



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization



Codex Alimentarius Commission

Webinar

Progressing Codex standards during a global pandemic

28th July 12-14h CET

The ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic has brought challenges to our way of living, interacting and working. The way we have worked internationally to date has been turned on its head. With the cancellation of almost all physical Codex meetings for 2020, it is now essential to look to new ways of continuing the work. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of food safety and having access to and capacity to implement Codex standards to ensure food can continue to be safely produced and transported to consumers around the world.

Pre-register for the webinar

https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EFWeVPk2TeybWwr-yuFRkQ

The meeting will also be webcast

<http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/5335/icode/>

#CodexCAC43

This event will have simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS



The Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 was developed before the current pandemic. Nevertheless, its vision of Codex being “where the world comes together to create food safety and quality standards to protect everyone everywhere” has never been more relevant. It is simply the mechanisms by which we come together that need to change in these days of physical distancing and travel restrictions.

The Codex Secretariat has used all tools at its disposal to keep Codex working: we convened weekly meetings with the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons of the CAC; a series of successful virtual informal meetings with the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Chairpersons and the host secretariats of subsidiary bodies and all Codex regions.

These meetings demonstrated that despite the circumstances we are still able to come together, and even make it possible for more of our Members to actively join Codex discussions. As a result, CCEXEC79 met virtually for the first time between 13 and 20 July 2020 and discussions are underway on convening a virtual meeting of CAC43 before the end of the year.

The increase in use of virtual ways of working and staying connected has been a positive side-effect of the ongoing pandemic. But with every new approach also come concerns and challenges, including in the case of a virtual session of CAC43. However, the core values of Codex – inclusiveness, collaboration, consensus building and transparency – underpin the organization and implementation of all Codex work, virtual or otherwise. This webinar will address the current virtual mechanisms of Codex with an emphasis on CAC43, providing information on the approach and answering your questions.



Programme

Moderator: Sarah Cahill

12.00	Opening Remarks - Mr Guilherme Da Costa, Chairperson of the CAC.
12.10	A virtual meeting of CAC - what will it entail and what's your role – Tom Heilandt Codex Secretary.
12.20	Questions (via chat) and answers.
12.40	Virtual Meeting participation – Top Tips for intervening online – David Massey.
12.50	Questions (via chat) and answers.
13.00	Maintaining the scientific basis of Codex – Francesco Branca, WHO.
13.10	Panel Discussion – Codex and the pandemic – Maintaining momentum and building resilience. <i>Codex Secretary Tom Heilandt and guests will discuss the opportunities and challenges of virtual working, reflect on the recent virtual session of the CCEXEC and what we can learn from it for the future and consider comments and questions from the participants to the webinar.</i>
13.55	Close of meeting - Tom Heilandt.