



**Food Safety and Standards Authority of
India (FSSAI)**

**Federal Institute for Risk Assessment
(Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung, BfR)**

Joint Statement of Intent on Cooperation in Food Safety

Between the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India and the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, Federal Republic of Germany hereinafter referred to as the "Participants".

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act in 2006. FSSAI has been created for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale, and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, is the Administrative Ministry for the implementation of FSSAI. The Chairperson and the Chief Executive Officer of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) have been appointed by the Government of India. The Chairperson is in the rank of Secretary to Government of The Republic of India.

BfR is an independent scientific agency of the Federal Republic of Germany which is responsible for preparing and submitting expert reports and opinions on food and feed safety as well as on the safety of substances and

products. BfR reports to the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMEL).

For the purpose of this Cooperation and the implementation of the provisions, the representative of the FSSAI will be Shri Ashish Bahuguna, (Chairperson) or his successor and the representative of the BfR will be Prof. Dr. Andreas Hensel (President) or his successor.

In order to strengthen the existing relations between both organisations and to improve cooperation in the field of food safety, both Participants have the following intent:

Objectives of Cooperation

The Participants wish to establish a strong network of risk assessors between FSSAI and BfR as an important instrument to increase food safety based on scientific opinion.

The Participants expect that the added value from the participation in this network will increase the quality of scientific risk assessment and the professional qualification of experts and will extend the possibilities for setting up working groups.

Based on discussions, both Participants seek further collaboration between FSSAI and BfR to contribute to intensifying the scientific research strengths of both Participants. They are also convinced that the collaboration will help protect the health and safety of consumers in both countries. Hence, both Participants wish to further deepen their already close relationship in a spirit of mutual respect, equality, and mutual benefit. For this purpose, they have identified the following areas of cooperation:

- I. A mechanism of information exchange and communication will be established. Both Participants approve that the information exchanged between them will be confidential and not publicly available as in accordance with applicable law, policies, and procedures of each country, unless there is an exception specifically established between the Participants.

- II. Scientific and technological cooperation on the basis of mutual interest through research and collaborative programmes, trainings, and visits will be developed and promoted. Working groups will be set up. There will be technical exchanges on identified topics of interest.
- III. Joint meetings will be hosted, so that both Participants can discuss and review concrete cooperation plans as well as their development.
- IV. Joint seminars, workshops, visits, lectures, trainings, and other relevant activities will be organised which will be designed to disseminate scientific knowledge both to the scientific community and to the public on issues contained in this Joint Statement of Intent.

The cost of implementing the cooperation activities will be covered either by funded research programmes or by the regular budgets of the Participants, based on the principles of reciprocity and equality, unless the representatives of the Participants concur otherwise in regard to specific issues or activities.

The Participants understand that the Participant responsible for organizing a meeting, workshops, study visits, *etc.* within the framework of this Statement of Intent will bear the cost of such a meeting. Irrespective of this, each Participant will cover the travel costs for their respective Participants.

Final provisions

The Statement of Intent will come into effect on the day of its signing by both Participants and will continue to be effective for three years.

The Statement of Intent will be automatically renewed for a further period of three years, unless one of the Participants notifies the other side in writing three months in advance of its intention to terminate the cooperation according to the Statement of Intent.

In case of termination of the cooperation under the Joint Statement of Intent, all projects and activities under the cooperation would be carried out under the same provisions in which they were started.

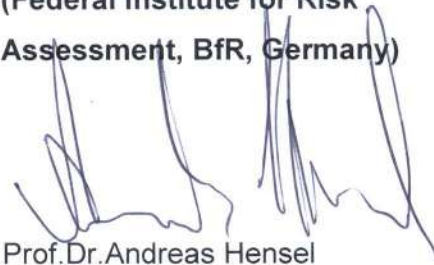
Signed in New Delhi on *5th October, 2015*.

**For the Food Safety and Standards
Authority of India (FSSAI)**



Shri Ashish Bahuguna
Chairperson

**For the Bundesinstitut für
Risikobewertung
(Federal Institute for Risk
Assessment, BfR, Germany)**



Prof. Dr. Andreas Hensel
President