



Barometer of the Safety of the Food Chain

Survey among the stakeholders of the food chain

Partim 'Pressure' and 'Response'

Year 2009

1. Introduction

This survey is conducted within the framework of the barometer of the safety of the food chain. As set forth in the advice of the Scientific Committee, this barometer is based on the 'Pressure-State-Response' model that is used by the OECD for the assessment of environmental indicators. By analogy, 'Pressure', 'State' and 'Response' are being defined as follows:

'Pressure' means the pressure that is exerted by general forces, processes or mechanisms throughout society on the food chain, and which may possibly alter the status (i.e. the safety) of the latter.

The 'State' or condition is a criterion for the safety of the food chain at the very moment of measuring.

The 'Response' or reaction refers to decisions or choices that are made by the stakeholders within the food chain (government, sectors, operators, consumers,...) in reaction to the 'Pressure' and to the 'Status' of the food chain safety, with the intention of maintaining or improving the safety of the food chain.

The aim of this broad survey about 'Pressure' and 'Response' is to assess how 'Pressure' is being perceived by the stakeholders and how they react to it ('Response'). This will allow interpretation of the results obtained for the status of the safety of the food chain ('State'), as visualized in the actual barometer.

2. 'Pressure'

The table below contains a list of pressure factors or 'Pressures', subdivided into a number of major generic categories (economical pressure, social pressure, technological pressure, environmental/climate pressure or pressure coming from the physical environment, and pressure from national/international authorities). Within each generic category, several specific pressure factors have been defined, in order to provide concrete examples. In case you have experienced a specific pressure factor that is not mentioned in the list, you may add this to the list.

You will be asked to assign **20 tokens** to the different pressure factors, while taking into account the extent in which the pressure factor has affected the food chain safety in your

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institution/organization in the course of 2009. You may assign tokens to several pressure factors or you may assign several tokens to one pressure factor. However, the total number of tokens assigned must always be equal to 20.

Please indicate, by means of a short description, how your institution/organization as experienced the pressure factors to which you have assigned one or more tokens.

Based on the answers obtained, a ranking list of the respective pressure factors will subsequently be drawn up.

Number	Identified pressure	How did your institution/organization experience this pressure?	Number of tokens
1.	Economical pressure factors		
1.1.	Increase of intra-Community trade (import from EU27 countries)		
1.2.	Increase of international trade (import from non-EU countries)		
1.3.	Increased competition with the EU 27 countries (impact on market price and/or export)		
1.4.	Price increase or short supply of resources		
1.5.	Increase of integrations/aggregations in the food chain		
1.6.	Deterioration of the economic crisis, with an impact on investment opportunities		
1.7.	Decrease of the available budgets for (daily) management of food safety and food quality, leading to a greater tension between safety and profitability		
1.8.	Changes to the logistic chain (transport organization, market outlet or channel, chain length, ...)		
1.9.	An increase of impact from demand market		

1.10. ...

Number	Identified pressure	How did your institution/organization experience this pressure?	Number of tokens
2. Social pressure factors			
2.1.	Increased ageing of the population (an increase of the immune-deficient population)		
2.2.	Increased mobility of persons, international traveling, migration		
2.3.	Evolution of consumer behavior with regard to eating habits: growing demand for better sensory quality of food		
2.4.	Evolution of consumer behavior with regard to eating habits: growing demand for fresh or minimally treated (healthy) food		
2.5.	Evolution of consumer behavior with regard to eating habits: having meals outside the house, collectivities, ...		
2.6.	Evolution of consumer behavior with regard to eating habits: growing demand for variation, multicultural, culinary creations (original and exotic ingredients, cooking methods, ...)		
2.7.	Evolution of consumer behavior with regard to eating habits: other ...		
2.8.	The occurrence of incidents that influence the consumer's perception on food safety		

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2.9.	The occurrence of incidents that influence the perception of food safety of professional actors within the food chain
2.10.	A growing stream of media communication, having an impact on consumers perception on food safety
2.11.	A growing stream of communication in professional media, having an impact on the perception of the professional actors within the food chain
2.12.	A lack of educated/trained personnel
2.13.	Limited development status of 3 rd world countries, having an impact on the quality of imported foodstuffs
2.14.	Increased social diversity
2.15	Evolution of income inequality
2.16	...

Number	Identified pressure	How did your institution/organization experience this pressure?	Number of tokens
3.	Technological pressure factors		
3.1.	The development of new processing technologies or preservation techniques.		
3.2.	The development of new insights/concepts/systematics for food safety management		
3.3.	The development of new/improved detection methods		
3.4.	The development of new/improved reporting systems/surveillance		
3.5.	...		

Number	Identified pressure	How did your institution/organization experience this pressure?	Number of tokens
4.	Environmental/climate/physical environment related pressure factors		
4.1.	Increased attention to animal welfare		
4.2.	Increased attention to landscape management/planning		
4.3.	Increased attention to the impact of (industrial) activities on the environment (water, air, soil)		
4.4.	Climate change: the introduction of new hazards, having an impact on food safety		
4.5.	Climate change: short supply of food/resources, having an impact on food security		
4.6.	Decreased availability of drinking water		
4.7.	The emergence of adaptation/resistance in biological agents (vectors or micro-organisms)		
4.8.	The emergence of adaptation/resistance in plants		
4.9.	Growing attention to newly emerging health problems in humans (pandemics)		

4.10. Growing attention to newly emerging health problems in animals

4.11. Growing attention to newly emerging health problems in plants

4.12. Growing political instability or disasters (national or international, e.g. war/conflicts)

4.13. ...

Number	Identified pressure	How did your institution/organization experience this pressure?	Number of tokens
5.	Pressure from national/international authorities		
5.1.	Growing complexity of imposed management measures on an international or European level (legislation texts or regulations, ...)		
5.2.	Growing complexity of imposed management measures on a national/regional level, as required by the competent authorities		
5.3.	Growing complexity of imposed management measures (international/national level) between the actors in the food chain (specifications etc, ...)		
5.4.	Harmonizing (or a lack of it) of legal product requirements (criteria /action limits) on an international level		
5.5.	Harmonizing (or a lack of it) of food safety management systems recommended by the authorities for safeguarding the production process on an international level		
5.6.	Increase of the requirements as a result of controls/control programs executed by the authorities		
5.7.	Increased pressure with regard to administrative simplification		

5.8. Increased pressure on the balance between
food safety/economical profitability

5.9. ...

3. ‘Response’

The survey regarding the ‘Response’ has been linked to the model that is used for surveying the ‘Pressure’ (point #2 of this survey). By surveying the ‘Response’, it is being checked how your organization has reacted to the pressure factors on the food chain in the course of the year 2009.

So, please answer the following questions for the pressure factors to which you have assigned one or more tokens (see paragraph 2: “Pressures”):

- How did your establishment/organization react to the pressure?
- What was the objective of your establishment/organization in doing so?
- What is the deadline set by your establishment/organization for achieving any results?

Number of the pressure factor	How did your establishment/organization react to the pressure?	What was the objective of your establishment/organization in doing so?	What is the deadline set by your establishment/organization for achieving any results?

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4. **Information about the Respondent**

Name:

Given name:

Function:

e-mail address:

Please indicate the profile of the organization or enterprise that you represent:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FASFC | Please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Federal Public Service | Please specify:..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other government body | Please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sector organization | Please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Consumer organization | Please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Region/Community | Please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Politician in charge | Please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Scientific institution | Please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Scientific Advisory Body | Please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other | Please specify: |

Thank you so much for your cooperation!