

## Report of the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Arab Codex Contact Points

As a follow-up to the activities of the Arab Codex Initiative, a coordination meeting of the Arab Codex Contact points was held virtually on Wednesday, 12 July 2023, with the aim of reviewing the CCPR54 outputs as well as preparing for the main meeting of CCEXEC84.

with the participation of representatives of the following Arab States:

- Jordan
- UAE
- Bahrein
- Algeria
- Sudan
- Syria
- Iraq
- Oman
- Palestine
- Qatar
- 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 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>Presentation of the main agenda items for the 84th Session of the Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC84)</b>
3	<b>Presentation of outcomes of the 54th session of the Codex Alimentarius Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR54)</b>

Professor Samuel Godefroy/ board president and COO of GForSS presented the second item related to the main agenda items for the 84th Session of the Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC84) as follows:

- **Agenda item 2:** Critical Review: This item aims to assist the CAC in the management of standards development through its review of the work of Codex Committees and recommendations.
- **Agenda item 3.1:** Blueprint on the Future of Codex – Final report from CCEXEC subcommittee
- **Agenda item 3.2:** Overview of informal discussions and recommendations on the Future of Codex in the context of Codex@60 celebrations – Secretariat report
- **Agenda item 4.2:** Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031

Subsequently, the Coordinator of the Arab Codex Initiative indicated that the future activities of the Arab Codex Initiative will follow a new approach in the process of presenting the outputs of the Codex committees so that the representative of the Arab country participating in the meetings of the Codex Committees prepares a presentation on the outputs of these meetings and presents it in the meetings of the Arab CCPs.

During this meeting, Dr. Gouda Abdullah Ramadan, the representative of Qatar, gave a comprehensive presentation on the outcomes of the 54th session of the Codex Alimentarius Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR54), which was held in Beijing, China, from June 26 to July 1, 2023, and touched on the following items:

- **Agenda item 4(a):** Matters arising from FAO and WHO
- **Agenda item 4(b):** Matters arising from other international organizations
- **Agenda item 5(a):** Report on items of general consideration arising from the 2022 JMPR meeting
- **Agenda item 6:** MRLs for pesticides in food and feed (at Steps 7 and 4)
- **Agenda item 7:** Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed
- **Agenda item 8:** Coordination of work between CCPR and CCRVDF

- **Agenda item 9:** Management of unsupported compounds without public health concern scheduled for periodic review
- **Agenda item 10:** National registrations of pesticides
- **Agenda item 11:** Establishment of Codex schedules and priority lists of pesticides for evaluation/re-evaluation by JMPR
- **Agenda item 12:** Monitoring the purity and stability of certified reference material of multiclass pesticides during prolonged storage

This item related to the outputs of CCPR54 witnessed two interventions by the representative of the United Arab Emirates and the representative of the Sultanate of Oman, where Dr. Gouda Ramadan was thanked for the rich and comprehensive presentation, and each of them expressed their opinions and the specificities of their countries regarding pesticides, and the Arab countries were invited to coordinate the Arab position in this field in defense of common Arab interests.

**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. Thanking Professor Samuel Godefroy and Dr. Gouda Ramadan for the analytical presentations made.
3. Invite Arab countries to coordinate the Arab position in the field of pesticides in defense of common Arab interests, through the establishment of working groups specialized in this field.