



# Panel Discussion on Food Regulatory Cooperation and Convergence in the Arab Region

3<sup>rd</sup> Global Food Regulatory Science Symposium  
21-24 October 2024, Dubai, UAE

*Organized as part of the Dubai International Food Safety Conference (DIFSC)*

Session: Harmonization of Food Regulatory Frameworks – 11 AM to 1 PM Dubai E/F

# Structuring Collaboration and Dialogue G2G & G2B in the Arab region <sup>2</sup>

## GCC Themes to be discussed

- ❑ Current food safety regulatory irritants regionally and globally
- ❑ Lessons Learnt and Best practices in G2G and G2B Collaborations
- ❑ Harnessing Technology to Support Data Sharing G2G and G2B
- ❑ Codex Agenda and Perspectives of G2G Collaborations
- ❑ Managing Emerging Issues and Preventing Food Regulatory Divergence

## PANELISTS

Prof. Hussein Masroori, DG Food Safety and Quality Centre, Oman

Dr. Tareq El-Houby (online), Chairman, NFSA

Dr. Ferial Ghliiss, Director General, Tunisian Food Safety Risk Assessment Agency

Dr. Zubeir Faras, Nestlé

AmCham Representatives (as per participation)

Eng. Ahmed Al-Basha, GSO

Mr. Brendan Ring : Crème Global

**Participation is expected from food regulators and food industry partners in the audience**

❑ What are the main food regulatory irritants or challenges that you witness in the region and that are impacting your activities – whether be it nationally, regionally or sub-regionally ?



❑ What are the mechanisms of dialogue and engagement you have with food regulators in the region – what is your appreciation of their performance and what would you wish to see change / evolve to enhance dialogue and more structured engagement between food regulators and industry regionally ?

# Questions to Food Regulators

Starting with Dr. Hussein Masroori / Dr. Ferial Ghliiss / Eng. Al-Basha and open to all other food regulators in the room

- What are the mechanisms that you rely upon currently for engagement with other food regulators from the region and beyond?
- What are the mechanisms that you would want to see develop that could help you exercise your mandate better?
- What would facilitate food regulatory cooperation in the region?
- What are the facets of food regulatory cooperation that would help you exercise your mandate better / more effectively and address your needs?



## On Mechanisms of G2B Collaboration

- ❑ What are the forums of engagement that you would want to see further develop / evolve in terms of exchange and dialogue between industry and food regulators in the region?
- ❑ Are there models that you would want to see tried / applied in the region?



## On Enablers of Food Regulatory engagement (G2B and G2G), including technology enablers

- ❑ What are the vehicles that you would want to see develop (enablers) for more seamless information exchange between food regulators / food regulators and industry – including technology mediated tools?
- ❑ What are the lessons learnt from international practices to enable more seamless and regular information exchange between food regulatory partners?



