

Managing Food Safety Events at the International Level

by **Dr. Peter K. Ben Embarek**

World Health Organization (WHO) Headquarters

Host: Dr. Yang Hongshun

Date: 12th Dec, 2016, Monday

Time: 11am to 12pm

Venue: Seminar Room S14-06-19



Abstract

The presentation will give an overview of how food safety events of an international nature are managed at the international level. It will present system in place and give examples of how complex some of these crises have become and what tools are available to detect them and minimize their public health impact and trade impact. The presentation will also include basic information about WHO and its role in food safety and how the Department of Food Safety and Zoonoses in WHO recruit interns and what options are available for internship in the Organization.

About the speaker



Peter K. Ben Embarek is currently working with the World Health Organization (WHO) at its Headquarters in managing the WHO International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) and the WHO MERS-CoV virus Task Force. Previously from WHO's China Office, he was providing policy and technical advice to the government of China on food safety and nutrition issues. He joined WHO at its HQ in Geneva, Switzerland in 2001 where he worked in lending support to Member States on how to develop and strengthen integrated and multisectoral national food safety strategies and policies.

He was also responsible for the microbiological aspects of food safety matters in the work of the Organization including the development of microbiological risk assessment work at the international level. He is covering food safety issues as part of the WHO assessment and response efforts to new emerging public health issues such as MERS-CoV, Avian Influenza and SARS. Dr. Ben Embarek served with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) beginning in 1995 where he coordinated research and development activities and provided technical advice on safety and quality aspects of fishery products at the regional office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand. In 1997, he joined the Fisheries Department of FAO HQ in Rome, Italy where he covered food safety aspects of the work of the Department. Dr. Ben Embarek received his MSc. Degree in Food Science and Technology and a Ph.D. in Food Safety from the Royal Agricultural and Veterinary University of Copenhagen, Denmark. He is a Fellow of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology (IAFoST) under the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST).