

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2019/93/OCS-CCFICS
October 2019

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 6 on the Draft Principles and Guidelines for the assessment and use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (vTPA) programmes**

DEADLINE: **31 December 2019**

BACKGROUND

1. For the background information, please refer to document [REP 19/CCFICS](#) para 53 and Appendix III and [REP19/CAC](#) (paras 74 and 79).
2. Please note that the comments submitted would provide further inputs to the ongoing work by the EWG led by the UK, Canada and Mexico

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

3. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments at Step 6 on the **Draft Principles and Guidelines for the assessment and use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (vTPA) programmes**, which is uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>, as per the guidance below.

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 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 \(FAQs\)](#).
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.