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 at Step 3 on the proposed draft guidelines on integrated monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance

DEADLINE: 7 September 2021

BACKGROUND
1. TFAMR07 agreed to return the proposed draft Guidelines on Integrated Monitoring and Surveillance of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance to Step 2/3 for re-drafting. Since then the electronic working group further developed the guidelines and two webinars were convened in January 2021 to provide an overview of progress and seek further input from members and observers. A revised version of the guidelines was circulated for comments in April 2021 (CL 2021/33/OCS-AMR) and then discussed at a virtual meeting of the working group (WG) in June 2021. The Chair and co-Chairs of the WG subsequently prepared a revised version of the Guidelines. For further background information and the revised guidelines, please refer to the working document CX/AMR 21/8/6 available on the TFAMR08 webpage.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS
2. Codex members and observers are invited to provide comments at Step 3 on the Guidelines on integrated monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Members and observers are requested to review the guidelines in their entirety while take into consideration agreements made previous sessions of TFAMR, ensuring the guidelines are consistent, stand-alone and future proofed and bearing in mind the revisions made during the WG and the conclusions and recommendations made in the report of the virtual meeting of the WG (CX/AMR 21/8/6).

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS
3. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.

4. 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.

5. Contact Points of Codex members and observers organizations are requested to provide proposed changes and relevant comments/justifications on a specific paragraph (under the categories: editorial, substantive, technical and translation) and/or at the document level (general comments or summary comments). Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).
6. 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/circular-letters/en/.

7. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.