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**International Conference for Sharing Information on Food Standards in Asia**

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**< Summary >**

The international conference “International Conference for Sharing Information on Food Standards in Asia” was held at Hotel Mulia Senayan in Jakarta, Indonesia, on February 21 (Tues.), 2012, as part of briefing sessions on the results of the research of “Sharing Information on Food Standards and Methods of Analysis in East Asia”, which was conducted as from the FY2009 to FY2011 Overseas Business Support Project for Japanese Food Industry supported by Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. This conference aims to share information on 1) commodity food standards and methods of analysis in the region, 2) regional initiatives for food standards harmonization, and 3) food safety issues such as on risk communication.

At this international conference, after starting with “Promoting Harmonization of Food Standards in ASEAN” as Keynote Speech, the following 3 sessions were reported: 1) the outline and progress of the regulatory authorities and food industries toward harmonization of food standards, and the importance of the risk evaluation about the food consumption in ASEAN countries (*Session 1*), 2) the results of the research of food standards and analytical methods, and the regulation for food additives by ILSI Japan and ILSI Focal Point in China and ILSI Korea (*Session 2*), and 3) the risk recognition and communication for food safety, the food safety control system and topics for food safety in Japan, and the activities of Yakult in Indonesia (*Session 3*).

The participants were far more than expected and totaled over 100 persons. Not only the administrators in Indonesia but also officials of the countries in the ASEAN. It was noted that interest of administrators and food industries in harmonization of the standards for foods and agricultural products in the ASEAN countries is very high. The conference was really more successful than expected.