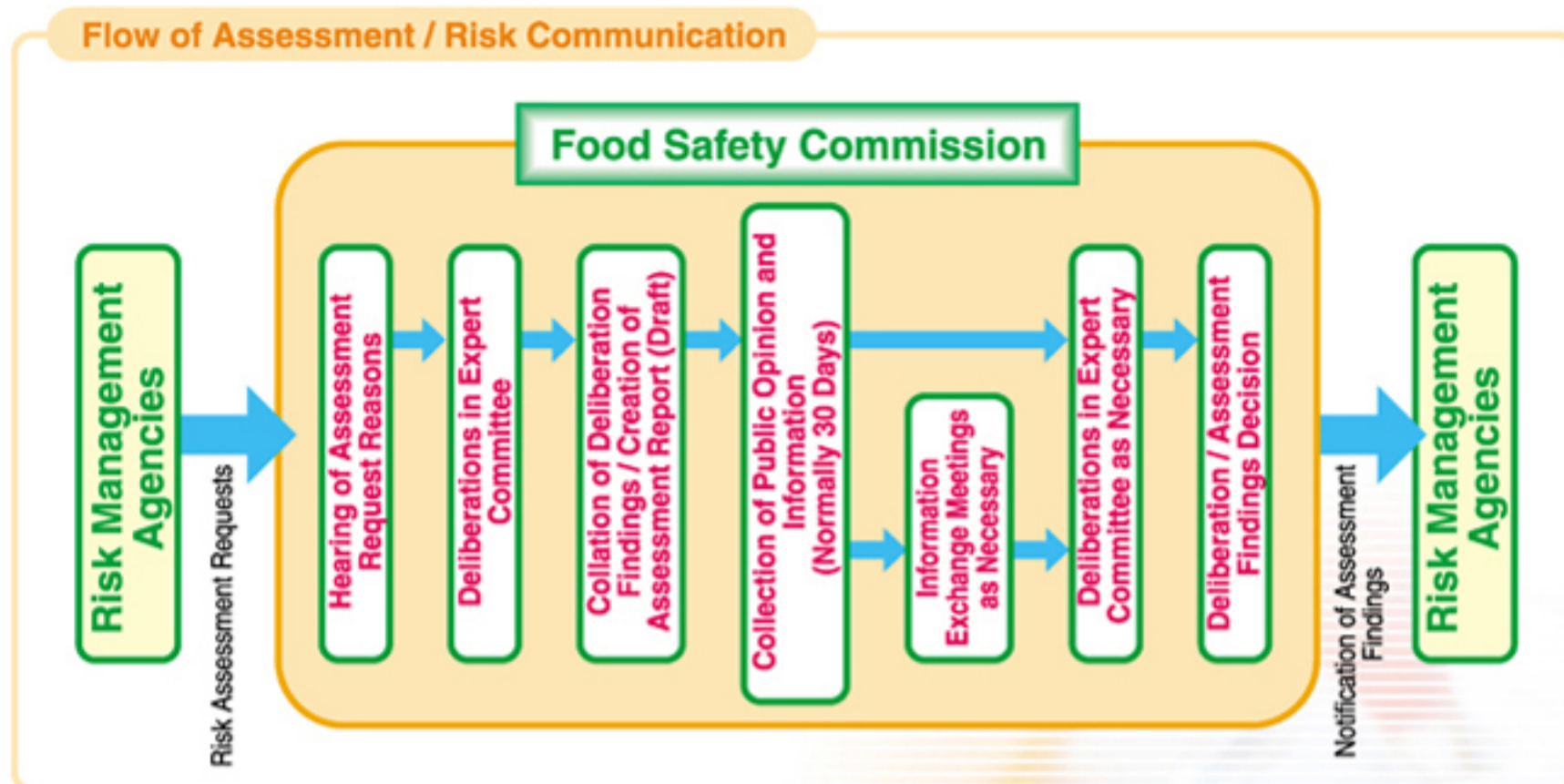


Flow of Assessment / Risk Communication



○ Self tasking assessment

In addition to the risk assessments requested from risk management bodies, FSC conducts similar assessment on its own initiative whenever the Commission regards it as necessary to do so—the most recent example of which are “Microorganisms” related to some foodborne diseases as well as “Beef/beef organs imported to Japan.”

The guideline for the assessment of microorganisms has been developed with the result of opinion exchange meetings taken into account; the current focus has been shifted onto “*Campylobacter jejuni/coli* in livestock, especially chicken.”

With regard to the import of beef/beef organs, the Commission has launched a new assessment program in 2007 by sending a questionnaire to 14 countries that have exported the product to Japan FY2003 to FY2006 (except the U.S. and Canada for which the risk assessment was previously completed).

Furthermore, as regards the assessments of which results were delivered to risk management bodies, the Commission also follows up on the matters whether its advice has been appropriately reflected in policies to ensure food safety.

○ Development of evaluation guidelines

FSC is also engaged in developing a guideline for each hazard/substance to provide information on the policy of risk assessments, the material/data to be submitted for assessment, and the assessment procedure, as appropriate. To date nine guidelines have been released, including several “Guidelines for safety assessment standards for genetically modified (GM) foods” developed based on various viewpoints of food categories and processes. We expect another new guideline to be completed soon on GM foods (microorganisms).

○ Fact sheets

In addition to conducting risk assessments, FSC publishes “fact sheets”, or outlined information/data, for concerned materials based on the latest scientific knowledge. They are designed to summarize the information based on various risk assessments conducted by international bodies and research results available at the time.

In FY 2007, FSC made public through its internet website new fact sheets on “potassium bromate” and “growth-promoting hormone products for cattle” and updated those regarding “acrylamide” and “trans-fatty acids”

FSC is committed to continuously collect and analyze latest news of food safety issues so as to provide relevant and readable information for the general public in a timely manner.