

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: April 02, 2025

Report Number: JA2025-0016

Report Name: Japan Discusses Safety Standards for Cell Cultured Foods

Country: Japan

Post: Tokyo

Report Category: Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies

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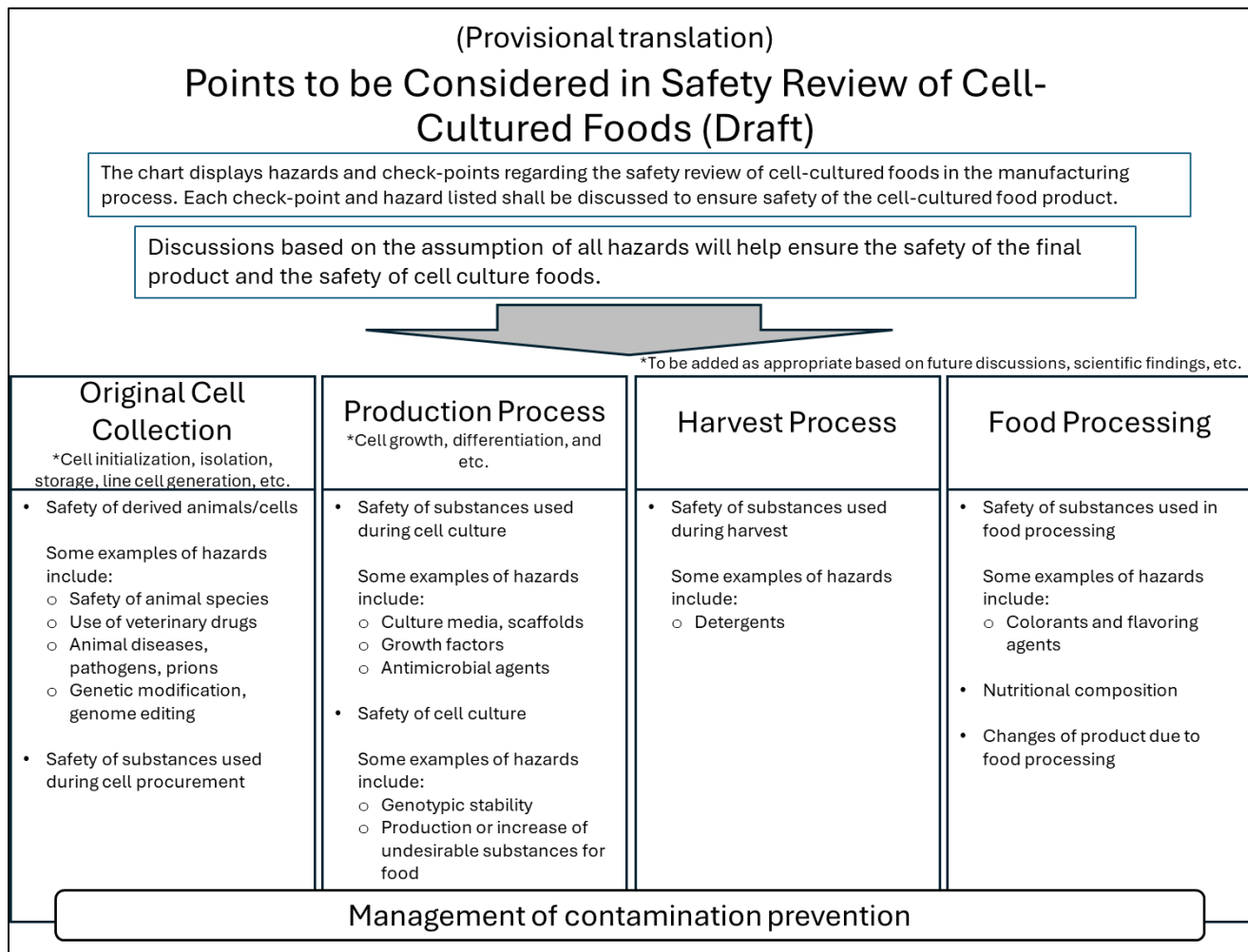
Approved By: Erica Summe

Report Highlights:

The Consumer Affairs Agency (CAA) of the Government of Japan (GOJ) convened a meeting of the “Food Sanitation Standards Council, Newly Developed Food Investigation Committee” on February 21, 2025, to discuss the establishment of food safety standards for cell cultured foods. The CAA plans to provide guidance for industry by the end of summer 2025.

The CAA held the third meeting of the “Food Sanitation Standards Council, Newly Developed Food Investigation Committee” (hereafter, the “committee”) on February 21, 2025, to discuss food safety standards for cell cultured foods. The CAA Secretariat shared the document below (see Figure 1), which highlights the major food safety regulatory themes that were discussed at the previous two meetings.

Figure 1: CAA’s Draft Regulatory Safety Review Points for Cell-Cultured Foods



During the past three meetings, including this one, the comments and opinions from committee members have been very technical due to the nature of the topic and the specific expertise of each member. The committee will continue to discuss the overall framework and details of hazards and control points for cell cultured foods. Key points of discussion include the regulatory framework, for instance if a product will be required to go through a safety review application and/or notification or confirmation process, depending on the type of cell used (e.g., primary cells, established cell lines). Additionally, they discussed the draft guideline regarding the safety confirmation and checking points. Members also expressed the need for a comprehensive assessment framework and a flexible regulatory environment.

The reference materials of the meeting, as well as summary notes of previous meetings can be found on the CAA's [website](#) (in Japanese). The CAA has not yet set a date for the release of the final regulation; however, the CAA plans to release a draft interim guideline for industry in summer 2025. The outcome of these meetings will determine the regulatory requirements and guidelines for U.S. companies seeking to export novel products to Japan.

Attachments:

No Attachments.