

Forum of the Inspections of Food Safety and Economic Activities (FISAAE) of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries



In the era of globalization, sharing a language, it is an opportunity for the development of citizenship. Speaking Portuguese, one of the great global world languages, which is shared by the four continents (Africa, America, Asia and Europe), is sharing a common culture and history, making it a huge heritage and a powerful vehicle of union and progress. This is the shared identity by 9 countries and allows the experience of belonging to the same community -the CPLP.

The closeness and the search for affinities and partnerships by these countries, led to the creation and execution of the First Forum of the Economic Inspection Authorities and Food Safety of the CPLP Countries, held in May 2013 in Praia, Cape Verde. The interaction between the participants, translated by the exchange of experiences and knowledge, allowed the deepening of matters particularly in the areas of laboratory cooperation, practices and inspection models and also in prevention as an active inspection instrument.

Given the specificities of each country and its inspection authorities, is of enormous value the know-how and the experiences shared. The reflexes of these are the definition of the goals of the Forum for the Inspections of Food Safety and Economic Activities of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries, namely:

- Development of cooperation in the areas of economic and food inspection;
- Promotion of best practices and harmonization of sector stocks;
- Promotion of technical and forensic identification in the inspection of food and economic area;
- Sharing of experiences related to the creation of legislation, legal framework and interpretation of Law;
- Sharing information on emerging risks;
- Promotion training of technical staff;
- Strengthening the action inspective the level of FISAAE the member countries.

The Forum has had the participation of inspective authoraties from the Portuguese Speaking Countries such as: Angola (GIGC and SIC), Bresil (ANVISA); Cape Verde (ARFA and

IGAE); Mozambique (INAE); São Tomé (DRCAE) Guiné-Bissau (IGCA) East Timor – (AIFAESA); Equatorial Guinea was represented in the IVth Forum by the permanent Representative in CPLP.

Since its foundation in 2013, there were held three more forums:

- The II Forum held in Mozambique in May 2014, which counted with the presence of His Excellency the Minister of Trade and Industry of Mozambique and the Inspector General of National Inspection of Economic Activities of Mozambique; and from the Portuguese side, attended His Excellency the State and Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs and the Inspector General of ASAE;
- The III Forum, was held in Angola in November 2015. Although ASAE have not been present, Portugal was elected Vice President of the III Forum and, consequently, was the organizer of the IV Forum.
- The IV Forum took place in Lisbon on November 2nd-3rd 2016. In this forum, ASAE was elected President and East Timor as Vice-President for a two years term. Some key documents for the forum were approved: Statutes of the Forum; a Code of Conduct; an Ethical Charter. It was also launched a Communication Channel – a space reserved between the Food Security Authorities and Economic Activities of the CPLP Countries, aiming to promote a virtual network of cooperation among participating States.

This IV Forum ended with the application of FISAAE to CPLP in order to be recognized as a Cooperation Platform.

For the next two years, FISAAE wants:

- To deepen the observer status of the FISAAE members, achieving the effective adhesion (with this status in CPLP) of Japan, Turkey (with which ASAE has already Cooperation Protocols) and other Associated Observer States of the CPLP;
- Take advantage of the Communication Channel, in order not only to provide information, but also to offer training actions in e-learning format through this channel;
- Create with Infosan (WHO) an early warning system within the CPLP countries.