

Government to Business Charter & Mandate

1. Context

As our food network becomes more globalised and interconnected, we have seen increased expectations for greater transparency and integrity as consumers become more aware of issues related to food safety and traceability. There is a growing awareness that we are unable to build a safer and more efficient food supply chain without the support of local and national public partners. Utilising our collective resources, industry stakeholders and governments can work more effectively together to ensure that there are safeguards in place along the entire value chain, from farm to fork.

GFSI's strategy is made of three strategic outcomes, each related to the core activities of GFSI (harmonisation, public-private-partnerships and capacity building). GFSI's strategic outcome on public-private-partnership is to ensure that food safety regulators trust that GFSI certification can be used for risk-based resource allocation

Because of that context and to this purpose, in 2016 an annual **Government-to-Government (G2G) and Government-to-Business (G2B) meeting hosted by [GFSI](#)**, a non-competitive initiative and a non-profit global industry network providing a collaborative platform between all categories of stakeholders to put forth solutions to the collective concerns of the public and private sector, was created jointly with competent authorities.

This document intends to formalise the work that has been done by the G2B Organising Committee.

2. Mandate

The Government-to-Business (G2B) Organising Committee is responsible for the planning and implementation of the 2021 G2B Meeting.

The G2B forum provides an informal opportunity for public and private sectors to identify and examine areas that could improve food safety outcomes through greater collaboration. Bringing together regulators and food safety experts from the GFSI private sector community and international organisations, the G2B Meeting will focus on finding practical and innovative solutions to challenges faced in ensuring safe food for consumers everywhere. Through this enhanced dialogue and resulting cooperative efforts, the G2B Meeting seeks to build trust, stronger constructive relationships and enhance projects between the public and private sectors.

Powered by the CGF, with coordination and logistic support from the GFSI team to implement the G2B forum, in the absence of a formal structure, and budget, the G2B intends to work in a collaborative and inclusive manner with all stakeholders involved for safe food for consumers everywhere, and seeks to increase and broaden the understanding of the important intersection between regulatory oversight and voluntary accredited third-party certification programmes.

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In this way, the G2B Meeting can act as a catalyst and influencer that can lead to positive developments within other multilateral fora and bilateral initiatives.

The G2B Organising Committee will consider current issues impacting food safety and regulatory oversight and identify subject areas that would benefit from further focused examination. For example, the recent rise of the global pandemic provides opportunities to examine the extension of best practices in food safety to non-traditional areas. In addition to defining the main thematic areas for discussion, the G2B Organising Committee will also determine the most appropriate means (e.g. workshops, plenaries etc.) to facilitate the dialogue and identify the logistical requirements.

3. Objectives and Desired Outcomes:

1. Invite and engage, via the food safety network, a broad community of competent food safety competent to participate in the G2B forum and working programmes in order to have fair participation from regions all over the world.
2. Participate in all the preparatory conference calls.
3. Attend the GFSI webinars as often as possible, and engage or follow projects where competent authorities are engaged with GFSI for better coordination

4. Operating Procedures

1. The work of the G2B Organising Committee will be overseen by two co-chairs from the public and GFSI Board co-chairs, supported by a secretariat provided by GFSI.
2. Monthly videoconferences will be one to two hours long and will be held from October to February or March.
3. A call for agenda items will be made to members two weeks in advance of a video-conference, and the co-chairs will approve the final agenda.
4. Meeting minutes will be prepared and circulated to members by the secretariat, once notionally approved by the co-chairs. Minutes will receive final approval at the following videoconference.
5. The Organising Committee may be called upon to provide direction to the GFSI team on related logistical issues such as invitations, promotion and interpretation.
6. The working language of the Organising Committee will be English.

5. Member Profile

Membership is open to individuals who meet the following profile criteria;

1. GFSI Board Members – GFSI staff will represent GFSI Board members when necessary.
2. Regulators able to demonstrate senior management commitment from their organisation to engage on the aims and objectives of this project.
3. Agree to share existing practices among peers and food safety experts to promote safe food for consumers everywhere.

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4. Have a willingness to engage and work openly with the industry for the greater good of improving regulatory compliance of food business operators via their food safety management systems and accredited third-party certification.
5. Have the ability to be engaged with the project throughout its entire duration.
6. Regulators¹ from national competent authorities responsible for food safety.
 - a. Must have adequate technical expertise on food safety legislation/regulation, official controls/enforcement, risk assessment and risk management. Specifically, be involved, or influence the planning/implementing of food inspections.
7. Policy and programme officials¹ or food safety experts from international public institutions (e.g. Codex, FAO, World Bank, WTO, WHO).

6. Committee Participation

Members of the Committee are expected to:

1. Commit to the GFSI outcome of building trust in GFSI so that food safety regulators trust that GFSI certification can be used for risk-based resource allocation.
2. Demonstrate and sustain their commitment to the advancement of the Committee's mandate for the duration of the Committee from September 2020 to April 2021 (approximately 7 to 10 months).
3. Engage actively and work openly with all members of the Committee to plan and implement a successful G2B forum in 2021.
4. Consider the interests of all potential G2B participants across the international community.
5. Provide foresight and strategic thinking in their Committee deliberations.
6. Engage their organisation.

¹ regulators and officials should have in-depth experience in the area of food safety and the roles of various players within the food supply chain.