



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES  
Thirty-first Session**

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**INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES OF FAO AND WHO RELEVANT TO THE WORK OF CCGP**

Prepared by FAO and WHO

## Introduction

1. This paper presents information on activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) that could be of interest or relevant to the work of CCGP.

## Matters arising jointly from FAO and WHO:

### *The First FAO/WHO/AU International Food Safety Conference and the FAO/WHO/WTO International Forum on Food Safety and Trade*

2. Ongoing challenges in climate, global food production and supply systems affect consumers, industry and the planet itself. These changes can have an impact on food safety systems and pose sustainability and development challenges. This is a pivotal moment demanding urgent reflection on actions needed to bolster food safety giving the impetus for the two international meetings.

3. FAO, WHO and African Union (AU) will hold the FAO/WHO/AU International Food Safety Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 12-13 February, 2019. At this meeting, the focus will be on the food safety strategies and approaches to align across sectors and borders, reinforcing efforts to reach the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and supporting the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition.

4. FAO, WHO and World Trade Organization (WTO) will hold the FAO/WHO/WTO International Forum on Food Safety and Trade in Geneva, Switzerland on 23-24 April, 2019 to address the trade-related aspects and challenges of food safety.

5. The objectives of the two meetings are to identify the key actions and strategies to address current and future challenges to food safety globally and to strengthen commitment at the highest political level to scale up food safety in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

6. Strategic actions will be defined through Ministerial panels involving health, trade and agriculture officials, and expert thematic sessions will cover:

- the burden of foodborne disease and the benefits of investing in safe foods;
- safe and sustainable food systems in an era of accelerated climate change;
- science, innovation and digital transformation at the service of food safety;
- empowering consumers to make healthy choices and support sustainable food systems

More information is available at: <https://www.who.int/food-safety/international-food-safety-conference/>

## **World Food Safety Day**

7. On 20 December 2018, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming a World Food Safety Day. The first World Food Safety Day will be celebrated on 7 June 2019.

8. FAO and WHO will continue the campaign on promoting food safety. Member states also use these opportunities to celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of food safety among all relevant stakeholders such as governments, food producers, food industries and consumers.

## **Matters arising from FAO**

9. As reported to CAC 41 and earlier, FAO's governing bodies continue to make progress in finding new ways to provide enhanced funding for food safety scientific advice. The 159<sup>th</sup> and 160<sup>th</sup> meeting of the FAO Council strongly confirmed the desire of FAO members to develop a sustainable funding solution for the food safety scientific advice program.

## **Matters arising from WHO**

### ***13<sup>th</sup> General Programme of Work (GPW13)***

10. The WHO Impact Framework aims to implement a key focus of the 13<sup>th</sup> General Programme of Work (GPW13): measurable impact for people at the country level. As such, it has the potential to transform the way WHO works by anchoring its commitments in measurable results, focusing on country impacts and thereby increasing the likelihood that the world will achieve the GPW13's "Triple Billion" targets.

11. The Triple Billion targets are: 1 billion more people with universal health coverage, 1 billion better protected from health emergencies, and 1 billion enjoying better health and well-being primarily through multisectoral policy, advocacy and regulation. Each of the triple billion targets in the GPW13 will be measured with composite indices.

12. The WHO Impact Framework strategically implements the SDGs, especially but not limited to SDG 3 on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being. The Framework is a three-layer measurement system: i) an over-arching and comparable measure of progress reported by the healthy life expectancy (HALE) indicator connecting the triple billion targets; ii) the triple billion targets, which focus on universal health coverage (UHC), health emergencies and healthier populations, respectively; and iii) 46 programmatic targets and related indicators. More information is available at: <https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do/gpw-thirteen-consultation/en/>

### ***Coordination and Communication between IARC and WHO/HQ***

13. At the IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) Governing Council Meeting on 16-18 May 2018<sup>1</sup>, coordination and communication mechanisms between IARC and WHO/HQ at management and working level have been discussed.

14. In terms of the collaboration between IARC and WHO/HQ, Interim Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was endorsed as a basis for improving coordination between IARC and WHO/HQ on assessments of hazards and risks, and on the communication. The SOP will be updated based on further consultation and experience gained in its application<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://governance.iarc.fr/GC/GC60/En/Docs/GC60\\_R1toR21.pdf](http://governance.iarc.fr/GC/GC60/En/Docs/GC60_R1toR21.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://governance.iarc.fr/GC/GC60/En/Docs/GC60\\_13\\_CoordinationWHO.pdf](http://governance.iarc.fr/GC/GC60/En/Docs/GC60_13_CoordinationWHO.pdf)