

## **National Association of Agri-Food Supervisory Agencies**

### **Supervisory Principles (September 9, 2009)**

In order to respond to changing societal priorities and a changing and increasingly complex marketplace, NAASA has adopted the following principles to guide its members in their supervision of commodity boards and other agencies within their national and provincial jurisdictions.

1. NAASA believes in an integrated industry approach that recognizes agricultural production as the foundation of an agri-food industry representing a value chain that is consumer and demand focused.
2. In responding to current, emerging and potential marketing opportunities, NAASA members believe it is important for boards and agencies to:
  - a) possess or access the business and other expertise necessary for them to function effectively in today's social and business environments;
  - b) take into account the interests of all stakeholders in making principled, sound and fact-based business decisions that maintain a viable and sustainable agri-food industry;
  - c) adopt strategic and pro-active approaches;
  - d) develop and promote regulations and policies that facilitate and support a competitive and growing agri-food industry; and
  - e) establish and maintain appropriate and effective performance expectations and measures that review and enhance their operations, policies and overall capabilities on an ongoing basis.
3. NAASA members believe that the agri-food industry and its governing boards and agencies should consider informed and proactive risk management approaches to emerging societal concerns affecting their sectors, such as:
  - a) environmental issues;
  - b) food safety, traceability and security concerns;
  - c) biosecurity and other issues related to animal diseases; and
  - d) animal welfare and care issues.
4. NAASA members believe supervisory and other governing boards and agencies in the agri-food sector should:
  - a) consider issues on a regional or national basis, as appropriate, to reflect marketplace and industry consolidation at the extra-provincial level; and
  - b) enhance communication between each other and with agri-food industry stakeholders to respond collectively to issues in a collaborative and cooperative fashion.