysis (Part 1: Codex)

WTO Risk Analysis training

Geneva,
13 October 2014
Risk analysis paradigm

Scientific advice and information analysis

Risk Assessment

Risk Management

FAO & WHO

CAC & Member States

Risk Communication

Dialog with all stakeholders

Regulation and control
History

Codex has been implementing risk analysis since its creation in 1961-63, then came …

Conclusion

International standards and related texts have to be developed according to risk analysis principles!
Integrating Risk Analysis into the Codex process

- *Role of science and other factors in the Codex process* (1995)
- *Role of food safety risk assessment* (1997)
- *Risk analysis terms related to food safety* (1997)
- *Criteria for the consideration of “other factors”* (2001)

**Specific risk analysis principles/policies:**

- Food additives and contaminants (2005/2007)
- Residues of veterinary drugs in foods (2007)
- Pesticide residues (2007)
- Nutrition (2009)
- Hygiene (2010)
Advice for governments

2007 : Working Principles for Risk Analysis for Application by Governments
Trends in risk analysis

**Risk management**

- Clear **problem formulation**
- Indication of **how advice is to be used**
- **Significance and urgency of the work**
- **Availability** of scientific knowledge and data
- **Availability** of resources to perform the work

**Risk assessment**

- Best science available
- **Independent** advice
- **Transparency** in the assessment
- **Systematic review**
- **Weight of evidence approach**
- **Comparison** of options
Precaution/Uncertainty analysis

- Precaution is an inherent element of risk analysis.

- The degree of uncertainty and variability in the available scientific information should be explicitly considered in the risk analysis.

- The risk management options should reflect the degree of uncertainty and the characteristics of the hazard.
Other legitimate factors

• Should not affect **scientific basis** of risk analysis

• Should be accepted on a **worldwide basis**

• Some legitimate concerns of governments are not generally **applicable** or **relevant worldwide**
Advantages /Benefits

- Focus on issues of international concern
- **Globally** applicable information and tools are used
- Facilitates **wide distribution** of the technology and use of results by countries
- **Identify areas** where knowledge and data are lacking
- Involves **internationally recognised experts** in the field
- **Cost effective** - facilitates optimal use of limited resources
Challenges

- To identify **priorities at international level**
- Definition of possible **scope of the work** and use to be given to results
- Harmonization of **risk assessment methodologies** based on the Codex principles for risk analysis
- **Availability and quality of data**
- **Resources**
Thank you for your attention