

IUFOST2006/1175 Is Global Scientific Consensus on Food Regulations Possible?

H. Lelieveld^a and L. Keener^b

^aGlobal Harmonisazion Initiative, Ensahlaan 11, 3723 HT Bilthoven, Netherlands

^bInternational Product Safety Consultants, 4021 W. Bertona Street, Seattle WA, 98199-1934, United States
of America

huub.lelieveld@inter.nl.net

Current regulations often are based on detection limits rather than safety limits. Such regulations hamper trade between countries and sometimes lead unnecessarily to the destruction of large quantities of food. Differences may also hamper the introduction of new technologies, needed to comply with consumer demands for more nutritious and more fresh-like food products. A network of Food Science & Technology organisations has launched a global initiative to facilitate harmonisation of food safety regulations and legislation. Scientists from all over the world will work towards global consensus on scientific issues that buttress the decisions made by individual governments and international regulatory bodies.