

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) - [www.codexalimentarius.org](http://www.codexalimentarius.org)

**CL 2023/28/OCS-FH**  
**March 2023**

**TO:** Codex Contact Points  
Contact Points of international organizations having observer status with Codex

**FROM:** Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission,  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

**SUBJECT:** **Request for comments on the Draft Guidelines for the Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts (General Section, Annex I on raw beef and Annex III on raw milk and raw milk cheeses) proposed for adoption at Step 5/8**

**DEADLINE:** 31 August 2023

## BACKGROUND

1. For the background information, please refer to document [REP23/FH](#) para. 75i, and Appendix III.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex Members and Observers are invited to submit comments on the Draft Guidelines for the Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts (General Section, Annex I on raw beef and Annex III on raw milk and raw milk cheeses), which are uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>, as per the guidance below.
3. Comments should address whether the text is ready for adoption or not; and if not, provide the rationale and proposals to facilitate adoption. Comments should be provided in conformity with the *Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts* (Part 3 – *Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts*, Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

## GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

4. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex Members and Observers using the OCS.
5. Contact Points of Codex Members and Observers may login to the OCS and access the document open for comments by selecting “Enter” in the “My reviews” page, available after login to the system.
6. Contact Points of Codex Members and Observers organizations are requested to provide general comments at the document level. Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).
7. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can be found at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/ocs/en/>.
8. For questions on the OCS, please contact [Codex-OCS@fao.org](mailto:Codex-OCS@fao.org).