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Food Safety Measures in Japan

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JAPAN



Self Introduction

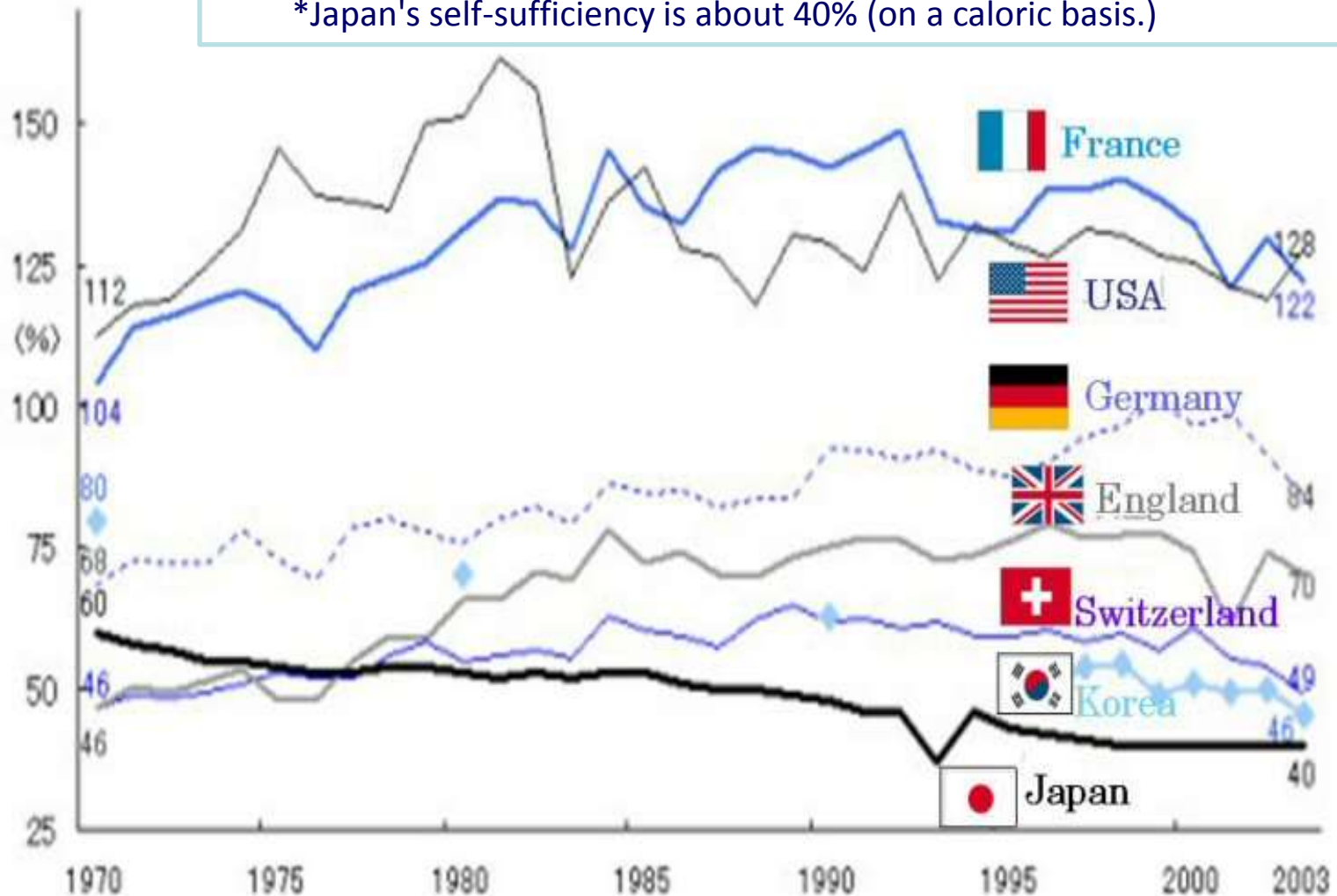
1990-1996	Nagoya University Medical School (MD)
1996-1997	Clinical Training at National Hospitals
1997-	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Health Insurance Division-Ministry of Environment (Environment Safety Division)-Food Safety Division (Standard and Evaluation Division)-Mental Health Division-International Affairs Division
2008-2011	World Health Organization (WHO) <ul style="list-style-type: none">-External Relations Officer, General Management Cluster, Headquarter
2011-2012	Director, Cancer Control Office, MHLW
2012- Present	Director, International Food Safety Office, MHLW

2004	Harvard School of Public Health (MPH)
2007	Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine (PhD)

Food Self-sufficiency Rate

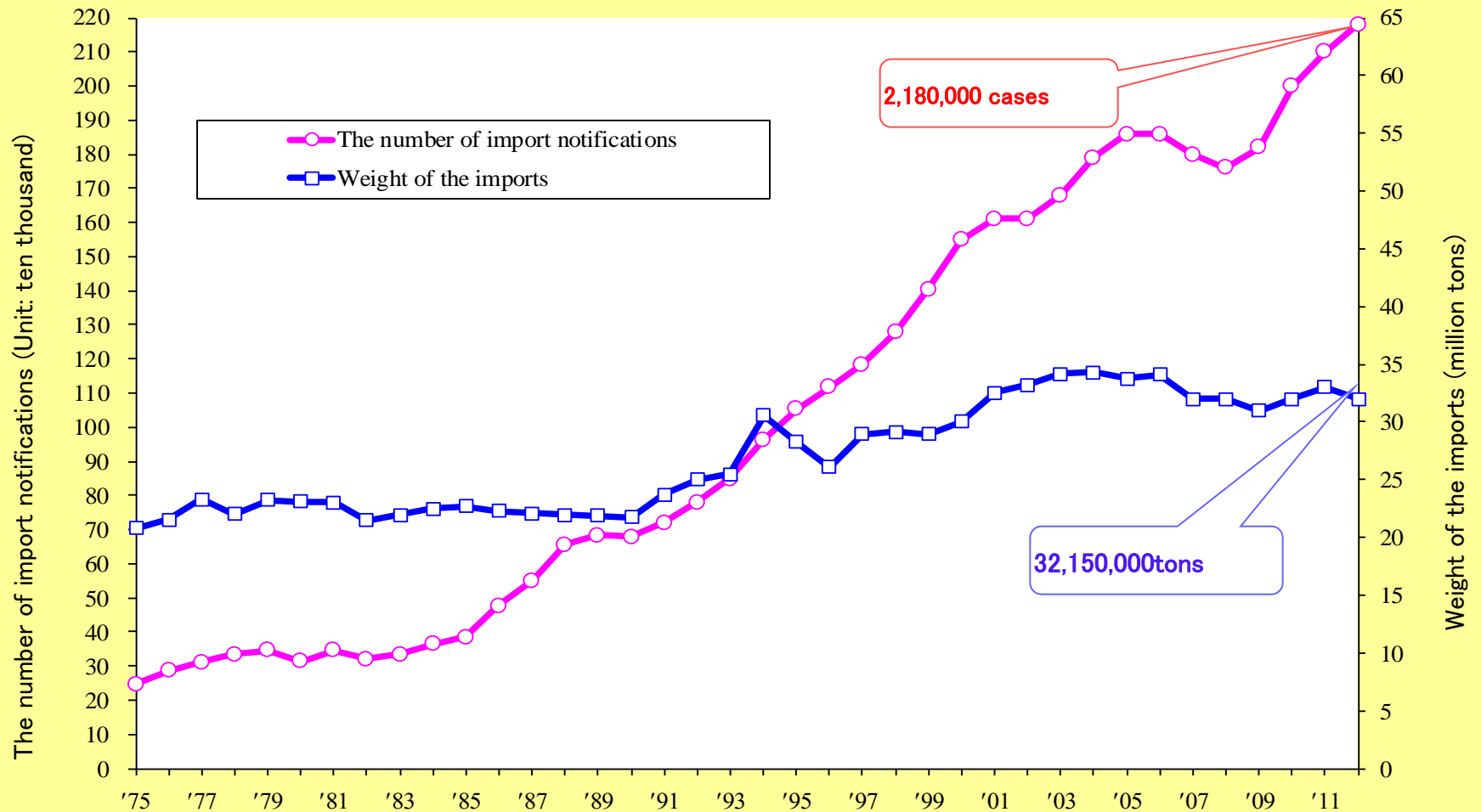
Imported food accounts for about 60% of food in Japan.

*Japan's self-sufficiency is about 40% (on a caloric basis.)



Current Status of Imported Foods

The number of notifications of food imports is on the rise.
The latest data shows approximately two million cases notified.



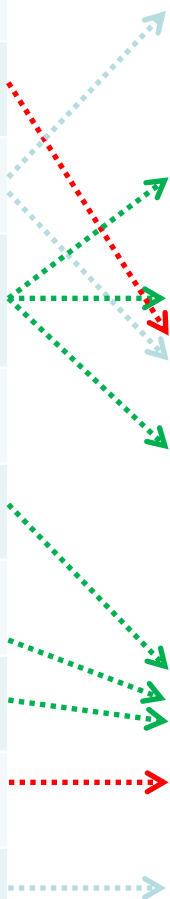
Recent changes in Japan's food safety administration

<Main events, etc.>

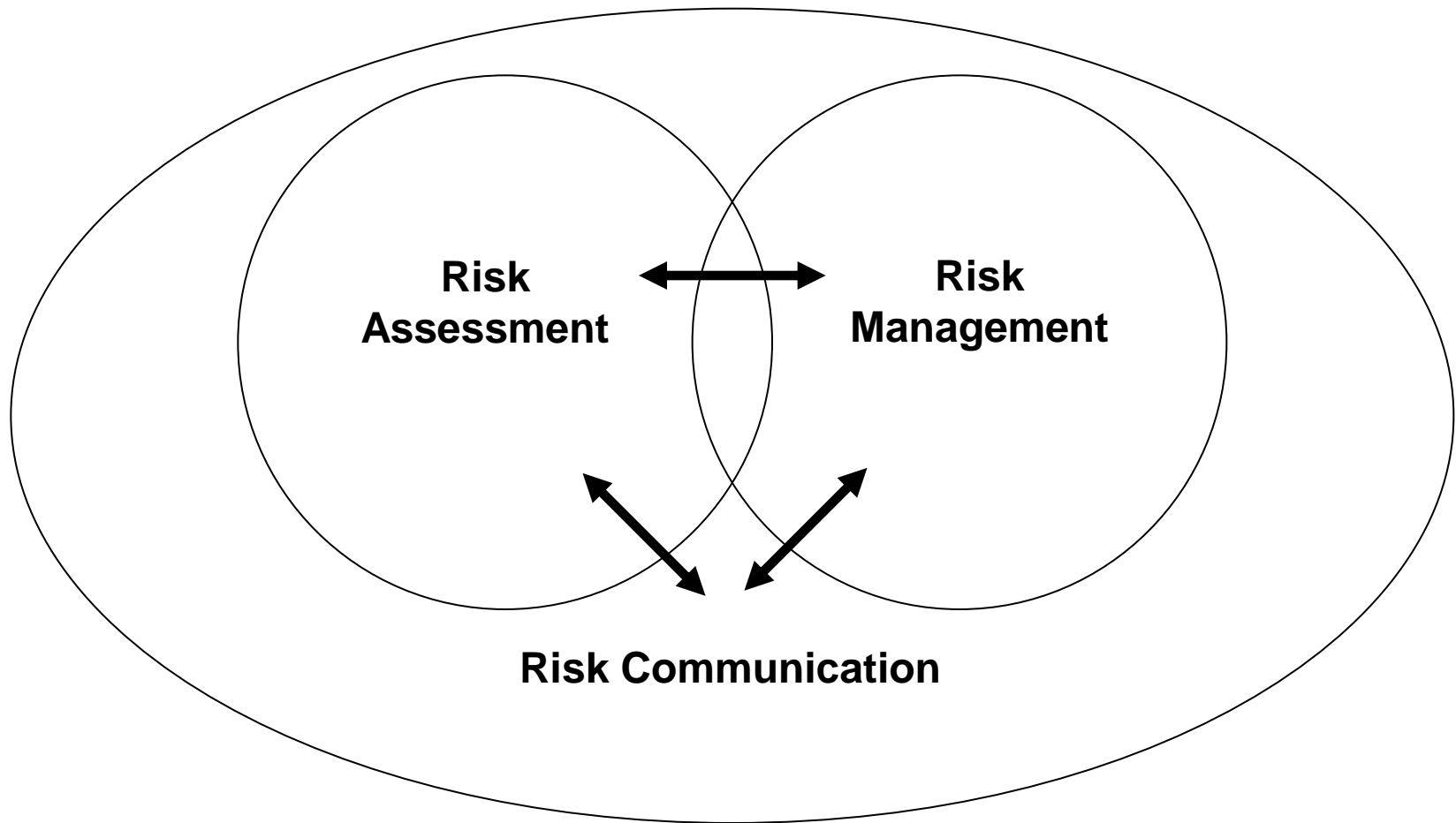
<Administrative response>

March 1996	Following outbreak of BSE in the UK, imports of British beef and processed beef foods were prohibited.
May 1996	Major outbreak of food poisoning caused by O-157.
June 2000	Snow Brand Milk Products Co. food poisoning case
June 2001	Confirmation of the first BSE infected cow in Japan
February 2002	Detection of residual agricultural chemicals exceeding standard in Chinese frozen spinach
December 2003	Confirmation of first BSE infected cow in the US, and prohibition of US imports
June 2007	The Meat Hope Co. false labeling incident
December 2007	Food poisoning caused by Chinese frozen gyoza
September 2008	Tainted rice distribution incident
March 2011	TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident
April 2011	Food poisoning from raw meat

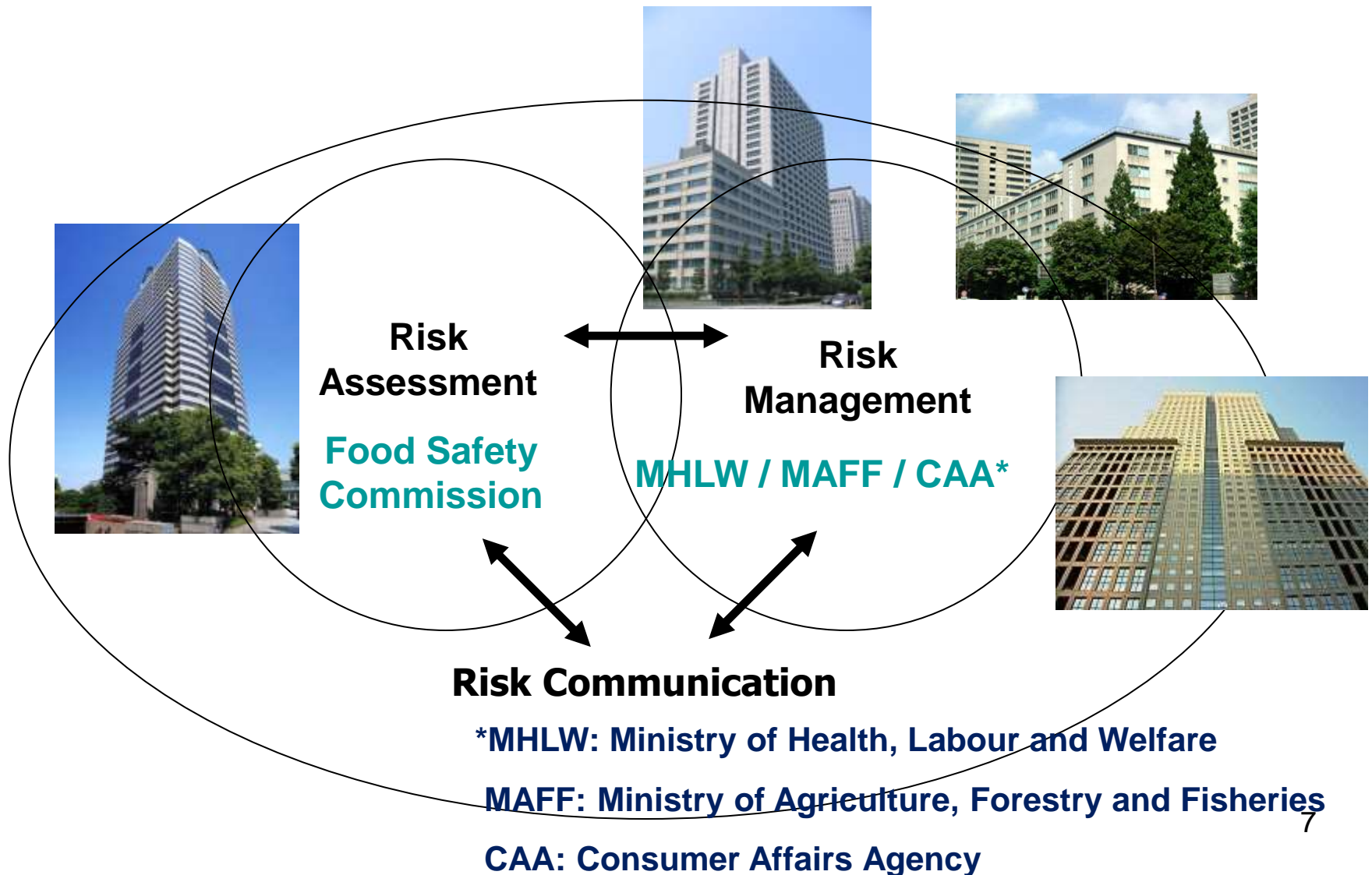
May 1996	Partial revision of the Food Sanitation Act (introduction of HACCP, etc.)
October 2001	• Total ban on bone-and-meat feed (MAFF)
June 2002	• Start of 100% inspection of beef cattle
	• Enactment of the BSE Special Countermeasures Law
August 2002	Partial revision of the Food Sanitation Act (creation of system for blanket prohibition of imports and sales)
May 2003	Enactment of the Food Safety Basic Law
May 2003	Partial revision of the Food Sanitation Act (introduction of positive list for residual farm chemicals, etc., introduction of system for renewing general sanitation management process approval facilities, implementation of monitoring and guidance plans, etc.)
July 2003	Launch of the Food Safety Commission
September 2009	Launch of the Consumer Agency
March 2011	Response to radioactive material in food
October 2011	Standards set for meat for raw consumption



Schema of Risk Analysis



Risk Analysis in Japan



Role sharing of Food Safety (Risk Analysis)

Risk Analysis

- Risk analysis is the process of preventing accidents and minimizing risk as much as possible, for protecting the health of the people, when there may be exposure to certain hazards, and not for clearing up the aftermath.

Risk Assessment

Food Safety Commission

- Implementation of risk assessment
- Assess the probability and extent of adverse impacts of hazardous substances in food.

Food Safety Basic Law

Risk Management

MHLW

- Sets criteria for inclusion in foods.
- Watches over conformity to the criteria.

Food Sanitation Act, etc.

MAFF

- Sets criteria for use of agricultural chemicals and levels in feed and fertilizer.
- Control on veterinary drugs, etc.

Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Act
Act on Safety Assurance and Quality Improvement of Feeds, etc.

Consumer Agency

- Sets criteria on food labeling.
- Watches over conformity to the criteria.

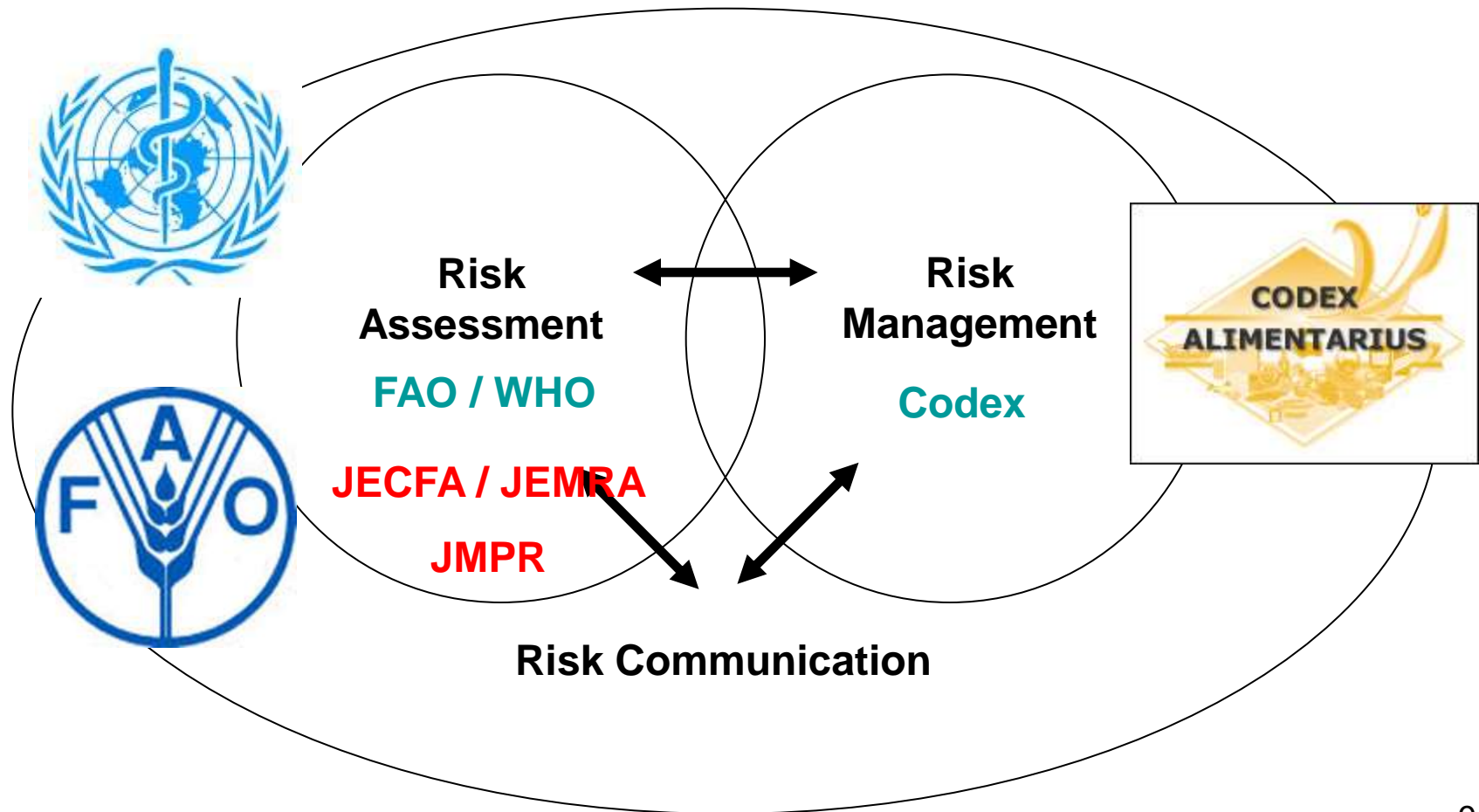
Food Sanitation Act
Health Promotion Law
JAS Law, etc.

Risk Communication

General coordination
by the Consumer Agency

- Disclosure of food safety related information
- Opportunities for the consumers to express their views

Risk Analysis at Codex



Department of Food Safety, MHLW

MHLW

Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau

Dept. of Food Safety

Policy Planning & Communication Division

Office of International Food Safety

Office of Quarantine Station Administration

Standards & Evaluation Division

Office of Health Policy
on Newly Developed Food

Inspection & Safety Division

Office of Import Food Safety

Office of Information Management
for Food Poisoning Damages

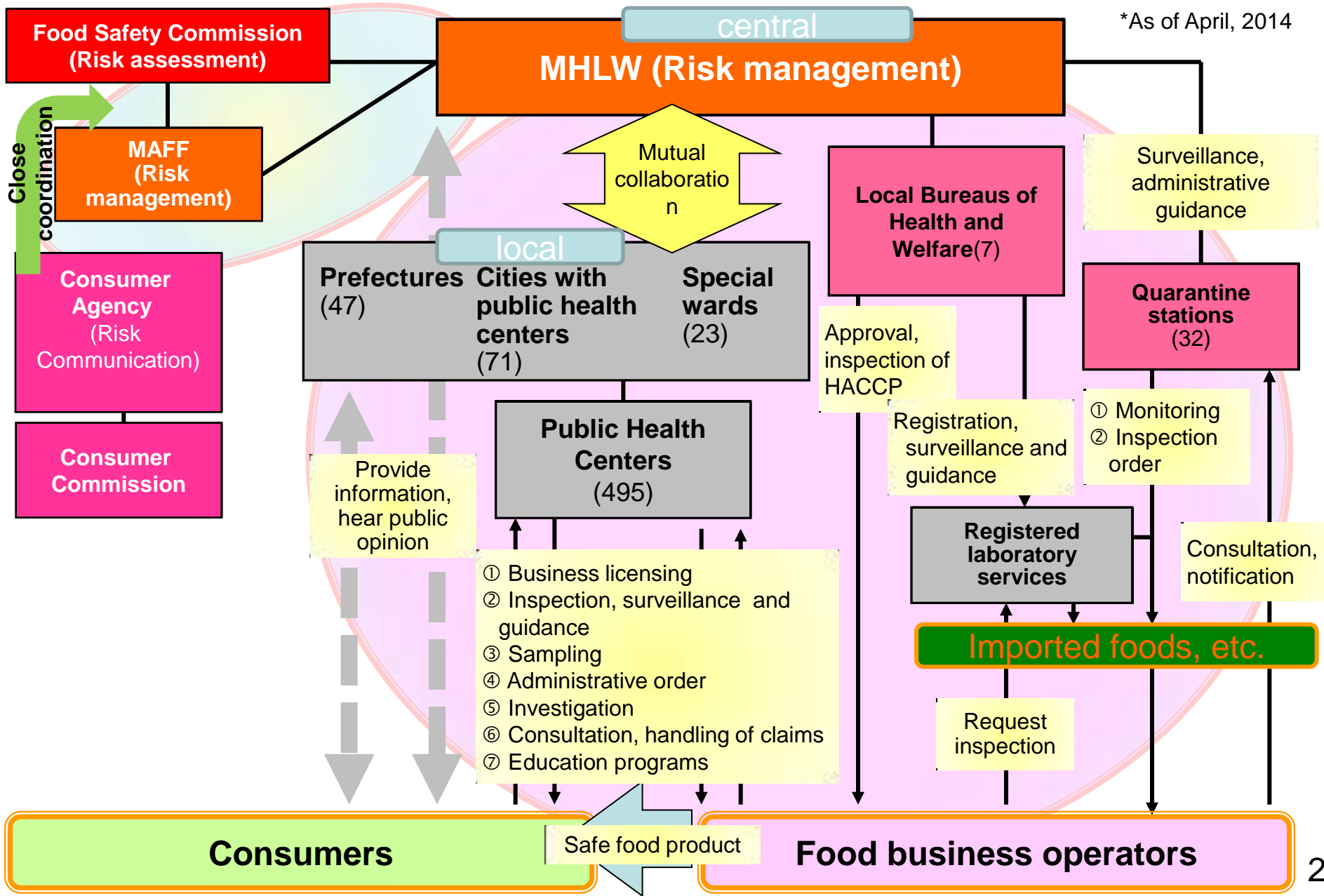


Office of International Food Safety

- General coordination of international affairs related to food safety
 - = multilateral negotiation + bilateral negotiation
 - Codex Alimentarius Commission
 - WTO (World Trade Organization)
 - SPS Agreement
 - TPP, RCEP, APEC, OECD, WHO, FAO
 - EPA/FTA
 - Other multilateral and bilateral issues

Administrative Structure for Food Safety

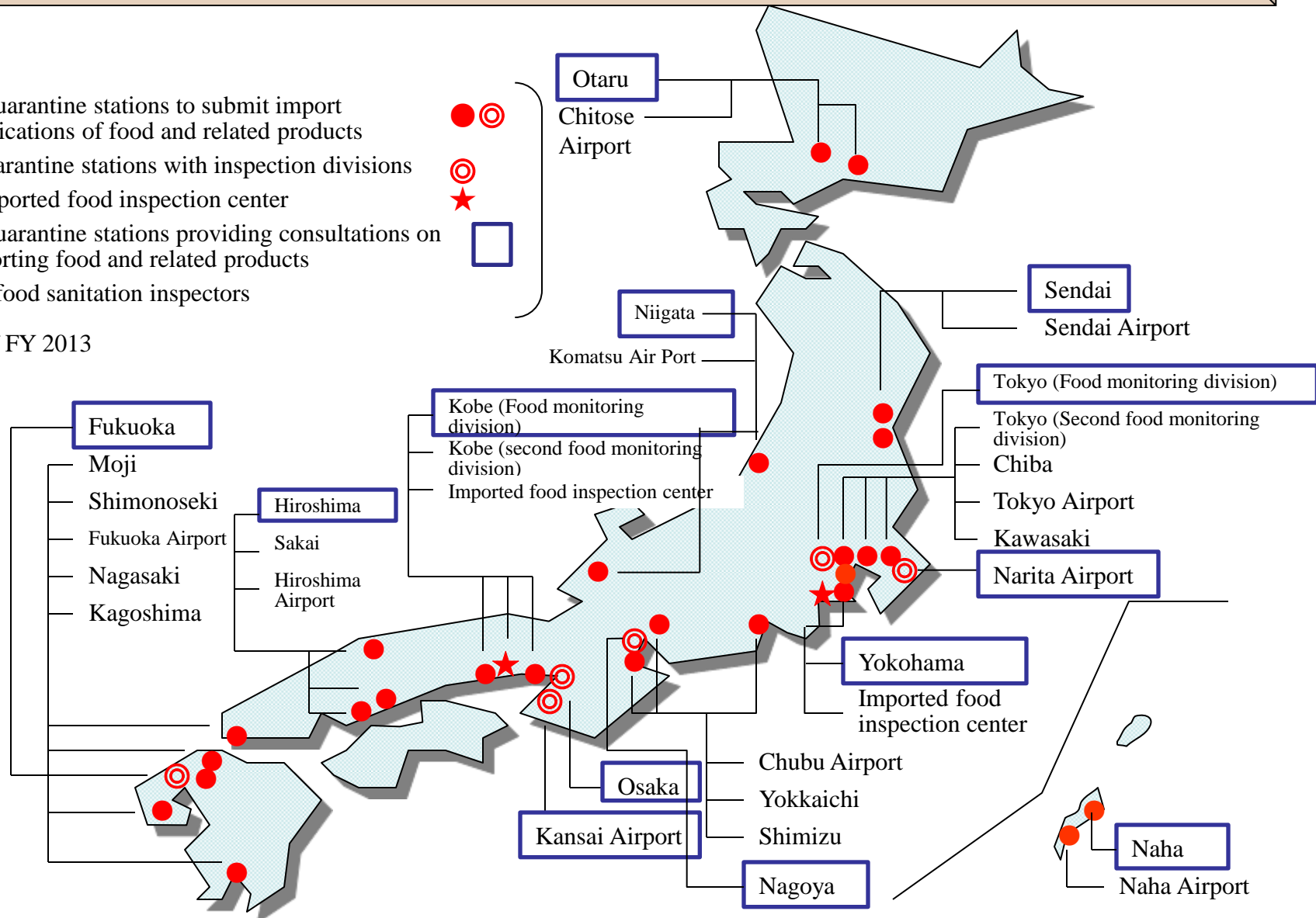
*As of April, 2014



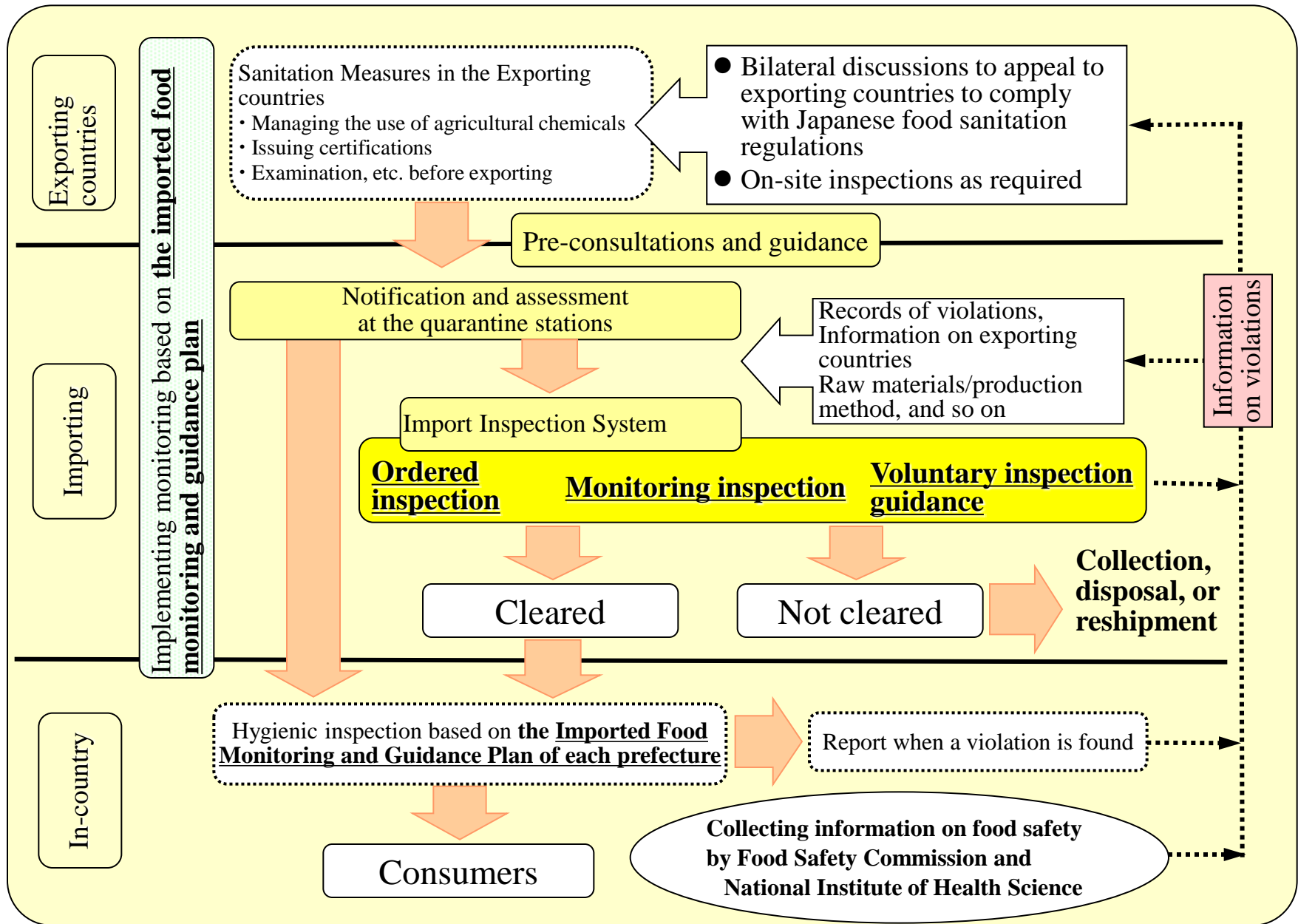
Places to Submit Import Notifications of Foods and Related Products

32 quarantine stations to submit import notifications of food and related products
 6 quarantine stations with inspection divisions
 2 Imported food inspection center
 13 quarantine stations providing consultations on importing food and related products
 399 food sanitation inspectors

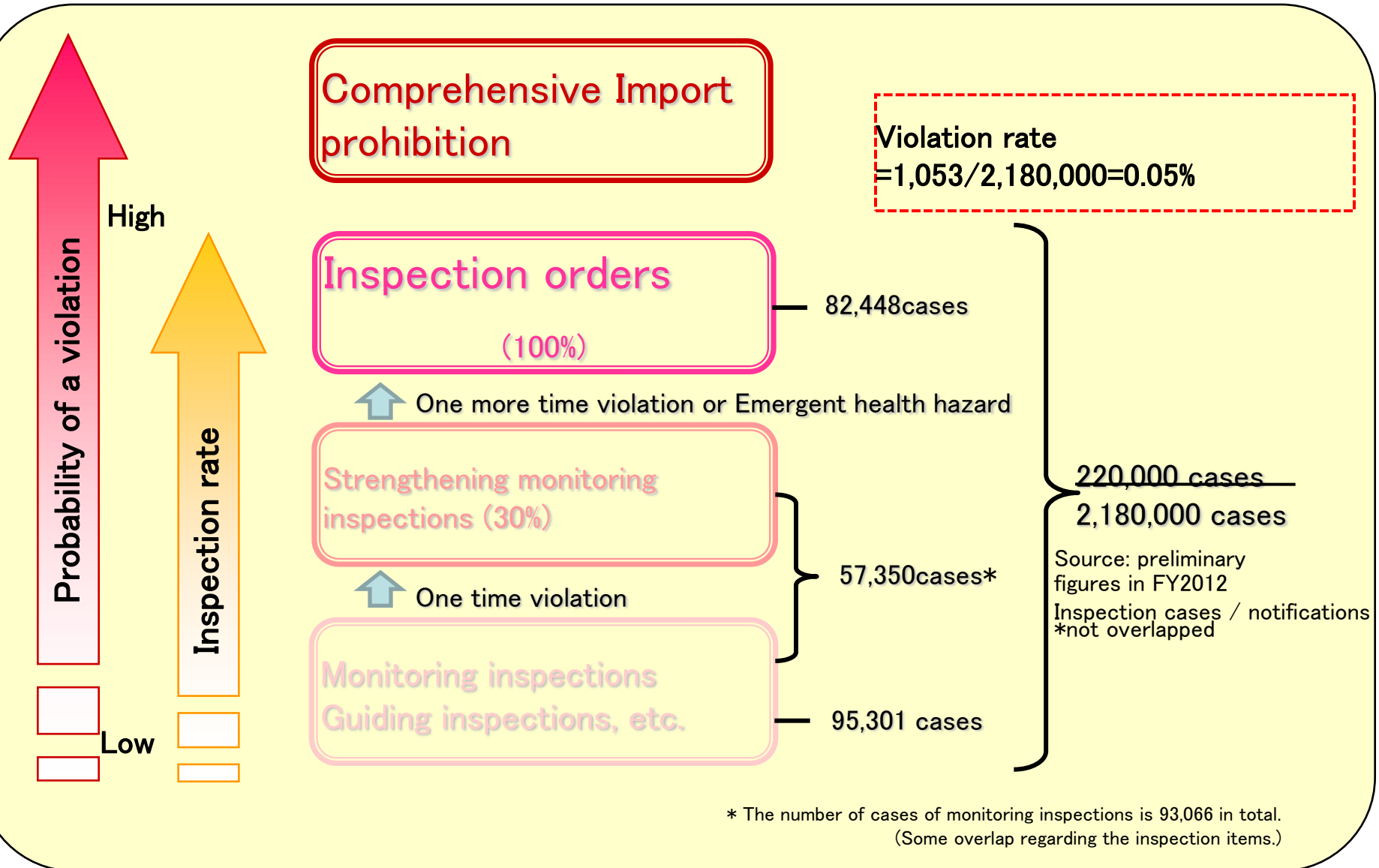
* As of FY 2013



Outline of the Monitoring System for Imported Food



Outline of the Import Inspection System



Cancellation Requirements

Inspection order (100%)

Cancellation

MHLW has confirmed the effectiveness of the preventive measures taken by the exporting country.

- No violations for two years
- No violations in 300 inspections for one year

Reinforcement of monitoring inspection (30%)

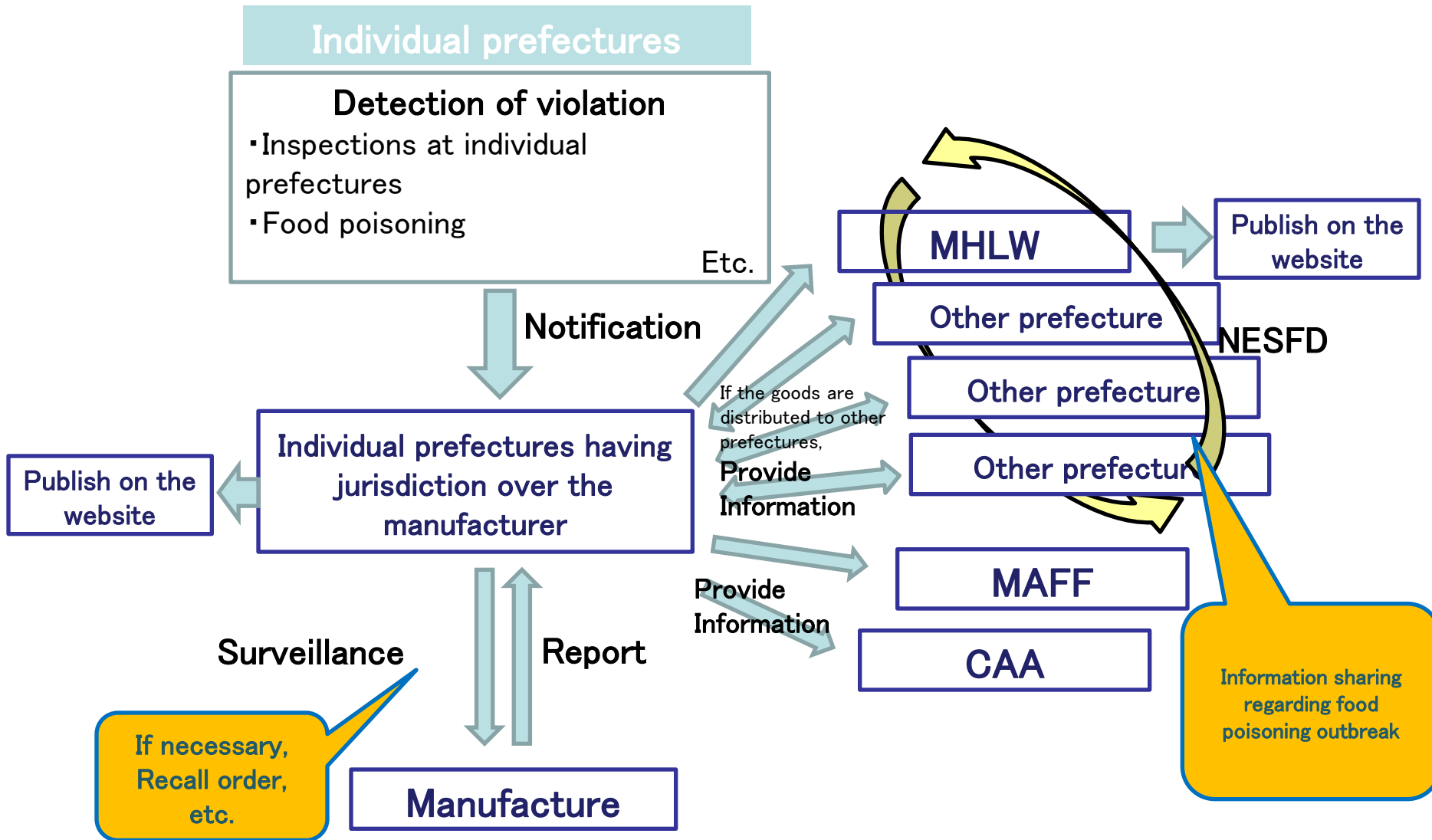
Cancellation

- No violations for one year
- No violations in 60 inspections

Normal monitoring inspection (10%)

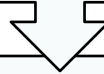
Cancellation

Recall system of violated foods in Japan



Steps to lifting the import ban on beef (BSE)

1. Issue questionnaire from Japan to concerned member countries



2. Review of response and additional question if necessary



3. Working level consultation



4. On-site investigation



5. Consultation to Food Safety Commission



6. Risk assessment and report by the Food Safety Commission to MHLW

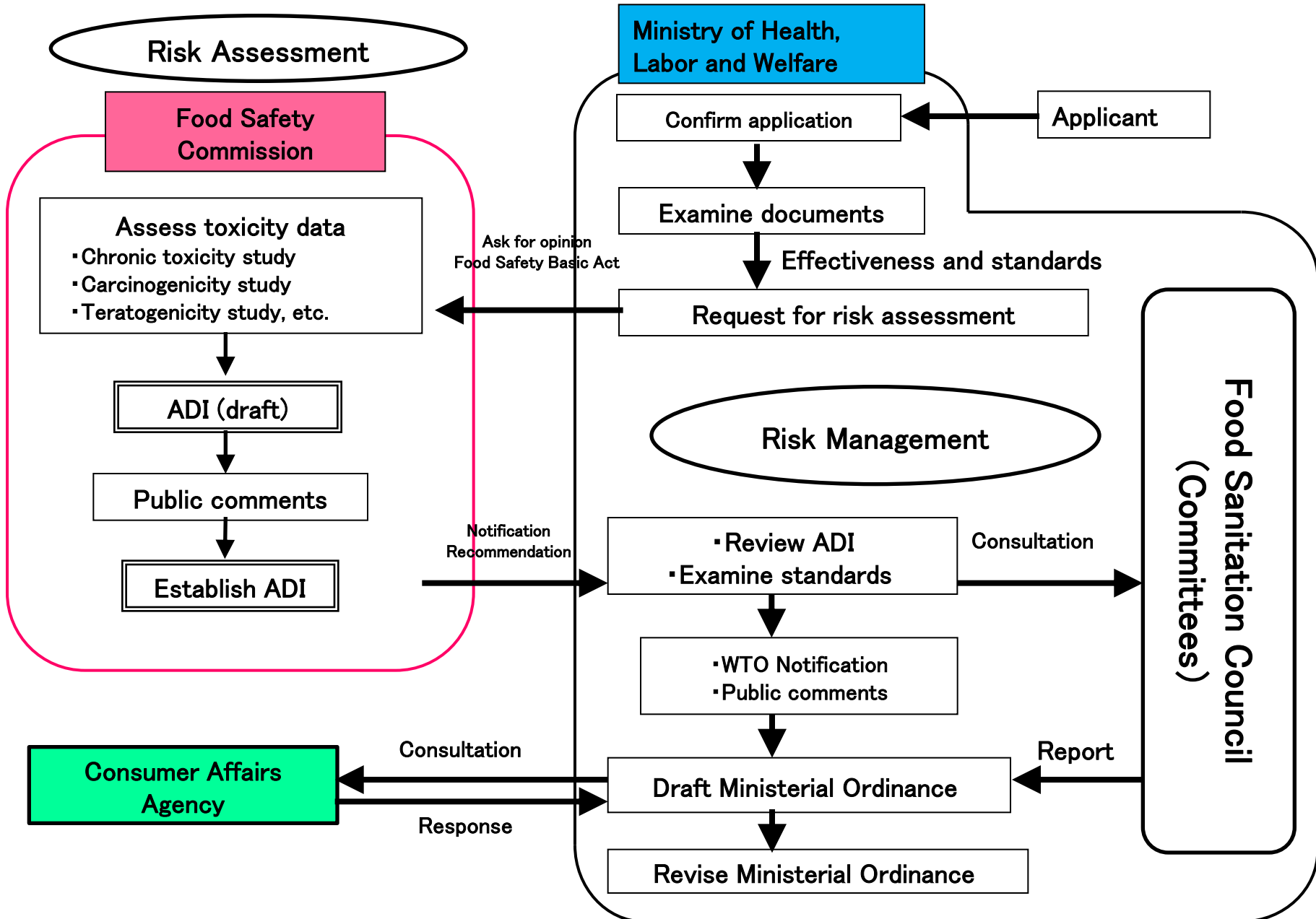


**7. Arrange specific import requirement
according to the result of assessment and On-site investigation**



Lifting the import ban

Process of the Designation of Food Additives



Relationship with WTO (1)

- 1994, SPS Agreement (Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures): an appendix to WTO (World Trade Organization) Agreement
- SPS (Sanitary and Phytosanitary) Agreement
 - Members shall ensure that any sanitary or phytosanitary measure is based on scientific principles, and is not maintained without sufficient scientific evidence
 - Members shall base their sanitary and phytosanitary measures on international standards

Relationship with WTO (2)

- International standards in SPS;
 - a. For food safety → **Codex standards**
 - b. For animal health → OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) standards
 - c. For plant health → IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention) standards

Relationship with WTO (3)

- Members may introduce higher level of measures than international standards;
 - if there is a scientific justification
 - if determined to be appropriate by risk assessment
- Members may face WTO dispute, if it is not justified.

(after joining TPP) SPS+

Recent Topic

More Science-based Measures

- Acute Reference Dose (ARfD)
- The number of Residue Trial Data
- Import Tolerance from developing countries
- Guideline for application of food additive
- Risk assessment of Flavoring Agent
- Gap in the standard for food additive
- Testing and Sampling / ISO 17025
- GM (Self-Cloning, Natural Occurrence etc)