

## Report of the seventh meeting of the Arab National Contact Points for Codex Alimentarius

This coordination meeting was held via remote communication technology on November 15, 2022, to prepare for the upcoming 45th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission CAC45 (21-25 November 2022 - Rome, Italy), as well as in preparation for the 53rd Session of the Codex Technical Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH53) (29 November - 2 December and 8 December 2022 - San Diego, California, United States).

Delegates from 13 Arab countries attended the meeting:

- Jordan
- Bahrain
- Tunisia
- Sudan
- Iraq
- Oman
- Qatar
- Kuwait
- State of Libya
- Egypt
- Morocco
- Mauritania
- Yemen

Representatives of **AIDSMO**, the Global Food Regulatory Science Society (**GForSS**), GCC Standardization Organization (**GSO**).

(See participants list in the attachment)

The coordinator of the Arab Codex initiative within AIDSMO, launched the meeting with introductory remarks, where he welcomed all participants and thanked them for accepting the organization's invitation to participate in the meeting, stressing the importance of convening this meeting, which aims to prepare for the active participation of Arab delegations in the 45 session of the Codex Commission, as well as for the main meeting of the Codex Technical Committee on Food Hygiene at its fifty-third session (CCFH53).

The meeting agenda was approved and included the following items:

| Agenda item | Subject matter  |
|-------------|---|
| 1           | <b>Opening Remarks and adoption of Agenda:</b><br>Coordinator Arab Codex Initiative, AIDSMO                 |
| 2           | <b>Preparation for the 45th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission CAC45</b><br>Prof. Samuel Godefroy |
| 3           | <b>Review and analysis of CCFH53 agenda Items</b><br>Prof. Samuel Godefroy                                  |
| 4           | <b>Codex Trust Fund Project to Support Codex Infrastructure in the Arab Region</b><br>Prof. Samuel Godefroy |
| 5           | <b>Input and Remarks from Arab Codex Contact Points</b>   |

Professor Samuel Godefroy, board president and COO of GForSS, presented an overview of the 45th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and a set of expected highlights in the Codex Alimentarius Commission's discussions. This presentation received noticeable attention from the Arab National Contact Points which consisted of several interventions.

After that, Professor Samuel Godefroy, developed the analysis of the following items of the CCFH53 agenda:

- **Item 6:** Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Safe Use and Reuse of Water in Food Production and Processing at Step 4
- **Item 7:** Discussion paper on revision of the *Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Pathogenic Vibrio Species in Seafood*
- **Item 8:** Discussion paper on revision of the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Viruses in Food

The meeting's agenda items were concluded with a simplified presentation by Professor Samuel Godefroy on the Codex Trust Fund Project, in which he explained the submission opportunities, including changes in eligibility criteria and the possible grouping of multiple country submissions to maximize the possibility of success and to mutualize/harmonize resources. This item was defined by a set of questions from the CCP, where Professor Samuel Godefroy suggested holding a meeting of the CCP in the presence of a representative of the Codex Trust Fund to clarify how to submit the request and the type of support provided.

Lastly, the following recommendations were adopted:

1. Inclusion of all documents and presentations presented during the meeting in the interactive platform of the Arab Codex Initiative ([www.Arabcodex.com](http://www.Arabcodex.com)).
2. Prof. Samuel Godefroy, the representative of the Arab Codex Initiative, organizes a meeting of the Arab CCP participating in the 45th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission on Sunday 20/11/2022, with the aim of coordinating the Arab position on issues of common interest.
3. Holding a coordination meeting for Arab CCP, virtually at a date to be determined later by the Arab Codex Initiative to address in detail the issue of the Codex Trust Fund project to support Codex infrastructure in the Arab region, with Inviting a representative of the trust fund to participate in this meeting.