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Ministry of Agriculture
Animal Industry and Fisheries

PRESS STATEMENT

**ON
THE WORLD FOOD SAFETY DAY**

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**AT
THE UGANDA MEDIA CENTRE**

**ON
8th June, 2022**

WORLD FOOD SAFETY DAY CELEBRATIONS IN UGANDA

The food we eat is kept safe through the dedicated efforts of everyone who grows, processes, transports, stores, sells, prepares, and serves it.

In 2018, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming June 7 as World Food Safety Day, responding to the global burden of foodborne diseases, which affect individuals of all ages, in particular children under five and persons living in low-income regions. The resolution notes that "there is no food security without food safety [especially] in a world where the food supply chain has become more complex".

Uganda joins the world to celebrate the World Food Safety day. This is the first time the country is joining the World Food safety celebrations and this year theme, as announced by (WHO) for World Food Safety Day is, "*Safer food, better health*". World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with FAO, is calling on everyone to join the World Food Safety Day campaign to ensure safe food for all.

The goal of World Food Safety Day is to bring awareness and inspire action to help prevent, detect, and manage foodborne risks, contributing to food security, human health, economic prosperity, agriculture, market access, tourism, and sustainable development. Safe food is essential to human health and well-being. Only when food is safe can we fully benefit from its nutritional value and from the mental and social benefits of sharing a safe meal. Safe food is one of the most critical guarantors for good health.

Food safety requires a collaborative effort, it's a shared responsibility and we've all got a stake in this. Therefore, the calls to action on this day go out to everyone; the government, Farmers, food producers, business operators, and consumers – all over the world - to do their part to help ensure that the foods that we buy, sell, eat, and serve to our customers, friends and families are safe and wholesome.

Food can be contaminated anywhere along the value chain from production to consumption. Unsafe foods are the cause of many diseases and contribute to other poor health conditions, and Much

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of the burden of illness results from basic sanitation failures that occur in food production, processing, storage, transportation, retailing, and handling in the home. Embracing a food safety culture also means keeping food workers safe, a priority that has become clear during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year Uganda joins the whole world to celebrate the WFSD with the following objective of;


Increasing awareness among the general public of foodborne risks, caused by excessive intake of chemical residues in food and highlight actions that drive these risks and what needs to be done by actors along the food value chains to improve safety of the food.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries in collaboration with MDAs responsible for the National Food Safety Control system will, throughout the month of June hold several activities including, Radio and Television Talk shows, national Stakeholder workshop for food business operators to sensitize the public about food safety issues.

Safe Food is everyone's Responsibility; And World Food Safety Day is a recognition that when it comes to food safety, we all win or lose together. It's a commitment that we can win -- together.

I call upon the general public to participate in these events for the betterment of our health and country at large.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY


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