

Codex Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO)
30th Session
Astana, Kazakhstan
3-7 October 2016

To:
Codex Contact Points
Observer Organizations

Dear colleagues,

By now you will have seen the formal invitation and provisional agenda for the 30th session of the CCEURO from the Codex Secretariat on behalf of the Directors-General of FAO and WHO to be held from 3-7 October 2016. It is my pleasure as Coordinator of the CCEURO, to address this personal message to you, also on behalf of our appreciated cohost The Republic of Kazakhstan.

This year the CCEURO-session will be held in the capital of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Astana. This illustrates very well that the European region of Codex Alimentarius stretches from the Atlantic Ocean to Central Asia and the Pacific. I am convinced that the meeting in Astana will be very important in getting to know each other better in the region, in bridging gaps and in strengthening collaboration between the various countries in the region. This, in turn, will help us in promoting our views in a more effective and efficient way in the wider Codex arena. Because, even if the countries of the region have very different backgrounds, the views on food safety have been remarkably similar during the past years.

On the agenda of the coming session of CCEURO there are various important issues. First of all the subject of Antimicrobial Resistance, an issue that is considered a top public health priority and one that Codex has decided to do new work on. Also on the agenda are the prioritization of needs in the region (in relation to emerging and critical food safety issues), the implementation and use of Codex standards in the region and the nomination of a new coordinator as my term will end next summer. I am looking forward to working with you on these issues, and I expect we can make important progress.

Registration facilities at Hotel Rixos President, the meeting venue, will be open on Sunday 2 October from 16:00 hours to 19:00 hours and on Monday 3 October from 08:00 hours. The opening ceremony of CCEURO will begin at 14:00 hours. Monday evening all present are invited by the host and co-host countries for an opening reception followed by a festive dinner in restaurant "Satti".

The CCEURO meeting will on Monday 3 October be preceded by a workshop from 9-12:00 hours on the new Codex Trust Fund (CTF2), especially aimed at the newer members, but open to all (see Annex).

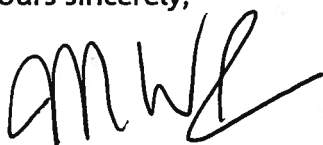
If you haven't done so yet, please make sure you register or are registered as soon as possible by your Codex Contact point through and make your hotel booking. The information for participants and all documents can be accessed through the Codex Alimentarius website (<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings->

<reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCEURO&session=30>). Delegates are kindly requested to bring all documents to the meeting. Only new conference room documents (CRDs) will be made available on paper.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Netherlands Codex Contact Point, Ms. Tanja Åkesson, e-mail: info@codexalimentarius.nl or telephone: +31 70 3784045. For questions in Russian please contact the Kazakh Codex Contact Point, Ms. Bakhytgul Dadanbayeva, e-mail: kazcodex@gmail.com or telephone: +77172 74 19 98.

I wish you a safe journey and a pleasant stay in Astana and look forward to meet you in Kazakhstan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MWE', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr Martijn Weijtens,
Coordinator CCEURO