**A new chapter in Hungarian-Iranian food safety relations**

**A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 22 November 2016 in Tehran by Marton Oravecz, president of the Hungarian Food Chain Safety Office and Jamshid Salamzadeh, head of the Food Safety Research Centre at the Tehran-based Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences.**

Signed as a result of a nearly two-year preparation process, the framework agreement lays out how food safety professionals and researchers of the two countries can cooperate in mutual research projects and how they may participate in each other’s training courses and conferences.

The first results of the long-term cooperation surfaced during the NEBIH delegation’s visit to Iran: the Hungarian professionals will provide their Iranian counterparts with training courses in food toxicology laboratory tests in the near future. During the talks the representatives of the two countries identified the transfer of methodologies for the detection of pesticide residues and veterinary drug residues in food as areas of further cooperation. In addition, NÉBIH offered to share the lessons of the programme aimed at improving conscious customer behaviour with its Iranian partner, who showed great interest.

In the next phase of this cooperation, another Iranian delegation will hold talks in Hungary in January 2017, which will allow the partners to outline further areas of cooperation in safety of the entire food chain.

5 December 2016.

National Food Chain Safety Office