

Egypt's National Food Safety Authority reports on advancements in food strategy

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Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mostafa Madbouly recently met with Dr Tarek El-Houby, Head of the National Food Safety Authority (NFSA), to assess the progress of the Authority's strategic plan for 2023-2026.

As reported by the State Information Service of Egypt, the Prime Minister emphasised the importance of this meeting in monitoring the implementation of the NFSA's plan. The plan aims to strengthen food safety measures to protect public health, foster the growth of Egypt's food and agriculture production sectors, and build trust in Egyptian food products domestically and internationally. It also seeks to promote research, innovation, and technology in food safety, enhance human capacity development, and improve food monitoring systems—all in alignment with Egypt's Vision 2030 for sustainable development.

Dr. Tarek El-Houby highlighted the progress achieved across the five key objectives of the NFSA's strategic plan. He elaborated on the first objective: improving compliance with best practices in food safety among Egyptian producers and operators. This includes establishing technical inspection criteria tailored to specific activities in collaboration with industrial chambers.

To support these efforts, a phased policy has been implemented, beginning with voluntary monitoring and transitioning to assisted compliance, directed compliance, and, eventually, regulatory enforcement. Awareness campaigns targeting both producers and consumers have been launched to promote a culture of food safety. Additionally, specialised inspection protocols have been developed for key export sectors, including filling stations, to enhance the efficiency of food safety oversight.