



All you need is...
RASFF?

Stakeholders poll: poll results of every time
one representative association of feed / food of
animal origin / food of non-animal origin sectors

1. Do you consider that there is a need for stronger involvement of stakeholder (professional business / consumers) associations in the RASFF?

- [feed] **Yes:** relay factual information to business operators to evaluate their exposure to hazards
- [food of animal origin] **Yes:** food business operators have primary responsibility according to the General Food Law. Cooperation with competent authorities makes the process more effective and efficient.
- [food of non-animal origin] **Yes:** the application of the RASFF data are valuable for stakeholders to include in their risk analyses

2. If yes, do you consider that this involvement should happen on:

a) European level

- [feed]: Yes because of the European nature of RASFF notifications
- [food of animal origin]: yes
- [food of non-animal origin]: yes

b) National level

- [feed]: Yes because there must be a good and early coordination between national authorities and national associations for the communication to operators
- [food of animal origin]: yes
- [food of non-animal origin]: yes

c) Regional/local level

- [feed]: Not essential, if properly done at national level
- [food of animal origin]: no
- [food of non-animal origin]: no

3. How do you envisage that such involvement could take place?

- Via DG SANTE sharing more information on the notifications
- Via bilateral contacts with relevant business organisations
- More involvement of business organisation in the RASFF system
- EC guidance to enforce a more harmonised use of RASFF
- Getting clarification directly from business operator
- Concertation with business operator before sending out the RASFF notification
- Offer workshops to discuss reviews and cases
- contact associations under confidentiality notice
- sharing data analysis at sector level with the European stakeholders

4. Do you consider that there is a need for direct involvement in the RASFF of a business operator/consumer concerned by a RASFF notification?

- [feed]: Not necessarily. Individual operators / consumers concerned directly by a notification should refer to their national authorities.
- [food of animal origin]: Yes provided that direct FBOs' involvement does not present extra burden for the business operator
- [food of non-animal origin]: Question is not clear. What is meant by direct involvement in the RASFF? If it means disclosure of company names and brands publicly, the answer is “no” as it leaves too much room for interpretation.

5. What are according to you the situations in which direct involvement of a concerned business operator/consumer should be possible?

- [feed]: The operator which is at the origin of an incident might have the ability to use the RASFF to communicate additional information under his own responsibility, subject to validation by authorities.
- [food of animal origin]: to provide clarification as regards RASFF notifications i.e. before sending out a RASFF message, a concertation of the impacted business operator should be standard procedure
- [food of non-animal origin]: If an operator is directly affected by a notification as a user/recipient of a specific (batch of) material, quick notification should be made to that concerned business

6. How should such direct involvement be enabled?

- a) Through a separate information system that feeds into the national investigation concerning a RASFF notification
[feed] [food of animal origin] [food of non-animal origin]
- b) Directly in the RASFF information system
- c) Any other way?

7. Would it equally be important for business operators/consumers to be involved in the Administrative Assistance and Cooperation system (AAC)? Would the same considerations apply as for the RASFF?

- [feed]: Most likely **yes**.
- [food of animal origin]: **Yes**.
- [food of non-animal origin]: **Yes** but no experience with the AAC system

8. How could your business operators/consumers association or business operators/ consumers belonging to your association contribute to the further development and improvement of RASFF/AAC?

- [feed]: For the qualification of the risk in particular when notification is based on a specific risk assessment.
- [food of animal origin]: By defining harmonised guidance on the notification system for FBOs , consumers and CAs so that all EU MSs notifications can be comparable also in terms of impact on internal market and international trade.
- [food of non-animal origin]:
 - Organizing workshops for annual review and to identify improvements.
 - The details behind the annual report might be valuable for the sector to implement in the risk analyses.
 - By organizing targeted stakeholder events and consultations.

9. Should business operator names mentioned in a RASFF notification be made public?

- a) Always
- b) Sometimes
- c) Never

[feed] [food of animal origin] [food of non-animal origin]

10. Should brand names mentioned in a RASFF notification be made public?

- a) Always
- b) Sometimes
- c) Never

[feed] [food of animal origin] [food of non-animal origin]