



## FAO/WHO CODEX COORDINATING COMMITTEE NEAR EAST



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

### Report of the 34th Meeting of the Arab / CCNE Codex Contact Points- Chaired by the Regional

#### Coordinator for the Near East

#### Virtually

#### Tuesday March 18, 2025

In preparation for the upcoming sessions of the Codex committees, the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CCNE/Arab Codex Contact Points, chaired by the CCNE and Arab Codex Initiative Coordinators, was held virtually on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, with the participation of representatives of the following countries:

1. Jordan
2. United Arab Emirates
3. Bahrain
4. Tunisia
5. Syria
6. Iraq
7. Oman
8. Palestine
9. Kuwait
10. Libya
11. Egypt
12. Morocco
13. Yemen
14. Iran

In addition to representatives of: GSO, AIDSMO and GFoRSS.

The CCNE and Arab Codex Initiatives coordinators, opened the meeting with some introductory remarks in which they welcomed the participants, expressing their thanks for accepting the invitation to participate in this meeting, and they explained that the meeting is dedicated to establishing the working groups concerned with preparation for the upcoming sessions of the Codex committees.

The meeting agenda was then reviewed and its items approved as follows:

Items
<b>Opening Remarks and adoption of Agenda:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arab Codex Initiative Coordinator</li> <li>• CCNE Coordinator</li> </ul>
<b>Establishment of team tasks related to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)</li> <li>• Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)</li> <li>• Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)</li> <li>• Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)</li> </ul>
<b>Proposals for agenda items of interest to the region in preparation for CCNE12:</b> CCNE Coordinator

Dr. Amine Kassouf expert of the Arab Codex Initiative, presented the second item related to the terms of reference for establishment of the working groups concerned with some Codex committees, namely: the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR), the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF), the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP), and the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH), explained that an expert from the Arab Codex Initiative will supervise the scientific studies and formulate recommendations, along with the participation of experts from government agencies nominated by the relevant Codex Contact points. The teams' working methodology will be based on reviewing the agenda of the relevant committee, identifying priority items for analysis and study by the region, identifying items that require a unified regional position or coordination with other regions, analyzing these items, preparing analytical documents and proposals, and preparing presentations to support discussions during coordination meetings, with the aim of ensuring unified positions and promoting effective participation in the work of the Codex committees.

The Regional Coordinator for the Near East and the Coordinator of the Arab Codex Initiative then invited the meeting participants to form appropriate working groups based on their interests and specializations. This agenda witnessed several discussions and multiple interventions, as participants exchanged views on working mechanisms and coordination between the teams, ensuring the achievement of desired goals and enhancing the effectiveness of cooperation among the various stakeholders.

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)) and on GForSS Website:  
<https://gforss.org/networks/arabcodex/>
2. The Regional Coordinator for the Near East will contact the Codex Contact Points via email to request the submission of nominations for the formation of working groups, in addition to proposing priority agenda items, as part of the preparations for the Twelfth Session of the Codex Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNE).