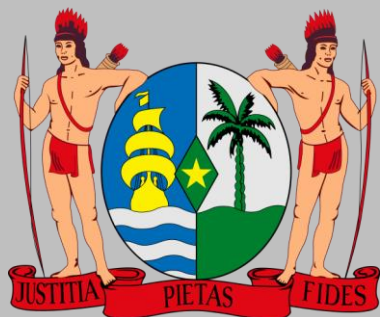




Nationaal Instituut voor Voedselveiligheid Suriname
National Institute for Food Safety Suriname

NATIONAAL INSTITUUT VOOR VOEDSELVEILIGHEID SURINAME - NIVS



Modernisation of Surinamese food control legislation

Draft Food Act

7 June 2023

*Stakeholder meeting
Paramaribo, Suriname*

Ms Juliette Colli, acting director NIVS

Why modernise?

- ✓ *The outdated nature of the current food safety legislation, which dates back to 1911.*
- ✓ *The need to embed food safety decision-making in **food risk science and analysis**.*
- ✓ *The aim of food regulations is to protect consumer health and create a fair environment for trade in food and agricultural products.*



Embedding in legislation:

- ✓ *A culture of compliance promotion*
- ✓ *The need for harmonisation with international standards*
- ✓ *The need for risk-based regulation*
- ✓ *Duty to support food and agri-food sector innovation in Suriname*



Purpose Food Act

The Food Act of the Republic of Suriname **sets the rules to further ensure the safety, quality and management of food products.**



What is included in the Food Act?

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- Sets Definitions
- Establishes Roles and responsibilities
- Sets Prohibitions
- Sets Enabling Measures
- Defines Principles of Interventions for Regulatory Measures
- Sets Regulation-Making Authorities
- Sets Penalties for non-compliance



Definition of Food

"Foodstuff"

This is in line with the definition adopted as the legal definition in the NIVS Act:

"any substance and product, whether processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended or reasonably expected to be consumed by humans as well as any substance intentionally added to the food during its manufacture, preparation or treatment".



Basic principles and values

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1. All decisions are evidence-based and, in particular, anchored in the principles of risk analysis
2. Obligation to consult and engage with local stakeholders and those from abroad, to comply with national and international/ (World Trade Organisation) -, prior to and during the development of food control decisions.
3. Transparency in all food regulation decisions, through disclosure of the scientific assessments, studies and other data underlying a food regulation decision to be developed and adopted by NIVS.



Basic principles and values

4. Responsibility for food safety and quality rests primarily with the food business operator who must demonstrate efforts to protect consumers by taking preventive measures to control food safety hazards and risks.
5. NIVS food regulations will be developed and implemented with the aim of promoting compliance (before enforcement).
6. NIVS regulations will aim to prevent the introduction of food safety hazards.



Chapters

- Prohibition articles
- Food company registration and approval
- Designation of Conformity Assessment Body
- Food and feed exports
- Public access to information
- Recall
- Control and Oversight
- Contact point of food safety-related bodies and networks
- Duty of confidentiality
- Penalties & Detection
- Transitional and final provision



- ❑ Prohibitions on contamination and adulteration of foodstuffs
- ❑ Prohibitions on the misrepresentation of foodstuffs



Food company registration and approval



Designation of Conformity Assessment Body

- ❑ Approve or authorise to act as conformity assessment body.

- ❑ Conformity assessment activities include:
 - third-party voluntary conformity assessment programmes, their development and implementation
 - analytical work performed by food laboratories to support conformity assessment
 - Assessment of companies



Issue of export certificate

Possibility of exemption:

- Companies
- Food and feed



- Information on production or treatment
- In the public interest or
- To ensure food safety.



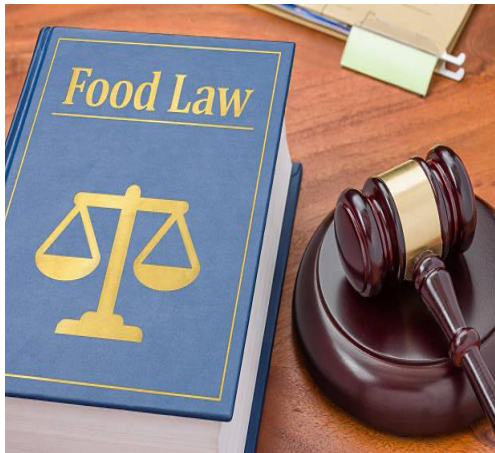
- Locally produced or imported.
- Proven unfitness and or in violation of Article 2



RECALL

- ❑ NIVS is authorised to use specific instruments in exercising the regulatory oversight, including in the way in which regulations are issued.

- ❑ Provided that protecting public health requires it.



Proportionate to risk



