



**Meeting Report on the exercise of improving the draft Food Safety Policy
developed at Enashipai, on 5-11 December 2020**

**Sarova Panafric Hotel, Nairobi
24-26 February 2021**



Name/Title: Charity Mutegi, FAEA Representative, Kenya **Start date:** 02/24/2021
Destination (City/Country): Sarova Panafric, Nairobi, Kenya **End date:** 02/26/2021

Preamble: Following a successful meeting that was held in Naivasha on 5-11 December 2021 (Naivasha I) a draft Food safety policy document was one of the major outcomes. The draft policy document however still required further input before it was subjected to any form of stakeholder consultations as it had sections that were not complete. Further input was to be made by the secretariat with technical backstopping.

Purpose of the meeting

1. To make input in sections of the report that were missing
2. To review what the task force had developed in the Naivasha I meeting and improve on it without changing the contribution by taskforce members
3. To agree on a way forward on immediate steps by the task force

Observations

The following are key observations made during preparations and the retreat

1. The participants who made it to the meeting were able to come up with an improved document.
2. Comments by the UNIDOO consultant on the existing draft food safety policy document were shared with members for consideration.
3. The secretariat members from the Ministry of health did not attend the meeting and gave the following as reasons for not participating:
 - a. The notice to them was very short and they had committed their time to other ministerial engagements.
 - b. The communication had not been channeled through their Principal Secretary for requisite approval of officers to attend.
4. While the secretariat members attended the meeting, there was a significant amount of interruption throughout the three days mainly due to recall of officers to attend to matters in their offices as well as to parliament to defend ministerial bills.

Next immediate steps agreed on

1. It was agreed that an update of progress from the meeting be provided to the secretariat members from Health Ministry and the PS would reach out to them to address some concerns at PS level.
2. It was agreed that the improved policy document that would result from the meeting would be shared with members during the second taskforce meeting that was to be held in Naivasha between 1-5 march 2021, for consensus and further input by members.

Summary of recommendations

1. I will recommend to the PS to help in ensuring that the communication to Task force members to attend meeting or other actions be made in good time.
2. I will recommend for the PS to allow for the document to be subjected to one or two food safety experts to add value to the sections that had not been completed, while taking into consideration the proposals made by the secretariat and taking care not to alter content.

Itinerary

Please find the attached program (Annex 1).

Daily activity

Wednesday, 24 February 2021

Members began with a word of prayer led by Lucy Njenga, Director of Policy, Crops, after which the program was reviewed for adoption. Early attempts were also made to reach out to the health counterparts since they had not arrived for the meeting and they confirmed they would not be making it as they had not received communication. The draft food policy document that was developed in the Naivasha I meeting was presented to enable further input by the secretariat.

The following key changes were proposed:

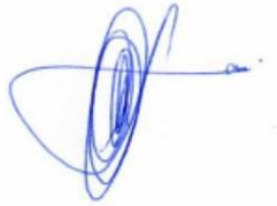
1. Review the forward and preface sections.
2. Revisit definitions and bring in more, and determine criteria for citing definitions. Codex definitions were to be used, unless where the commission had not provided.
3. Executive summary to come out last
4. Background: section needed reorganization e.g. need to have an introduction; situation analysis; objectives;
 - a. Statistics in the document to be reviewed; many were outdated
 - b. Bring out food safety concerns and give statistics of food loss as a result of food safety concerns
5. Situation analysis:
 - a. Policy and legal food safety framework-review the acts and check which ones clearly have a food safety mandate
 - b. Institutional framework-institutions must be clearly defined based on the responsibilities
 - c. Training and capacity development-the content was not matching with the title-needed re-writing
 - d. IEC- content to be beefed up.
 - e. Surveillance and laboratory-how is surveillance undertaken? Should be grounded on risk-based approach; reorganization of the section required.
 - f. Emerging and re-emerging issues- irradiation; introduction of new food animals; previously not known contaminants in food ; globalization resulting in introducing of new food commodities-these aspects needed to come out well in this section
 - g. Scope (should cover all aspects of food safety in the food chain continuum) and rationale should go to the introduction section. Tense should be continuous-e.g. 'covers....'. Review should be in line with all elements of the National food control system

Thursday, 25 February 2021

Dr Andrew Edewa gave a presentation on the key components of the policy. Members subsequently spent the better part of the day ensuring that the areas align to the structure and that the right content was in place, based on the comments that were made on day one. A significant amount of time was spent in reviewing the existing acts and institutional frameworks.

Friday, 26 February 2021

This marked the last day of the meeting. Further input was made into specific sections and the document at the end of day three was presented to members present for consensus. The closing remarks were provided by Lucy Njenga. While the time was presumably expected to be enough, the three days did not provide enough time to make all necessary amendments and value add to the document.



Signature:

Date: 11 March 2021

Annex 1: Program


**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES & COOPERATIVES AND
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
PROGRAMME FOR POLISHING UP THE FOOD SAFETY POLICY DRAFT
24-26 February 2021**

24 Feb 2021		
08.30 - 09.00	Registration	Secretariat
09.00 - 09.30	Preliminaries	Dr Wanga
	Objectives and expected outputs	
09.30 – 09.50	Remarks by PS SDCAR, Prof Hamadi Boga	
09.50 -10.10	Health Break	
10.10 -10.40	Key components of a food safety Policy	Andrew Edewa
10.40 -12.10	Review of the food safety policy draft – identify gaps/ missing sections and areas of improvement	Secretariat
12.10 -12.30	Agree on approach for polishing policy draft	Secretariat
12.30-13.30	Health Break	
13.30-16.00	Inputting on the food safety policy draft	All
16:00-16.30	Health Break	
25 Feb 2021		
08.30 - 08.40	Review of Day 1	
08.40-13.00	Inputting in draft food safety policy	All
13.00-14.00	Health Break	



FOOD & AGRICULTURE EXPORT ALLIANCE

14.00-15.00	Inputting in draft food safety policy	
15.00 -16.30	Presentation and feed back	All
16.30-17.00	Health break	
26 Feb 2021		
08.30 -10.00	Inputting based on feedback	Groups
10.00 -10.30	Health break	
10.30 -11.30	Final presentation of the draft	Secretariat
11.30-12.30	Presentation and concurrence of the Road map (background and milestones)	Secretariat
12.30 -13.30	Housekeeping	Secretariat
13.30-14.30	Health break	
14.30-15.30	Closing remarks and way forward	
	Health break and departure	





Appendix 2: Contacts

S/NO	NAME	INSITUTION	EMAIL	TELEPHONE NO.
1	Dr Christopher Wanga	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries	christopherwanga@yahoo.com	0722 707 122
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