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Abstract No. 114

PaperTitle **The Role of the Dept of Health and Local Authorities in Food Control**

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**ABSTRACT**

In South Africa the control over food is fragmented between a number of authorities and components at national, provincial and local level. Foodstuffs are not always regulated as foodstuffs but also as animals, animal products, plants, plant products or reproductive material. The objectives of such control relate to human health concerns such as food safety and nutrition, as well as to quality and to animal and plant health. Economic and environmental considerations also play a role. The relevant South African legislation and the authorities that are involved in the administration and enforcement of such legislation specifically focusing on the department of health and the local authorities will be discussed