

**EDITORIAL;****WHO GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR FOOD SAFETY 2022-2030**Asma Bokhari<sup>1</sup>, Masood Us Syed<sup>2</sup>**Author's Affiliation:**

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SABB; Literature search, drafting.

SMS; Conceptualization of project, literature search, writing manuscript, drafting.

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The mission of World Health Organization (WHO) Global Strategy for Food Safety 2022-2030 is to make sure that everyone, in the world, takes safe and healthy diet so as to decrease the weight of foodborne illnesses. The strategy was passed in the 75th World Health Assembly, with 05 priorities like to build evidence-based, forward-looking, cost-effective and people-centred food safety systems with coordination and enough infrastructures.<sup>1</sup>

For the 2023 awards, Alberto March successfully won the TITAN Gold award of the competition. He explained this amazing piece of work which brought upon the WHO with this admirable success.<sup>2</sup>

The WHO has formed the strategy for safety and security of the Food with expert opinion by the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) with theme of safer foods for the better health.<sup>1</sup>

Availability of sufficient safe food is a fundamental right and need for health of the people throughout the world. It is difficult task to provide safe and secure food to the people of the world and usually there are less-appreciated challenges/ tasks, for states, countries and their organizations and people alike.<sup>3</sup>

The risks associated with the consumption of unsafe food are considerable, yet challenging to measure quantitatively. The diarrheal diseases, encompassing both foodborne and waterborne variants, claim an estimated two million lives annually, with a disproportionate number of these occurring among children in underdeveloped nations. Toxins present in food, including pathogenic parasites, bacteria, viruses, prions, chemical, and radioactive substances, are responsible for more than 200 distinct diseases - spanning from infectious diseases to cancers.<sup>3</sup>

A projected 600 million people, 10% of the world become sick with more than two hundred diseases brought on by contaminated food annually, according to the WHO, Four Hundred Twenty Thousand (420,000) premature deaths and 33 million disable persons are due to these illnesses each year. The consequences of eating contaminated food disproportionately impact vulnerable groups, including people in extreme of their age, from few months to more than 80 years, having less resistance against diseases and those living in low- and middle-income nations.

In a number of areas, including enforcement, surveillance, regulatory infrastructure, inspection, capability and laboratory capacity, emergency response, coordination mechanisms and food safety education and training, require major improvements and member nations are struggling. A "One Health" strategy may be used for food safety initiatives, in accordance with member states, which also mentioned the necessity of incorporating food safety in their policies on trade, agriculture, the environment, health, and development.

According to World Health Organization, if proactive measures are not taken, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) will cost \$100 trillion and 10 million lives by 2050. This underscores the urgency of addressing antimicrobial-resistant pathogens in the food system. In addition to reducing the public health emergency that is antimicrobial resistance (AMR), a "One Health" policy can help achieve Sustainable Development Goals of the UN, which include food safety.<sup>4</sup>

Maintaining the security and safety of Pakistan's food supply is a difficult task that necessitates both strong policy responses and ongoing assessment. This policy document presents a thorough plan to tackle the issues and improve food safety throughout Pakistan's Punjab province. This study considers a variety of factors in this regard, including stakeholder roles, technological advancements, international cooperation, and regulatory frameworks. The dynamic nature of food safety risks is also examined, emphasizing the need for proactive and flexible policies to combat emerging threats. The entire field of food safety is defined by a complex network of interconnected elements, ranging from farming and food processing practices to elements influencing food distribution and consumption. Every step of this spectrum requires regulatory frameworks to reduce risks.<sup>5</sup>

The world's largest contributor to the burden of foodborne illnesses is Central Africa. The issue is linked to the inadequate food safety regulations in numerous African nations. The national food control system in Africa is depended on disjointed laws that give various jurisdictions, which leads to shortcomings in the inspection, enforcement, and coordination of food safety regulations that are required for various industries, including trade, agriculture, and health. The incapacity to understand and contextualize the FAO and the WHO guidelines for bolstering their country programs was thought to be the cause of the lax food safety laws. Increasing the regional food safety actors' understanding of connections levels of authority which can help them for better understanding the FAO and WHO recommendations and guide changes to the continent's food safety policies.<sup>6</sup>

Emerging issues that are anticipated to affect food safety in the area over the next five to ten years Codex members in the area prioritized the following issues.<sup>7</sup>

- Insufficient assistance to oversee food regulatory systems (22%);
- Climate change (13%);
- Innovative food technologies (9%);
- Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) (9%);
- Limited support mechanisms for the National Codex Committee (NCC) (9%);
- Risk communication (9%);
- Increased transmission of foodborne diseases (9%);
- Pesticide residues on food crops (MRLs) (9%). The WHO Nutrition and Food Safety Department managed a meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

In order to implement of the WHO Global Strategy 2022–2030, especially in the food-borne disease surveillance, this meeting, which was coordinated and arranged in partnership of offices for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the USA, brought together WHO coordinating offices and other institutions.<sup>8</sup>

Food safety is a shared responsibility among producers, consumers, and governments. From farm to table, everyone has a responsibility to guarantee the safety and health of the food we eat. Through World Food Safety Day, WHO aims to lower the global burden of foodborne illnesses and mainstream food safety into the public agenda. It is everyone's concern to ensure food safety.<sup>9</sup>

The specific Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN will be supported by the strategic actions and results.<sup>10</sup>:

Goal No 1: No poverty

Goal No 2: No hunger

Goal No 3: Healthy life

Goal No 6: Clean Drinking water and proper sanitation

Goal No 8: Country's GDP enhancement

Goal No 12: Safe and secure food usage and modern farming techniques

Goal No 13: Addressing Climate Change

Goal No 17: Contribution of all member states/ countries.

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