

## Report of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Arab Codex Contact Points

As part of the implementation of recommendation (4) of the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting report of the Arab Codex Contact Points (CCPs), held virtually on 27/04/2023, which states:

**“Holding the 14<sup>th</sup> coordination meeting for Arab CCPs, virtually on May 10,2023 with the aim of preparations for the main items of interest to the Arab region and included in the agenda of the meeting of the Technical Committee of the Codex Alimentarius on Food labelling (15/05/2023 - 19/05/2023 Gatineau Ottawa, Canada”**

This coordination meeting was held virtually on May 10, 2023, to prepare for the upcoming meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Labeling (CCFL47).

Delegates from 13 Arab countries attended the meeting:

- Jordan
- Bahrein
- Tunisia
- Sudan
- Iraq
- Oman
- Palestine
- Qatar
- Lebanon
- State of Libya
- Egypt
- Morocco
- Yemen

As well as AIDSMO, GForSS and GSO representatives.

The coordinator of the Arab Codex initiative within AIDSMO launched the meeting with introductory remarks. He commenced the meeting by extending a warm welcome to all the participants and expressing

his gratitude for their prompt response to the invitation. The primary goal of the gathering was to prepare for the upcoming Codex Technical Committee on Food Labeling (CCFL47), which is scheduled to be held in Gatineau Ottawa, Canada, from 15 to 19 May 2023.

The meeting agenda was approved and included the following items:

Agenda item	Subject matter
1	<b>Opening Remarks and adoption of Agenda:</b> Coordinator Arab Codex Initiative, AIDSMO
2	<b>Review and analysis of CCFL47 agenda Items</b>
3	<b>Future activities of the Arab Codex Initiative</b>

Professor Samuel Godefroy/ board president and COO of GFoRSS introduced the analysis of the following items of the (CCFL47) agenda:

**Agenda Item 5:** The Proposed **Draft Guidance on Food Labelling** – which includes both an update to the General Standard on Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (GSLPF) on priority allergen labelling and guidance on Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL)

**Agenda Item 6:** The Proposed **Draft Guidelines on the provision of Food Information for Prepackaged Foods Offered via E-Commerce**

**Agenda Item 7:** The Proposed **Draft Guidelines on the Use of Technology to Provide Food Information:** Amendment of the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Food

**Agenda Item 10:** Discussion Paper on **Food Labelling Exemptions in Emergencies**

The meeting included a series of interventions by the Arab Codex Contact Points (CCPs), including the representatives of Jordan, Oman, Libya, Palestine, Lebanon, Egypt, Morocco, and Yemen.

The meeting's agenda items were concluded with the intervention of Arab Codex Initiative Coordinator and Professor Samuel Godefroy, on the future activities of the Arab Codex Initiative, including the Second Arab Codex Colloquium and the 6<sup>th</sup> of the Oman Conference on Food Safety to be held in Musqat, Oman, from 10 to 14 June 2023.

Lastly, the following conclusions and 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. Appreciating the efforts made by Professor Samuel Godefroy for the presentation made during the meeting on the analysis of the agenda items of the meeting (47) of the Codex Committee on Food Labeling (CCFL47) and invited the Arab Codex Contact points to provide the secretariat of the Arab Codex Initiative on behalf of the delegation participating in the meeting (47) of the Codex Committee.
3. Emphasis on the Arab countries that did not nominate representatives in the following electronic working groups, promptly providing the Secretariat of the Arab Codex Initiative with the names of their candidates along with their contact information
  - The electronic Arab working group on the collection and analysis of data on moisture in fresh dates in the Arab region.
  - The electronic Arab working group on the maximum level for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts
  - The electronic Arab working group on Harissa
4. Welcoming the initiative of the Food Safety and Quality Center of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources in the Sultanate of Oman to host the work of the Second Arab Codex Colloquium during the month of June 2023.