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# GAIN Report

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## Ukraine

**Post:** Kiev

### Single Food Safety Authority Dismantled

**Report Categories:**

FAIRS Subject Report

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#### **Report Highlights:**

On November 18th, 2015, Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers moved the "State Service on Safety of Foodstuffs and Consumer Protection" under Ministry of Agricultural Policy and Food authority. The structure of the Service is expected to change in the near future as many parts of the Service do not fit into the existing Ministry of Ag scope of authority. For now Ukrainian Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service will remain competent authority for all products of animal origin, plant origin, foods and feeds.

## General Information:

On Wednesday, November 18th, 2015 the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted a Decree No [942](#) (link in Ukrainian) which moved State Service on Safety of Foodstuffs and Consumer Protection (SSSFCP) under authority of the Ministry of Agricultural Policy and Food of Ukraine.

The SSSFCP was created in September of 2014 (for more information see GAIN Report [UP1431](#)) to take advantage of food safety practices that are based on a single controlling agency. The Netherlands food safety authority was partially used as a model. Another argument in favor of the one regulator system was separation of policy and implementation. Policy would remain under the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food while new Food Safety Service would concentrate on implementing MAPF policy.

The SSSFCP was supposed to encompass the State Inspection for Consumer Rights Protection, State Sanitary-Epidemiological Service of the Ministry of Healthcare of Ukraine, State Assay Service and State Agricultural Inspection Service (under liquidation). Uniting the many diversified and unrelated services under one roof was met with significant caution by employees of agencies and some businesses. It was believed that reorganization would also result in a significant reduction in labor force.

The reorganization process was slow. The Head of the SSSFCP was appointed only in July of 2015. The agency's scope of authorities, staff chart, and regional structure were defined in summer and early fall of 2015.

The agency's transfer under Ministry of Agricultural Policy will lead to a separation of the SSSFCP since some of its functions go well beyond the Ministry of Ag scope of authorities. It is not clear whether the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade and the Ministry of Healthcare of Ukraine will get their pre-2014 subdivisions back. FAS/Kyiv will monitor the developments and inform of future authority separations and transfers.

**Post Comment: Technically, the SSSFCP subordination change does not impact other aspects of Ukrainian food safety system. The Ukrainian State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service of Ukraine remains the competent authority for all imported products of plant and animal origin, foods and feeds.** All Laws and Orders issued by competent authorities and the recent processed foods authority transfer from the Sanitary Service of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine to Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service remain acting and valid. All imported food products should follow usual procedure and be accompanied by the papers as stipulated in Ukrainian legislation.