

CODEX COLLOQUIUM FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA REGION

12-14 September 2021

JW Marriott Marquis, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

12 SEPTEMBER 2021

Session 1: Priorities of the MENA Region (Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)

- 9:00 – 9:05** **Workshop Introduction and Context**
Prof. Samuel Godefroy, ULaval – PARERA / GFORSS
- 9:05 – 9:20** Official Opening by Her Excellency Mouza Suhail Al Muhairi, Executive Director Policy & Regulation Sector, Strategy and Performance Sector, Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA), Chair of the National Codex Committee of the United Arab Emirates
- 9:20-9:45** **Introductory Remarks of Partner Organizations**
- *Opening Remarks by the Representative of the Dubai Municipality*
 - *Opening Remarks by Ms. Mariam Eid, CAC Vice Chair and Lead of the Arab Codex Initiative*
 - *Opening Remarks by the Coordinator for the Near East Region, FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Near East*
 - *Opening Remarks by the Representative of the Gulf Standardization Organization (GSO)*

Session 2: Setting the Stage – Workshop Expectations, Current Status of Codex Participation from the Region (Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)

- 9:45 – 10:15** **Introduction of Participants**
Each participant introduces themselves and reviews their expectations from the workshop
- 10:15 – 10:45** **Presentation: Analysis of Past Participation in Codex Proceedings: Codex Technical Committees and the Commission**
Prof. Samuel Godefroy, ULaval – PARERA / GFORSS
- 10:45 – 11:15** **Health Break**
- 11:15 – 12:30** **Facilitated Discussion: How Can We Bolster Participation in Codex Proceedings from the Region**
Reviewing previously identified priorities through previous discussions of CCNEA, as well as through the Arab Food Safety Initiative
- 12:30 – 13:30** **Lunch and Prayer Break**

Session 3: Reviewing Recent Developments Achieved by Codex Technical Committees and Impacts on Food Regulatory Initiatives in the MENA Region (Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)

13:30 – 14:00 **Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF) – Review of Outputs**

Member of the GForSS EWG, GForSS / PARERA

14:00 – 15:00 **Facilitated Discussion: Impacts of CCCF Outputs and Future Agenda Items**

Small Group Discussions

15:00 – 15:30 **Health Break**

15:30 – 16:00 **Reports from Small Groups**

16:00 – 16:30 **Wrap-Up Session (Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)**

Conclusions of the Day and Next Steps / Agenda Items

Session 4: Evening Session - Engagement with Food Industry Sector of the Region - Networking Session (Illy Lounge)
– SESSION FOR PARTICIPANTS PHYSICALLY PRESENT ONLY –

16:30 – 18:30 ➤ *Introduction of Leaders of the MENA region's Food Industry Groups*

➤ *Value of harmonization of Food Regulatory measures*

➤ *Importance of structured preparation to Codex proceedings by delegates from the region*

➤ *Networking Session*

13 SEPTEMBER 2021

Session 1: Preparation for Upcoming Codex Committee – CCFL (Local: Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)

9:00 – 9:45 **Introduction to Upcoming CCFL Agenda – Key Areas of Interest; Discussion of Positions of Countries from the Region**

Each country delegation would offer their input on the key areas of concern for CCFL

9:45 – 10:30 **Discussion Session**

Input from Industry Participants on Challenges Related to Differences in Food Labelling Requirements in the MENA Region and Opportunities of Coordination and Convergence using Codex Guidance

10:30 – 11:00 **Health Break**

Session 2: Outputs of CCGP, CCFICS and Impacts (Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)

11:00 – 11:30 **Introductory Presentation on Outputs of CCGP, CCFICS and Future Directions**

11:30 – 12:30 **Comments from a MENA Participating Delegation on Future CCGP, CCFICS Agenda Items of Interest**

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch and Prayer Break**

Session 3: Outputs of CCRVDF and Enhanced Impact on Management of Residues in the MENA Region (Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)

13:30 – 14:00 **Outputs of Recent CCRVDF**

Expert Working Group – GForSS / PARERA

CCRVDF

- 14:00 – 14:30** ➤ *Challenges Faced by CCRVDF in Advancing its Agenda*
 ➤ *Relevance of CCRVDF Standards to the Region*

14:30 – 15:00 **Health Break**

15:00 – 15:30 **Introduction of a New Initiative – Exploring Methodology Development for MRL Extrapolation to Camelids and Camel Tissues of Relevance to the Region**

**Session 4: Best practices in Preparing for Codex Meetings – Review of Processes and Resources Available
 (Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)**

15:30 – 16:00 **Special Presentation from the Food Safety Team – Dubai Municipality – Digital Journey of Food Safety in Dubai**
Ms. Juhaina Hassan Al Ali, Dubai Municipality

16:00 – 16:30 **Reviewing a Country Experience Related to the Preparation for Effective Participation to Codex Committees**
Country Input: Morocco

16:00 – 17:00 **Reviewing Current Resources, Best Practices from Participating Countries and Opportunities for Change**

17:00 – 18:00 **Health Break**

**Session 5: Towards the Development of Sub Regional Networks - Collective Dinner (Emirates Ballroom)
 – SESSION DEDICATED TO REGULATORS / COMPETENT AUTHORITIES –**

18:00 – 19:30 **Meetings Aiming to Create Sub Regional Networks – Working Dinner**
 ➤ *Arab North Africa*
 ➤ *Gulf Countries and the Near East*

14 SEPTEMBER 2021

**Session 1: Charting a Path Forward for Enhanced Participation in Codex Proceedings by MENA Delegations
 (Emirates Ballroom 5 & 6)**

9:00 – 9:30 **Country Inputs: Areas of Focus for Upcoming Codex Meetings and the CAC**
Each country comes

9:30 – 10:00 **Small Group Discussions: Enhancing Regional Resources for Consistent Preparation for and Participation in Codex Meetings**

10:00 – 10:30 **Sharing of Recommendations by Small Groups**

10:30 – 11:00 **Health Break**

11:00 – 12:00 **Prioritizing Interventions by MENA Codex to Enhance Codex Participation and Relevance from MENA Delegations**
Collective facilitated discussion and recommendations

12:00 – 12:30 **Evaluation and Closing Remarks**