



III INTERNATIONAL JOURNEY ABOUT : “FOOD SAFETY FROM THE PRODUCER TO CONSUMER”

CONCLUSIONS

The contest of european agriculture, having in mind the foresight changes with the E.U. Agricultural Policies Intermediate Revision, the international trade of agricultural products that will increase with the results of negotiations within the World Trade Organization, and the past crisis of consumers confidence, more and more sensitive and exigent in this matter, moved FORO AGRARIO to raise a dense discussion about Food Safety, as a condition of the production and the distribution of food.

According with the reports and statements displayed, we wish for the constancy of the most eminent criteria supported, the participants in the III International Journey agree to adopt the following

CONCLUSIONS

- | | |
|---|--|
| Basic role of agriculture, livestock and fish on food production | I. Nutrition is the most basic and general need of the human condition, and to pay in full rely upon the agriculture, livestock and fish as the producers of food, and the others performers in the food chain as manufacturers and services are needful also. The addition of food safety is an extra for lawfulness in Agricultural Policies. |
| To minimize the risks in the food chain | II. As well the food in the different processes is not an activity riskless, the consumers are able to require that the riskes would be minima and that the health protection and safety must to be over any other question, and this position is the course to be taken by primary production, food process, transport, dealers, public authorities and scientifics. |

- Food policy** **III.** The consumers ask for a food policy focussed to prevention, participation y transparency, and they expect from the public authorities and professional associations a greater capacity for to evaluate the risks for the health and food safety and to provide the best ways for a treatment the most effective, scrupulous and responsible as possible. The report about what is well known or not must to be accorded with scientific criteria fully checked.
- European Food Safety Authority** **IV.** The European Union set up a European Food Safety Authority in 2002, as a first step and compelled reference about a gradation to strecht and to solve the actual standard's gapes, mostly in the areas of scientific advise, control and inspection, risk's evaluation and report to consumers.
- Keeping among the E.U. Estate Members and E.U.** **V.** The legislation of the E.U. Members has gone agreeing with common criteria tending to warrant similar and raised levels of hygiene, salubrity and harmless of the total food products presents in Europe, so the obtained inside their frontier as the products imported.
- Coordination between different Public Administrations** **VI.** The complicated food system, and partake of several and sometime not well coordinated Public Administrations, forces to a desirable efficiency and transparency to attain that the whole actual legislation must to be suitable behalf the purposes, well ordered for application and clear to be diffussed.
- Participation of Spanish Food Safety Agency** **VII** It's expected from the Agencia Española de Seguridad Alimentaria to clairify the relationship within the different Administrations, to co-ordinate the activitys looking for to avoid food crisis and to reinforce the information system and consumer's education.
- The warranty System and their cost** **VIII.** The constituted new systems for food safety warrants means a strong endeavour and a cost that must to be considered by the full society as necessary for to safeguard a basic right of the consumer.
- Labeling for a absolute and truthfull information** **IX.** The **labeling** is compelled for the whole of food products, and must to inform not only about the essential distintives of the product (nature, composition, identity of producer and stake holders, date to dote, source and request for use) but also reference to the technology used. Public administration must to be responsible for to verify the truthfullness, through the established procedures.

- The traceability will allow to share the origin and process used for to obtain and to transform the products**
- X.** The demand of a transparency in information and the consumer's rights for the knowledge about the origin and the processes followed by the food industry up to buy the final product, all this chain require to insist with introduction and improvement of **traceability**, and also, is expected a better behaviour in the processed food industry.
- Guides refered to hygiene and safety in industry**
- XI.** All the people and processes must to follow the requirements about hygiene and safety, applying the guides for traceability, honoring the "good manners" and looking for excellency of the systems where, with free-will, may to adopt.
- The Certification System by independent Entities**
- XII.** The **Certification** system in aplication of the compelled standards named before, stablished by independent entities from the respective operators and consumers, are fundamental for consumers trust and the prestige of the autocontrol systems, are one of the main pillars supporting the strong feelings of food safety.
- To credit the certification Entities**
- XIII.** Equably is significant and needfull the existence of an competent and solvent procedure for **creditation**, for to warrant the system's objectivity, the diffusion's confidence, the independence with the certification's judgement the same for consumer than the producer, from the first moment when a certification's entity begin to perform a duty.
- To enforce the research for food safety**
- XIV.** The way of insuring all the points reaised is that the public institutions must to promote actives policies for encouragement to learning and research focused to improve the basis of knowledge about the proceedings and the food products.

The Journey's participants, approving these Conclusions, thanks to FORO AGRARIO the opportunity to be broadly known by the institutions and to political economic and social representatives on autonomic, national and E.U. Community areas with interest and responsibilities on the food safety.

FORO AGRARIO, considering that information is essential for a better food safety, offers to follow working this matter by means of a "Observatory" aimed to serve as a reference for attainable, honest and accountable information and to contribute to form an opinion based on scientific precision, actual knowledge and the multidisciplinary working system.

Madrid, june 5th 2003