An informal virtual meeting of the Coordinating Committee for the Near East

Wednesday, 7 April 2021
3:00 PM (Rome and Cairo)
3:00 PM (Beirut and Riyadh)
4:30 PM (Tehran)
1:00 PM (Tunisia)

Simultaneous interpretation is available in English, French and Arabic

2 - 3 hours

via “Zoom”

Purpose

To bring members of the region together to review ongoing work and strengthen communication and collaboration in the region.

Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction by Regional Coordinator</td>
<td>3-5 mins.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Speech by CEO of Saudi Food &amp; Drug Authority - the host</td>
<td>5 mins.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Matters related to Codex - Update</td>
<td>3-5 mins.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Agenda and Expectations for the region</td>
<td>15 mins.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>CCNE workplan - Update and discussion</td>
<td>30 mins.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Communication plan between countries in the region and discussion</td>
<td>20 mins.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Briefing on the status of the Electronic Working Groups (EWGs) on Mammoul and food additives established by CCNE10</td>
<td>30 mins.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>FAO and WHO Food Safety Strategies - Update</td>
<td>20 mins.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>World Food Safety Day 2021</td>
<td>10 mins.</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Final Discussion and Moving Forward</td>
<td>10 mins.</td>
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**Meeting Objectives**

- Develop and strengthen Codex Contact Points and National Codex Committees.
- Strengthen communication and coordination amongst CCNE members, with other regions and the Codex Secretariat.
- Strengthen the exchange of scientific and technical expertise amongst experienced and less experienced countries in the region.
- Promote use of Codex standards as a basis for national legislation and regulations.
- Develop and/or review Codex standards taking into account regional interests.
- Create awareness on the updated regional work plan to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan, including FAO and WHO led initiatives.
- Update Member Countries on FAO and WHO Food Safety Strategies.
- Collect all the relevant opinions and overviews from the region members.

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**REGISTERING AND JOINING MEETING**

To ensure your ability to join this meeting, it is important to register yourself in advance for the meeting via Zoom at the following link: https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwodOiorDgiG9ANSVybOjhfysKIN0hWbDLK

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Please include your name, e-mail, organization or country. After you register, you will receive an email with details on how to join the meeting on April 7th. Please keep this message as it is for each participant. Everyone who wants to join the meeting must register in order to participate. The meeting will be open 15 minutes before its official time to help the participants if needed.

**PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES**

- Ensure that you have downloaded the latest version of zoom. For more information visit https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362233-Upgrade-update-to-the-latest-version
- Mute your microphone when not speaking.
- Raise your hand when you attempt to speak, so the chairman can ensure the right of everyone to speak (this function is available in the panel at the bottom of the page by clicking on the Reactions button and then choosing the hand-shaped icon).
- Click the “Chat” button for proposing & ask questions.
- Refer to the attached instructions to help you participating in the meeting, especially regarding the use of interpretation channels.

For more information on preparing for and joining Codex Virtual Meetings click here for the Quick Start Guide and here for Guidance for Participants to Virtual Meetings of Codex Subsidiary Bodies.

The Zoom help center page for using zoom is available at the following link: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us

**Note:** The discussions will be recorded to facilitate the preparation of the virtual meeting minutes in English only.