

### MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS OF REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

# Food Safety in Turkey in the Process of Negotiations with the EU

1st International Congress on Food Technology- 3 October 2010

### Biopic – E. Güher ÇELTEK

Born in Yalova- Turkey (1977)

CHIN VE KÖL

- BSc in Food Engineering (1999, Middle East Technical University, Turkey)
- MSc in Food Safety, Hygiene and Management (2006- University of Birmingham, UK)
- BA in Business Administration (2007, Anadolu University, Turkey)
- January-October 2000 > Sales Engineer (in an Engineering and Consultancy Company)
- Since 2000 > EU Expert (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Foreign Affairs and EU Coordination Department)
- Since October 2009 > Director of Turkey-EU Economic and Technical Relations Section of Foreign Affairs and EU Coordination Department



## PRESENTATION OUTLOOK

- Why and How to regulate Food Sector?
- Regulation of Food Sector in Turkey
- Food Safety in Turkey
  - EU Accession
  - National measures



# FOOD

### Safe

free form any physical, biological and chemical hazards (toxins, pesticides, chemical and physical contaminants, microbiological pathogens that can cause illness

### Quality

 acceptable by the consumer due to its various characteristics and attributes

### Nutritious

 contains significant amounts of essential nutrients needed by human



# Why to Regulate the Food Sector?

- Ensure food safety and security
  - production of safe and adequate food, ensure access for all
  - safety and quantity
- Protect the consumer health and interests
  - fraudulent practices and unsafe food products



# How to Regulate?



- All stages of production, processing and distribution
- Legal Framework
  - laws and regulations

### System

competent authority, enforcement, self regulation of food businesses



# Actors...

#### AKANLIG

 Government
regulation of the sector (policy, legislation, enforcement)

#### Producers and Industry

 production, processing and distribution

#### Consumers

 Preferences, purchase, preparation and consumption

#### Media

 Risk communication, information and awareness



# Regulation of Food Sector In Turkey

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# The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)

#### The competent authority for regulation of

- Animal and Plant Production, Support Mechanisms, Marketing & Trade;
- Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary;
- Fisheries;
- Rural Development;
- Agricultural Research & Extension Services.....
- Responsible for;
  - Policies development
  - Legislation
  - Enforcement

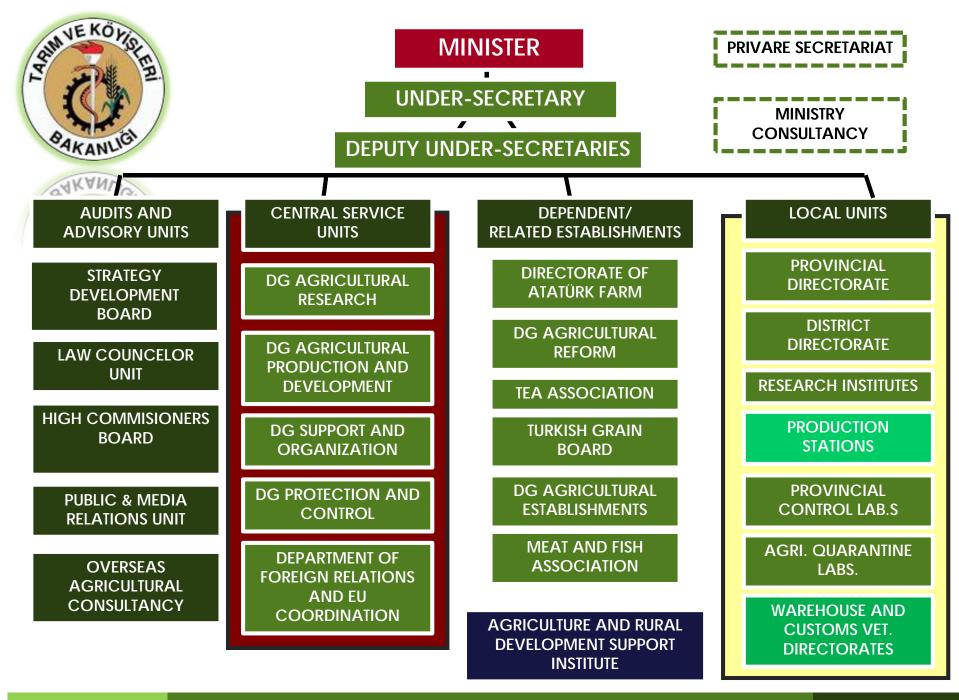


# The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs

New Proposal for a Structural Change

- to be discussed at the Parliament

Ministry of Food and Agriculture



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## MARA...

- 5 Central Service Units
- 81 Provincial Agricultural Directorates
- >800 District Agricultural Directorates,
- 39 Provincial Control Laboratories
- 8 Veterinary Control and Research Institutes
- 4 Plant Quarantine laboratories
- 3 Plant Protection and Research Institute
- Seed Testing and Registration Center
- 1 Food Control and Central Research Institute



#### RESPONSIBILITY AREAS FOR CENTRAL SERVICE UNITS

GD AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH	 Researches on animal husbandry, animal and plant health, food and feed, aquacultureetc.
GD AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT	 Agricultural land, producer support, animal husbandry, primary production of plant products, aquacultural products, seed, alternative production techniques, organic farming
gd support and Organization	 Producer organizations, agricultural cooperatives, extension services
GD PROTECTION AND CONTROL	 Food safety, veterinary, phytosanitary policies, official controls, public health, animal movements, import and export controls
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND EU COORDINATION	Multilateral and bilateral relations with foreign countries, coordination and secretary of EU affairs



### General Directorate for Protection and Control

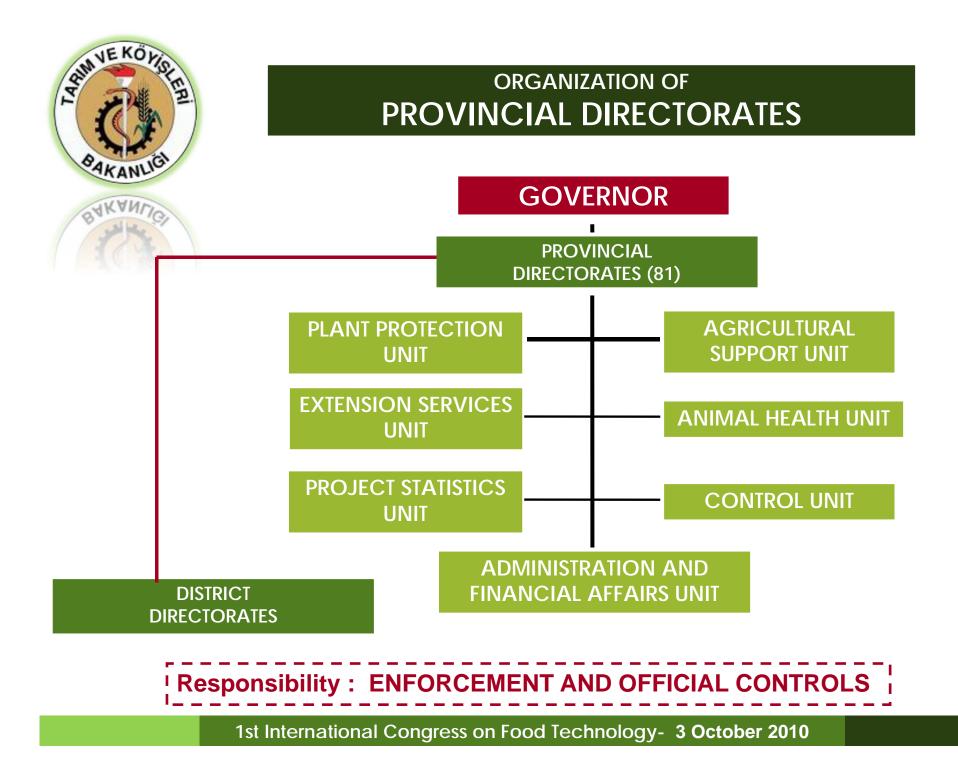
General Directorate for Protection and Control (GDPC)

- the main central service unit of the Ministry in charge of controlling and regulating food, veterinary and phytosanitary sectors
- GDPC ; is the contact point for international institutions and agencies

## GDPC-Tasks



- BAKANLIGI
  - Legislation on food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary
  - Animal health, control and eradication of diseases
  - Animal identification and registration system
  - Animal movement controls and quarantine measures
  - Protection of plant health
  - Early warning system on plant protection, licensing machine and equipments for plant protection,
  - Registration and production permission of plant protection products and veterinary Drugs,
  - Registration, approval and control of food establishments,
  - Risk based controls and inspections,
  - Export and import controls,
  - Laboratories





### LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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### **Primary Legislation**

- Food Law (No 5179),
- Feed Law (No 1734),
- Law on Animal Health and Surveillance (No 3285),
- Law on Agricultural Combat and Quarantine (No 6968),
- Law on Animal Breeding (No: 4631),
- Law on Aquaculture (No 1380)
- Law on Seed Registration , Control and Certification. (No 308)

#### Law No 5996 on

"Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed"

enters into force on 13 December 2010



### Secondary Legislation

- **Implementing Regulations**
- Turkish Food Codex Regulation
  - Food Irradiation Regulation
  - Communiqués on;
    - Sampling and Analysis Methods
    - Food Contact Material
    - Food Additives (Flavourings, Preservatives, Colours, Sweeteners)
    - Product Specific Communiqués
    - Labelling and Nutritional Labelling
    - Dietary Foods for Special Medical Purpose
    - Energy Restricted Foods for Weight Reduction Purposes
    - Infant Foods Infant Formulae,
    - Foods Intended for Particular Nutritional Uses
    - Gluten Free Foodstuffs
    - Foods for Sportsmen ......



### FOOD SAFETY AND EU NEGOTIATION PROCESS

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# Turkey and the EU

### Alignment with the EU;

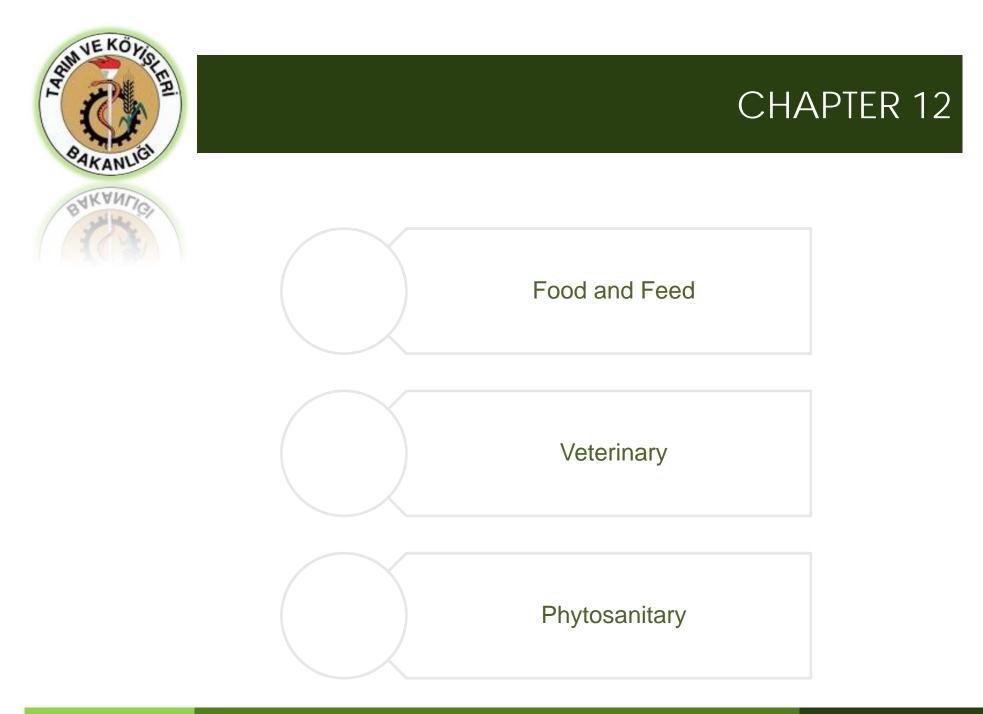
- Since 1995 Customs Union
- Since 1999 Candidate Country
- Since 2005 Negotiations



### NEGOTIATION CHAPTERS

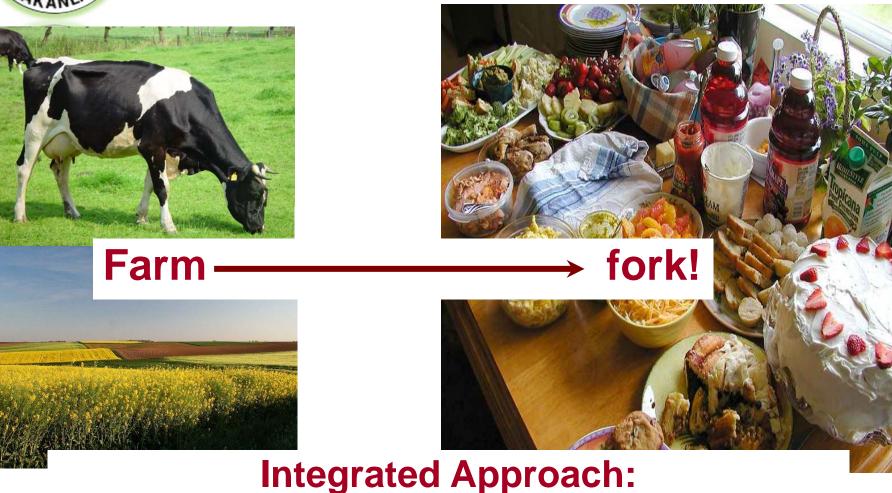
The MARA is responsible for **3 chapters** among 35 negotiation chapters.





### **EU Food Safety**





Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary

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# **EU FOOD SAFETY**

Farm to fork- integrated

- Animal health and welfare, plant health, food and feed safety
- High level of protection
- Based on risk and transparent
- Primary responsibility: Food Business Operator

DOES NOT ALLOW ANY PRACTICES THAT REDUCES THE HIGH STANDARDS!



### SCREENING PROCESS

Process	Chapter 11	Chapter 12	Chapter 13
Explanatory	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2006</b>
Meeting	(5-8/12/2005)	(9-15/03/2006)	(24/02/2006)
Country	<b>2006</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2006</b>
Session	(23-26/01/2006)	(24-28/04/2006)	(3/03/2006)
Screening	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	Not received
Reports	(13/10/2006)	(February)	
Opening Benchmarks	<b>2007</b> (24/02/2007)	<b>2007</b> (12/06/2007) Fulfilled	Not informed



## CHAPTER 12- PRIORITIES

#### **LEGISLATIVE ALIGNMENT**

- EU-compliant legislative framework for food, feed and veterinary policies
- "Law No 5996 on Veterinary Services, Phytosanitary, Food and Feed" (from 13 December 2010) (farm to fork approach!!)
- Detailed strategy for transposition, implementation and enforcement of the EU acquis on Chapter 12.
- Strategy of the Republic of Turkey for The Transposition, Implementation and Enforcement of The EU Acquis In Chapter 12 Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy

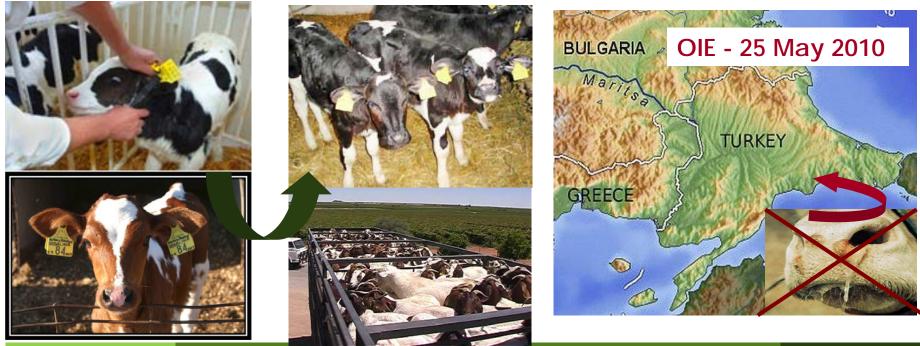


# CHAPTER 12- PRIORITIES

#### **ANIMAL HEALTH**



- Identification and registration of bovine, caprine and ovine animals
- Control of animal movements
- Eradication of FMD in Thrace region



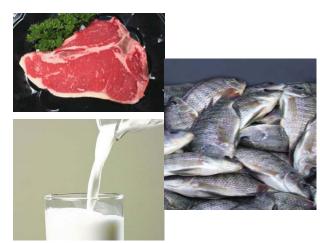
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# CHAPTER 12- PRIORITIES

**Classification of Food Processing Establishments** 

- Approved (meat, milk, fisheries, animal by products)
- Registered (retailers, sales points, mass consumption places)
- EU compliant/non-compliant





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### CHAPTER 12- NEGOTIATIONS

- Turkey was officially informed on 25 June 2010 that the requirements for opening Chapter 12 were fulfilled.
- Accordingly, Turkey presented her negotiating position for Chapter 12 to the European Commission.
- Accession negotiations on Chapter 12 were opened on 30 June 2010 at the 9th meeting of the Intergovernmental Conference with Turkey at Ministerial level.



### CHAPTER 12-PRIORITIES FOR NEGOTIATIONS

Implementation of EU-compliant I&R systems for animals

- Development and implementation of a national programme for the upgrading of agri-food establishments
- Control and eradication of major animal diseases
- Implementation of an effective system for the control of TSEs
- Transposition of EU animal welfare legislation and preparation of the sector for implementation
- Set up of the relevant administrative structures for the implementation of EU-compliant official controls



# More...

### Trainings

- In service trainings /training of inspectors
- TAIEX Trainings (Regional Training Programme)
- DG SANCO trainings
- EFSA Trainings
- Sector Guidelines (24) + Hygiene Guidelines (7)
- Food Call Line- 174 (www.alo174.gov.tr)







Food Safety Information System

2009 – "Food Year"-



- "Safe Food Healthy Life Campaign" (www.guvenilirgida.com)
- EU funded projects and bilateral projects (i.e. MATRA)
  - Restructuring and Strengthening of the Food Safety and Control System in Turkey
  - Support for the Alignment of Turkey with the EU Veterinary Acquis
  - Alignment of Phytosanitary Sector to the EU Acquis

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#### 174 ALC GIDA HATTI

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# YEDİĞİNE İÇTİĞİNE DİKKAT ET GÜVENILIR

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# CONCLUSION

MARA- Competent Authority

- Policies and Legislation- mainly EU driven
  - government commitment to EU membership
- Negotiation process- Chapter 12
- Further steps to enhance national food safety system



#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

E. GÜHER ÇELTEK

guher.celtek@tarim.gov.tr



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