



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

**150th Session of the WHO Executive Board
Virtual Platform 24-29 January 2022**

Pilar	3	One billion more people enjoying better health and well-being
Agenda	18	WHO's implementation framework for Billion 3 - WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety

We respectfully take note of the report of the Director General on standardization of medical devices nomenclature (Item 18) on 10 December. Furthermore, we are pleased to support the draft decisions made by the Executive Board on the global strategies on food safety.

We hereby reaffirm our commitment to continuously strengthen our national food control systems and based upon the recommended new strategies of the WHO.

To continuously improve our food safety systems, we assure a continuous collaboration with vital organizations, and that the necessary funding will be prioritized, so that the food safety strategies are optimized, properly implemented, and monitored according to the current needs and capacity of the country.

The Philippines recommends support in the institutionalization of a robust framework; technical assistance related to risk-based food inspection and sampling techniques; enhancement of the capability of our food laboratories in conducting analysis on existing and emerging foodborne pathogens; and the creation of a competent risk assessment team that will provide scientific data and evidence to support risk management decisions and food control measures.

We are happy to share the creation of the Philippine Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (PhilRASFF) to effectively exchange information or notifications of food safety related issues amongst competent authorities, and the crafting of the Philippine Food Safety Emergency Response and Crisis Management Plan to establish food safety emergency response systems.

With the ongoing pandemic, we faced food safety regulatory challenges in terms limited movements of our food inspectors and the conduct of our post market surveillance due to the emergence of COVID-19 variants. Hence, we adopted and used risk-based approach in the conduct of food inspection using online platforms. We also heightened our product monitoring to unlicensed food processors and unregistered products.

Finally, we fully support the call for a bi-annual reporting of the Director General on the progress of the implementation of the WHO global strategy for food safety to start on the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly in 2024 and onwards until 2030.