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Prepared By: Joshua DeMoss and FAS China Staff

Approved By: Abigail Nguema

Report Highlights:

On December 2, 2025, China's State Administration for Market Regulation published the draft National Food Safety Incident Emergency Response Plan and solicited domestic comments. The comment period ends on January 2, 2026. This report provides unofficial translation of the draft plan. Stakeholders should conduct their own review of the regulations to assess any market or regulatory impact on their business.

FAS China provides this reporting and analysis as a service to U.S. farmers, ranchers, rural communities, and agribusinesses in support of a worldwide agricultural information system and a level playing field for U.S. agriculture.

Report Summary:

On December 2, 2025, China’s State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) published [an Announcement](#) (link in Chinese) to solicit public comments for the revised National Food Safety Incident Emergency Response Plan. The comment deadline is January 2, 2026.

The draft plan outlines procedures and responsibilities for responding to food safety incidents, such as food poisoning, foodborne illness, or food contamination, that pose an actual or potential threat to human health. The previous plan has been in effect since 2011.

This revision aims to address emerging requirements and evolving food safety challenges that have arisen in recent years. The updated plan emphasizes collaboration among different agencies and cross-regional joint responses, clarifies the responsibilities of various levels of government and stakeholders, and addresses emerging food safety risks from weak enterprise responsibility, illegal practices, and rapidly growing new business models such as food delivery and livestream sales.

The public can submit comments via the following methods:

I. Submit your comments via the website of the State Administration for Market Regulation (<https://www.samr.gov.cn>): click on the “Solicitation of Opinions” section under the “Interaction” tab on the SAMR’s homepage.

II. Send your comments via email to wangyue@samr.gov.cn. Please indicate “Comments on the Draft National Food Safety Emergency Response Plan” in the email subject line.

III. Mail your comments to: Food Coordination Department, State Administration for Market Regulation, No. 9, Madian East Road, Haidian District, Beijing (Postcode: 100088). Please indicate “Comments on the Draft National Food Safety Emergency Response Plan” on the envelope.

This report provides an unofficial translation of the draft plan. Stakeholders should conduct their own review of the regulations to assess any market or regulatory impact on their business.

BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

**National Food Safety Incident Emergency Response Plan
(Draft for Comments)**

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This contingency plan is formulated to effectively prevent and respond to food safety incidents, protect the health and safety of the people, and safeguard national security and social stability.

1. General Provisions

1.1 Overall Requirements

Guided by Xi Jinping’s Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, this Plan thoroughly implements General Secretary Xi Jinping’s important instructions and directives on food safety. It upholds and strengthens the Party’s overall leadership; adheres to the people-centered approach and the principle that life comes first; follows bottom-line and extreme-thinking approaches; emphasizes prevention as the primary focus and integrates prevention with emergency response; fully applies the holistic national security concept; coordinates development and security; consolidates responsibilities of all parties; and responds to food safety incidents in a lawful, strong, orderly, and effective manner, while promptly addressing public concerns.

1.2 Basis for Formulation

This Plan is formulated in accordance with the Emergency Response Law of the People's Republic of China, the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China, the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Quality and Safety of Agricultural Products, the Regulations for the Implementation of the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China, the Regulations on Emergency Response to Public Health Emergencies, the Opinions of the Central Committee of CPC and the State Council on Deepening Reform and Strengthening Food Safety Work, the Opinions of the General Office of the Central Committee of CPC and the General Office of the State Council on Further Strengthening Whole-Chain Food Safety Supervision, the Provisions on the Food Safety Responsibility System for Local Party and Government Leading Officials, the National Overall Emergency Response Plan for Public Emergencies, and the Measures for the Administration of Emergency Response Plans for Public Emergencies, among others.

1.3 Principles for Incident Response

- (1) **People First; Harm Reduction:** Safeguarding public health and life safety shall be the top priority, and casualties and health damage shall be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
- (2) **Unified Leadership; Tiered Responsibility:** In accordance with the emergency management system of unified leadership, comprehensive coordination, classified management, tiered responsibility, and primarily local administration, a rapid-response and coordinated emergency mechanism for food safety incidents shall be established.
- (3) **Scientific Assessment; Lawful Handling:** Scientific tools such as food safety risk monitoring, assessment, and early warning shall be effectively used; professional teams shall be fully leveraged to enhance response capacity and capability.
- (4) **Preparedness and Prevention:** Prevention shall be combined with emergency response, and routine preparedness with extraordinary response. Daily management systems shall be improved; risk monitoring, assessment, and early warning shall be strengthened; and public education and training shall be enhanced to improve public awareness and response capacity.

1.4 Scope of Application

Food safety incidents refer to incidents originating from foods, such as food poisoning, foodborne diseases, and food contamination, that harm or may harm human health. This Plan applies to the prevention of and response to food safety incidents occurring within China, as well as situations with evidence indicating a potential food safety incident.

1.5 Incident Classification

Based on factors such as the nature of the incident, degree of harm, scope of impact, and development trend, food safety incidents are classified into four levels: extraordinarily major, major, relatively major, and general.

Criteria for Incident Classification

Incident Classification	Evaluation Indicators
Extraordinarily Major	(1) An incident affecting two or more provinces and causing or potentially causing serious regional public health risks; (2) An incident involving 100 or more persons with 10 or more deaths; or 30 or more deaths; (3) Other incidents identified as extraordinarily major by the food safety regulatory authority under the State Council.
Major	(1) An incident affecting two or more cities within the same province and causing or potentially causing serious regional public health risks; (2) An incident involving 100 or more persons with 2–9 deaths; or 10–29 deaths; (3) Other incidents identified as major by provincial-level or higher food safety regulatory authorities.
Relatively Major	(1) An incident affecting two or more counties/districts within the same city, with existing or potential regional public health risks; (2) An incident involving 100 or more persons with 1 death; or 3–9 deaths; (3) Other incidents identified as relatively major by city-level or higher food safety regulatory authorities.
General	(1) An incident involving 10 or more persons with no deaths; or 1–2 deaths; (2) Other incidents identified as general by county-level or higher food safety regulatory authorities.

2. Organizational and System

2.1 National Level Systems and Structures

For extraordinarily major food safety incidents, the Central Committee of Communist Party of China (CPC) and the State Council make decisions and deploy actions. The State Council Food Safety Commission provides overall coordination and guidance for major food safety emergencies. As needed, a national emergency command for extraordinarily major food safety incidents shall be established, with responsible officials designated to organize response efforts. Members are determined based on the nature of the incident and response needs, and include responsible officials from the Publicity Department of the Central Committee of CPC, the Cyberspace Administration of China, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), the National Health Commission (NHC), the General Administration of Customs (GACC), and the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR), among others; additional departments and entities may be included as appropriate. Where necessary, work groups may be dispatched or on-site command centers established.

SAMR is responsible for comprehensive coordination of the national emergency response for extraordinarily major food safety incidents, and for organizing, coordinating, and guiding relevant departments in risk prevention and control, emergency preparedness, monitoring and early warning, emergency response and rescue, and post-incident handling, as well as organizing investigations and assessments. Members of the State Council Food Safety Commission and relevant departments shall perform prevention and response duties in accordance with their respective responsibilities.

2.2 Local Level Systems and Structures

Major, relatively major, and general food safety incidents shall be handled by emergency authorities established by the Central Committees of CPC and governments at the provincial, municipal, and county levels, respectively, at the location of the incident, which shall uniformly organize, coordinate, and conduct responses within their jurisdictions. On-site entities may be established as needed, responsible for organizing food safety emergency responses and rescues.

Townships (streets), development zones, industrial parks, port areas, and scenic areas shall improve emergency management systems, establish dedicated working groups, refine emergency plans, and organize response actions for food safety incidents. Villages (communities) shall strengthen organizational and mobilization capacity, improve their emergency response mechanisms in accordance with the law, and, under guidance of relevant departments, carry out relevant work on handling food safety incidents in their respective areas.

For cross-regional incidents, local committees of CPC and governments shall leverage regional coordination mechanisms, establish information sharing and joint response mechanisms, and encourage joint supervision structures to jointly prevent and respond to regional incidents.

2.3 Expert Panels

Market regulation departments at or above the county level shall establish expert pools for emergency response to food safety incidents and, as needed, engage experts to form panels providing technical support, legal services, and expert advice for on-site handling, medical rescue, testing and inspection, investigation and assessment, public communication, and post-incident handling. Municipal and county level emergency supervision entities may request higher-level market regulation departments to dispatch experts to assist handling issues. Food testing bodies, certification bodies, research institutions, medical institutions, and disease control institutions serve as technical support units and, under organized leadership, conduct emergency testing, certification assessment, medical treatment, and epidemiological investigations.

3. Operating Mechanisms

3.1 Risk Prevention and Control

The food safety risk assessment system is established at national level, to strengthen whole-chain food safety risk prevention and control and improve risk control measures across food production and operation, storage, transportation, delivery, catering, and import and export.

Based on food safety risk monitoring information, scientific data, and relevant information, using scientific methods to conduct risk assessments of biological, chemical, and physical hazards in food, food additives, and food-related products. The National Health Commission organizes food safety risk assessments and releases assessment results to the public. Relevant departments coordinate effectively to prevent food safety incidents.

Local people's governments at or above the county level organize the implementation of food safety risk prevention and control, hazard investigations, and special rectification actions; establish and improve information-sharing mechanisms; and timely analyze food safety risk trends. They organize relevant departments to formulate and implement annual food safety supervision plans. Market regulation departments at all levels strengthen risk hazard investigations and implement risk-based classified control based on risk monitoring, risk assessment results, and routine supervision.

Market regulation departments at all levels, together with health, agriculture and rural affairs departments, regularly analyze food safety incident situations, improve supervision measures, and prevent and reduce food safety incidents.

3.2 Monitoring and Early Warning

3.2.1 Monitoring

The food safety risk monitoring system is established to monitor foodborne diseases, food contamination, and harmful factors in foods.

The NHC, in conjunction with the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, MARA, the Ministry of Commerce, GACC, SAMR, and the National Food and Strategic Reserves Administration, formulates and implements the national food safety risk monitoring plan.

Provincial-level health administrative departments, in conjunction with their corresponding food safety supervision and management departments, formulate their own regional food safety risk monitoring plans based on the national food safety risk monitoring plan and the specific circumstances of their respective administrative regions, and submit them to the NHC for record-keeping and implementation.

Health administrative departments at the county level and above, together with food safety supervision and management departments at the same level, shall implement risk monitoring tasks, establish a food safety risk monitoring consultation mechanism, promptly collect, summarize, and analyze food safety risk monitoring data within their jurisdiction, assess food safety risks, and prepare food safety risk monitoring and analysis reports, which shall be submitted to the people's government at the same level and the health administrative department at the higher level.

Health administrative departments will focus on risk monitoring of baseline levels, standard setting and revision, and risk assessment of foodborne diseases, food contaminants, and harmful factors. Agriculture and rural affairs, customs, market regulation management, and grain and

reserves departments will cooperate in conducting risk monitoring at different stages according to their respective responsibilities. All departments will promptly report and discuss risk monitoring results, study countermeasures, and provide feedback on the effectiveness of control measures.

3.2.2 Early Warning

SAMR, in conjunction with relevant departments of the State Council, will conduct a comprehensive analysis of the food safety situation based on the results of food safety risk assessments and food safety supervision and management information. For foods that, according to the comprehensive analysis, may pose a higher level of safety risk, SAMR shall promptly issue a food safety risk warning and, as needed, disclose it to the public in an appropriate manner.

3.3 Emergency Response and Rescue

3.3.1 Initial Response

The unit where a food safety incident occurs shall immediately organize the medical treatment of the patients and stop production and business activities. For the food, food raw materials, production tools, equipment and facilities, food-related products, production and business sites that caused or may have caused the food safety incident, control measures such as sealing and storage shall be taken immediately to prevent the incident from escalating, and information shall be reported as required.

Upon receiving a report of a food safety incident, the market supervision department at or above the county level shall immediately report and notify the incident information as required, and at the same time organize the members of the food safety incident emergency response organization at the same level to carry out preliminary emergency response within their respective responsibilities and take the following measures to prevent or mitigate social harm:

- (1) Carry out emergency rescue work, organize the treatment of people whose health has been harmed by the food safety incident, and comfort them.
- (2) Protect the scene, maintain public order, seal off any food, food ingredients, production tools, equipment, facilities, and food-related products that may have caused the food safety incident, and immediately conduct testing; after necessary sampling by disease prevention and control institutions, order cleaning and disinfection; for food and its ingredients confirmed to be contaminated, order the food producers and operators to recall them according to law and cease production and operation.
- (3) Conduct preliminary investigations and sample testing according to their respective responsibilities.

3.3.2 Information Reporting

3.3.2.1 Reporting Entities and Time Limits

(1) If an agricultural product planting or breeding unit, livestock and poultry slaughtering enterprise, or food producer or operator discovers that its food or agricultural products have caused or may cause harm to public health, or if a warehousing and logistics service provider or food-related product producer or operator discovers that its services or food-related products may contaminate food and cause harm to public health, it shall report to the market supervision department, health administration department, and industry regulatory department of the county-level people's government where it is located within 2 hours.

(2) The unit where a food safety incident occurs shall report to the market supervision and health administration departments of the county-level people's government where the incident occurred within 2 hours after the incident.

(3) If a medical institution discovers that a patient with a foodborne illness or a suspected patient, it shall promptly report the relevant information to the health administration department of the county-level people's government where it is located and notify the market supervision department at the same level. If the health administration department of the county-level people's government deems the information related to food safety, it shall promptly notify the market supervision department at the same level.

(4) If the health administration department discovers information related to food safety during the investigation and handling of infectious diseases or other public health emergencies, it shall immediately notify the market supervision department at the same level.

(5) Third-party online food trading platforms, online live streaming platforms and related service agencies, operators of centralized trading markets, stall lessors, exhibition organizers and food safety-related technical institutions, relevant social organizations and individuals shall promptly report or complain to the market supervision department at the place where the accident occurred if they discover any information related to a food safety accident.

(6) When departments such as agriculture and rural affairs, health, education, public security, and customs discover a food safety incident or receive a report that is confirmed as a food safety incident, they shall immediately notify the market supervision department at the same level. If the market supervision department discovers that the information on the food safety incident involves edible agricultural products or imported food, it shall immediately notify the agriculture and rural affairs and customs at the same level. All relevant departments shall promptly report the progress of the handling, the measures taken, and the follow-up work arrangements according to the development and changes of the incident, to ensure that the relevant information on the handling of the incident is transmitted in a timely manner, is complete, and is coordinated and efficient.

(7) Market supervision departments at the county level and above shall promptly report any information on food safety incidents to the people's government at the same level, and report to the superior market supervision department level by level, up to SAMR. In major emergencies, a telephone report may be made first. Local people's governments at the county level and above

shall promptly report to the people's government at the higher level. Among them, for information on extraordinarily major and major food safety incidents, the provincial people's government of the place where the incident occurred and SAMR shall promptly and truthfully report to the Central Committee of CPC and the State Council by telephone or in writing upon obtaining information on the incident. During the emergency response process, relevant information shall be reported in a timely manner, and under special circumstances, a report may be made directly to SAMR.

(8) No unit or individual may conceal, falsely report, or delay reporting a food safety incident, nor may they conceal, falsify, or destroy relevant evidence. The principal person in charge, food safety director, and food safety officer of a food production and operation unit are the primary persons responsible for reporting food safety incident information.

3.3.2.2 Report Content

Food safety incident reports include initial reports, follow-up reports, and final reports. Initial reports can be made orally first, then in writing. The content generally includes the time, location, enterprise, severity of harm, number of cases and deaths, source of information, potentially related foods, and initial response measures. If the information in the initial report cannot be verified in time, it can be noted that the relevant information is being verified.

Follow-up reports should include the development and changes of the incident, the progress of the investigation and handling, the preliminary judgment of the cause of the incident, the control measures taken, and timely supplementation and correction of the initial report.

The final report should include the incident occurrence, investigation and handling process, inspection and testing results, epidemiological investigation report, incident identification conclusion, on-site sanitation treatment, hazard source tracing and disposal, incident liability investigation, measures taken, and incident control status. The final report should be completed within the specified time after the incident is resolved.

3.3.3 Incident Assessment

A food safety incident assessment is an evaluation conducted to determine the level of a food safety incident and the measures to be taken. It is organized and coordinated by the market supervision department. The assessment content includes:

- (1) The potential health damage caused by the accident and its scope, whether health damage has already occurred and its severity;
- (2) The scope and severity of the accident's impact;
- (3) The trend of the accident's development and spread.

3.3.4 Response Classification

After a food safety incident occurs, the incident level should be initially determined according to the grading standards. During the response process, the initial assessment level should be adjusted in a timely manner based on changes in the situation. After the incident is resolved, the incident level should be finally determined, generally based on the highest level reached during the incident's development.

After assessing the incident, the market supervision department proposes an emergency response level recommendation. The corresponding level of government then determines the emergency response level based on the accident level, emergency response capabilities, and expected impact. The emergency response is then activated, an emergency supervision organization is established, and emergency response work such as medical rescue and incident handling is organized to eliminate or mitigate the harm caused by the incident.

(1) National-level Emergency Response Levels: In the event of an extraordinarily major food safety incident, the national level will activate an emergency response, categorized from highest to lowest as Level I, Level II, Level III, and Level IV.

Level I emergency response is initiated by SAMR, which submits a recommendation to the Central Committee of CPC and the State Council for a decision. Level II emergency response is initiated by SAMR, which submits a recommendation to the responsible official of the National Emergency Command Center for Extraordinarily Major Food Safety Incidents for a decision. Level III emergency response is initiated and decided by the principal responsible official of the SAMR. The decision for Level IV emergency response is made by the relevant official responsible for specific areas of SAMR. When necessary, the Central Committee of CPC and the State Council may directly decide to activate the emergency response.

After activating a national-level emergency response to a food safety incident, the emergency supervision organization will, as needed, establish several specialized working groups, including a comprehensive coordination group, an incident investigation group, a hazard control group, a medical treatment group, an epidemiological investigation group, an inspection and assessment group, a social stability group, an information release and publicity group, and an expert group.

The comprehensive coordination working group is led by the State Administration for Market Regulation. Its main responsibilities include: organizing and coordinating the various special working groups to carry out emergency response work, analyzing and assessing the information received, promptly notifying other working groups, and studying and resolving specific issues in the emergency response work.

The accident investigation working group, led by the State Administration for Market Regulation, is primarily responsible for: investigating the cause of the accident, assessing its impact, determining the responsibilities of the food safety incident, the involved unit, relevant departments, institutions, and their staff, and proposing recommendations for accountability; if a crime is suspected, the Ministry of Public Security will supervise and guide local public security organs in initiating and investigating the case. Depending on actual needs, the accident investigation team may be established at the accident site or send personnel to the scene to conduct the investigation.

The hazard control working group, led by the State Administration for Market Regulation, is primarily responsible for supervising and guiding relevant functional departments of the local government where the incident occurred to trace and control unsafe products, carry out recalls, removal from shelves, and sealing of relevant food, raw materials, food additives, and food-related products, strictly control distribution channels, and prevent the spread of harm.

The medical treatment working group, led by the National Health Commission, is primarily responsible for developing treatment plans and guiding and assisting the local government where the incident occurred in providing medical intervention to those whose health has been endangered.

The epidemiological investigation working group, led by the National Health Commission, is primarily responsible for organizing and conducting on-site epidemiological investigations, laboratory testing, and food hygiene investigations, and proposing epidemiological investigation conclusions.

The inspection and assessment working group, led by the State Administration for Market Regulation, is primarily responsible for organizing relevant emergency testing and inspection work, comprehensively analyzing testing data from all parties, identifying the causes of the incident and assessing its development trend, analyzing and evaluating the impact of the incident, and providing support for the formulation of emergency response plans and the implementation of control measures.

The social stability working group, led by the Ministry of Public Security, is primarily responsible for guiding the local government in the area where the accident occurred to strengthen public security management, investigating and punishing illegal and criminal activities such as spreading rumors, creating social panic, and looting goods, in order to effectively maintain social stability.

The information release and news publicity working group, led by the Publicity Department of the Central Committee of CPC, the Cyberspace Administration of China, and the State Administration for Market Regulation, is primarily responsible for organizing publicity and reporting on the accident response and guiding public opinion, as well as ensuring effective information release and online regulation and control.

The expert group, led by the State Administration for Market Regulation, is primarily responsible for providing consultation and advice on emergency response work, including the formulation of emergency response plans for food safety incidents, hazard assessment, investigation and handling, and emergency response.

(2) Local committees of CPC and governments at the county level and above may refer to the national emergency response levels and set corresponding emergency response levels based on local conditions.

3.3.5 Command and Coordination

When a particularly serious food safety incident is initially determined, the National Food Safety Incident Emergency Command Agency shall, in accordance with the decisions and deployments of the Central Committee of CPC and the State Council, uniformly command and coordinate the response. After obtaining the approval of the State Council Food Safety Commission, the agency shall issue a "Notice of Listing for Supervision" and a "Notice of Interview" to the provincial people's government of the place where the incident occurred. When a major food safety incident is initially determined, the provincial people's government shall organize the response. When a relatively serious food safety incident is initially determined, the municipal people's government shall organize the response. When a general food safety incident is initially determined, the county-level people's government shall organize the response.

For incidents involving multiple administrative regions, the relevant administrative regions shall jointly respond or the people's government at the next higher level shall organize and direct the response. If the incident exceeds the response capacity of the respective administrative region, the people's government at the next higher level shall provide response support or coordinate the response. When necessary, based on instructions from leaders of the Central Committee of CPC and the State Council, or at the request of the responding province, or as suggested by the State Administration for Market Regulation, the national food safety incident emergency command agency shall be responsible for unified command and coordination of the response.

For incidents not meeting the standards for general food safety incidents, the county-level people's government shall respond in accordance with the procedures for general food safety incidents, and may not need to activate the contingency plan.

3.3.6 Response Measures

3.3.6.1 Medical Rescue

Health administrative departments should effectively utilize medical resources, organize and guide medical institutions to treat individuals whose health has been harmed by food safety incidents, propose measures to protect public health, and provide psychological assistance to affected individuals.

3.3.6.2 Incident Handling

(1) On-site handling. The market supervision department, together with relevant departments, shall, in accordance with the law, seal off the food and its raw materials that may have caused the food safety accident, as well as the tools and equipment that may have been contaminated. After the pathogenic factor is identified or after sampling of the premises, tools, and equipment is no longer necessary, the production and operation entity shall be ordered to thoroughly clean and disinfect the contaminated premises and the tools and equipment used for food production and operation to eliminate the contamination. The disease prevention and control institution shall carry out sanitation treatment at the accident site.

(2) Epidemiological investigation. The disease prevention and control institution shall conduct an epidemiological investigation of the factors related to the accident. The market supervision and

public security departments at the same level shall preserve the scene, ensure that personnel from the disease prevention and control institution can enter the scene to collect samples, and provide relevant information and other necessary assistance. After completing the epidemiological investigation, the disease prevention and control institution shall submit an epidemiological investigation report to the market supervision and health administration departments at the same level.

(3) Inspection and testing. The market supervision department shall organize technical institutions to conduct inspection and testing on the food and related samples under on-site control; when necessary, the public security organs shall intervene in the toxicological analysis and inspection and identification work; based on the results of epidemiological investigation, food safety testing and toxicological testing, for food and raw materials confirmed to be contaminated, the producers and operators shall be ordered to recall, cease operation or dispose of them in accordance with the law; for those that pass the inspection and are determined to be unrelated to the food safety accident, they shall be unsealed in accordance with the law. If suspicious additives are found during testing and cannot be detected using existing testing methods (including temporary and supplementary methods), a research-based testing method may be developed, and the degree of hazard shall be determined based on expert assessment (identification). Relevant test results shall be promptly reported to the epidemiological investigation team as data support for the epidemiological investigation conclusions.

(4) Analysis and assessment. The local committee of CPC and local government of where the accident occurred shall promptly organize technical institutions and expert groups to conduct a comprehensive analysis and assessment of the epidemiological investigation and test results, assess the development trend and possible consequences of the accident, as well as the elimination of secondary and derivative accident hazards, take corresponding emergency response measures in a timely manner, and notify the local people's governments where the accident may spread, reminding them to make preparations for response; if the accident may affect foreign countries (regions), coordinate with relevant foreign affairs departments in a timely manner to do a good job in relevant notification work in accordance with regulations.

3.3.7 Investigation into the Cause of the Accident

If the initial investigation cannot confirm it as a food safety incident, the investigation and handling should be carried out in accordance with the "National Emergency Response Plan for Public Health Emergencies" or this plan. The local government where the incident occurred should adhere to the principles of seeking truth from facts, respecting science, and acting in accordance with laws and regulations, comprehensively analyze information such as on-site handling, epidemiological investigation, testing and inspection, and daily supervision, and promptly and accurately ascertain the nature and cause of the accident. If it pertains to water pollution, environmental pollution, or an infectious disease outbreak, the matter should be transferred to the department with jurisdiction for handling according to law. For suspected criminal activity, the public security organs should intervene promptly.

3.3.8 Level Adjustment

In the handling of food safety incidents, the objective laws governing the occurrence and development of the incident should be followed. Based on the actual situation and the needs of prevention and control work, the emergency response level should be adjusted promptly according to the assessment results until the response is terminated.

3.3.8.1 Level Elevation

When the incident further worsens, its impact and harm expand, and it shows a spreading trend, becoming complex and difficult to control, leading to an escalation of the incident level, the response level should be raised accordingly.

For food safety incidents that are inherently sensitive, occur in key locations such as schools, childcare facilities, or elderly care facilities, or during major conferences or events, the response level may be appropriately raised. After the response level is raised, the next higher level of government will be responsible for the emergency response, but raising the response level does not necessarily mean a corresponding increase in the severity of the incident.

For low-probability, high-risk, and extraordinary extreme events, the response level should be raised decisively to ensure rapid and effective control of the situation.

3.3.8.2 Level Reduction

If the hazard of the accident is effectively controlled, and after assessment it is determined that the hazard has been reduced to below the original level assessment standard, and there is no further trend of spread, the emergency response level may be reduced.

3.3.8.3 Level Adjustment Procedure

The emergency command organization or on-site command center organizes an analysis, assessment, and demonstration of the accident. If the assessment determines that the conditions for level adjustment are met, a recommendation to adjust the emergency response level is submitted, and implemented after approval by the people's government at the same level.

3.3.9 Information Release and Public Opinion Guidance

3.3.9.1 Information Release

After a food safety incident occurs, the local government and its relevant departments or emergency command organizations should promptly release brief information about the incident to the public, followed by preliminary verification results, response measures taken, etc., and continue to release information based on the handling of the food safety incident. The content of the released information should focus on the focal points, hot topics, and key issues of public concern, and should be factual and well-founded.

In the event of a particularly serious food safety incident, the National Food Safety Incident Emergency Command Center or the Publicity Department of the Central Committee of CPC, in

conjunction with the State Administration for Market Regulation, will organize the unified release of information. In the event of a major food safety incident causing significant casualties or social impact, the provincial-level people's government of the area where the incident occurred or the State Administration for Market Regulation will release information. Generally, authoritative information should be released within 5 hours, and the first press conference should be held within 24 hours.

3.3.9.2 Public Opinion Guidance

Local governments shall strengthen public opinion guidance, release information in a timely, accurate, objective, and comprehensive manner as required, clarify false or inaccurate information promptly, and respond to public concerns in a timely manner. After the activation of an emergency response to a food safety incident, no relevant unit or individual involved in the emergency response work may release relevant information to the public without approval. Those who fabricate or disseminate false information about food safety incidents will be held legally responsible.

3.3.10 Emergency Termination

When a food safety incident is brought under control and meets the following two requirements, the emergency shall be declared over by the people's government at or above the county level, or by the relevant emergency command organization or market supervision department, in accordance with the principle of "whoever initiates, terminates." Any emergency command organization established shall be promptly dissolved.

(1) All injured or sick individuals from the food safety incident have received treatment; the original patients' conditions have been stable for more than 24 hours, and no new acute symptoms have appeared; no new cases of foodborne infectious diseases have appeared after the longest incubation period following the last patient.

(2) The accident site is effectively controlled, the contaminated food is effectively cleaned up and meets relevant standards, and secondary and derivative accident hazards are eliminated.

The relevant departments of the higher-level people's government shall, upon request from the relevant departments of the lower-level people's government, promptly organize experts to provide technical support and guidance for the analysis and demonstration of adjusting and terminating the response level for food safety accidents.

3.4 Post-Incident Handling

3.4.1 Post Management

The local government and relevant departments should actively, steadily, thoroughly, and meticulously carry out post management work to eliminate the impact of the incident and restore routine order. Relevant policies should be improved to promote the healthy development of the industry.

Food producers and operators are encouraged to participate in food safety liability insurance. If food producers and operators have already participated in food safety liability insurance, the insurance institution should promptly carry out insurance claims for relevant entities and individuals after a food safety incident.

The responsible entities and individuals who cause food safety incidents shall compensate the victims in accordance with relevant regulations and bear the costs related to the victims' subsequent treatment and support.

3.4.2 Investigation and Assessment

In the event of a food safety incident, the market supervision department of the people's government at the city level or above shall immediately conduct an investigation into the responsibility for the incident in conjunction with relevant departments and submit an investigation and handling report to the local government at the same level and the market supervision department at the higher level. For major food safety incidents involving two or more provinces, autonomous regions, or municipalities directly under the central government, SAMR shall organize the investigation into the responsibility for the incident.

For extraordinarily major food safety incidents, the State Council shall dispatch an investigation team, or relevant departments authorized by the Central Committee of CPC and the State Council shall take the lead in organizing an investigation, in conjunction with the local authorities where the incident occurred, to ascertain the cause, process, nature, impact, losses, and responsibilities of the incident. They shall summarize lessons learned, review and evaluate the response efforts, propose improvement measures and suggestions, report to the Central Committee of CPC and the State Council, and disclose the findings to the public as required. The relevant conclusions shall serve as the basis for damage compensation and accountability.

The CPC committees and governments at all levels shall organize a summary and evaluation of food safety incidents that occurred within their administrative regions in the previous year.

4. Emergency Response Support

4.1 Human Resources

Market supervision departments at all levels should work with relevant departments such as agriculture and rural affairs, public security, and public health to strengthen the construction of professional emergency response capabilities and improve rapid response and handling capabilities. Local governments at the county level and above should provide necessary support and guarantees. Emergency response teams in relevant industries should actively participate in food safety incident emergency response work.

4.2 Material and Financial Support

Local people's governments at the county level and above shall coordinate the reserve and deployment of materials and equipment needed for emergency response to food safety incidents; the funds required for food safety incident prevention and emergency drills shall be included in their respective budgets.

A sound food safety liability insurance system shall be established, and enterprises shall be encouraged to actively purchase insurance.

4.3 Medical Insurance

Health administrative departments shall establish a well-functioning, responsive, coordinated, and sustainable medical treatment system to rapidly provide medical treatment in the event of personal injury caused by a food safety incident.

4.4 Technology Support

SAMR, in conjunction with relevant departments, has established and improved the information reporting mechanism for food safety incidents, enhancing the timeliness of information reporting. NHC has organized the improvement of the basic database for risk assessment, strengthened the foodborne disease monitoring system, and enhanced the capacity building and technical training for epidemiological investigations of foodborne diseases. Relevant departments of the State Council have promoted the capacity building of national and provincial food safety professional technical institutions, improved the food and agricultural product (including grain) quality and safety inspection and testing system (with national-level testing institutions as the leading institutions, provincial-level testing institutions as the backbone, and municipal and county-level testing institutions as the foundation, and enhanced emergency response capabilities.

4.5 Social Mobilization and Support

In accordance with the needs of emergency response to food safety incidents, social forces should be mobilized and organized to assist in the emergency response, and, when necessary, the resources of enterprises and individuals should be legally requisitioned. After the use of social forces or enterprise/individual resources for emergency response, they should be returned promptly. Compensation should be provided for any damage or loss of resources.

5. Emergency Response Plan Management

5.1 Emergency Response Plan Development

This plan is a specific emergency response plan for food safety incidents. Local people's governments at the county level and above shall, in accordance with relevant laws and regulations, the food safety incident emergency response plan of the higher-level governments, and the actual conditions of their administrative regions, promptly formulate their own food safety incident emergency response plans and submit them to the higher-level people's government for record-keeping.

Food production and processing enterprises, centralized dining units and contracted management enterprises for schools, kindergartens, elderly care institutions, and construction sites, collective meal delivery units, and railway, waterway, and civil aviation operating units that provide catering services, should formulate food safety incident handling plans, regularly check the implementation of various food safety prevention measures in their units, and eliminate potential hazards in a timely manner.

5.2 Emergency Response Drills

The emergency response plan drafting unit shall organize and conduct emergency drills based on actual circumstances, using methods such as drills and tabletop exercises, and conduct high-level, cross-departmental, and cross-regional comprehensive emergency drills as needed. Emergency drills should focus on practicing emergency command, information reporting, on-site command, coordination and linkage, public opinion guidance, investigation and assessment, and comprehensive support. National and provincial-level food safety incident emergency response plans shall be practiced at least once every three years.

5.3 Emergency Response Plan Evaluation and Revision

SAMR and NHC shall, based on actual needs, promptly submit a request to the State Council for revision of this plan.

People's governments at all levels shall promptly adjust the content of the emergency response plan based on the results of food safety incident response and drill evaluations, continuously enhancing the relevance, practicality, and operability.

5.4 Publicity and Training

Relevant departments of the State Council and local people's governments should strengthen the publicity and education of emergency response plans for food safety incidents, and conduct food safety knowledge publicity, education and training for food safety supervisors, food producers and operators, and the general public through various means to improve their emergency response capabilities for food safety, enhance the sense of responsibility of food producers and operators, and improve the public's food safety literacy.

Food safety-related technical institutions, centralized dining units, and contracted management enterprises, collective meal delivery units, and food production and operation enterprises should conduct emergency training for food safety incidents to improve their risk prevention and control levels.

5.5 Responsibility and Rewards/Punishments

Food safety incident response will be incorporated into the evaluation and assessment of food safety work. Entities and individuals who make outstanding contributions to emergency response to food safety incidents will be commended and rewarded in accordance with relevant national

regulations; those found to have violated laws or regulations will be held accountable in accordance with relevant national laws and Party regulations; and those who fail to prepare and revise food safety incident emergency plans as required or fail to regularly organize emergency plan drills will be held accountable in accordance with relevant national regulations.

5.6 Interpretation of the Plan

This plan is subject to interpretation by the State Administration for Market Regulation and the National Health Commission.

5.7 Implementation Time

This plan shall come into effect on the date of issuance.

END OF UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Attachments:

No Attachments.