

## **Report of “The 5th Asian Conference on Food and Nutrition Safety 2008”: The Activities over the Previous 5-Years of the Food Safety Commission of Japan and Problems Which Remain**

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### **< Summary >**

“The 5th Asian Conference on Food and Nutrition Safety 2008” was held by ILSI Southeast Asia Region and The Food and Nutrition Research Institute - Department of Science and Technology, Philippines (FNRI-DOST) in the Philippines November 5 – 7, 2008. The Conference was attended by around 300 participants including members of international organizations, scientists from Asia, Europe and the United States, and administrative officials and members of food businesses from Southeast Asian countries. The topics discussed included many things such as global problems regarding food safety and practical issues on food safety in the Asian region.

In response to a request to speak about Japanese policies for food safety and risk communication, I gave a lecture on the activities over the previous 5-years of the Food Safety Commission of Japan which was established in July 2003 as well as issues and problems which remain.

As the globalization of food manufacturing, distribution and consumption continue to progress, a conference such as this offers an important opportunity for people in food related businesses in Southeast Asian countries to gather, meet face - to face and discuss the issues of food safety in detail.

It is also important for Southeast Asian countries to make efforts to enhance their cooperation with one another and to ensure each country’s efforts and regulations consistent with global understanding and standards.