**EWG Invitation**

This message is sent on behalf of Chile, France, New Zealand and the United States of America.

**Title**  
Guidelines for the Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing *E. Coli* (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts

**Committee**  
Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

**Session**  
51st Session

**Chair of EWG**  
Chile

**Co-Chairs**  
France, New Zealand and the United States of America

**Working Languages**  
English

**Description of work**  
CCFH51 agreed to establish an EWG to:

i. redraft the General Section, Raw Beef Annex, and Fresh Leafy Vegetables Annex of CX/FH 19/51/8 based on written comments submitted to CCH51;

ii. update the Raw Beef Annex in CX/FH 19/51/8 with any additional information on interventions relevant to control of STEC in raw beef and submit to JEMRA prior to June 2020;

iii. draft an annex on Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses describing interventions relevant to control of STEC in these foods and submit to JEMRA prior to June 2020;

iv. based on JEMRA feedback, revise the Annexes, as necessary. (REP20/FH, para 109)

**Timetable for work**  
The tentative timetable for the work is as follows:

**31 January 2020** – Due date for answer to the invitation and establish EWG members.

**31 July 2020** – Revised Guidelines submitted to Codex Secretariat.

With the following dates for each part of the Draft Guideline:

1. **General Part**  
   6 March 2020 – 1st redraft of General Section posted on the Forum for EWG comments.  
   30 April 2020 – comments due for EWG members on 1st redraft  
   30 May 2020 – 2nd Redraft of General Section posted on the Forum for EWG comments.  
   30 June 2020 - comments due for EWG members on 2nd Draft

2. **Raw Beef Annex**  
   28 February 2020 - redraft of the Raw Beef Annex posted on the Forum for EWG comments;  
   30 March 2020 – comments due from the EWG on the update of the Raw Beef Annex  
   30 April 2020 – Updated annex on Raw Beef submitted to JEMRA

3. **Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses Annex**  
   16 March 2020 - 1st draft of an annex on Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses posted on Forum for EWG comments  
   20 April 2020 - comments due from EWG members on the 1st draft of annex on Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses  
   11 May 2020 – Annex on Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses submitted to JEMRA.
4. **Fresh Leafy Vegetables Annex**
   30 March 2020 – 1st redraft of Fresh Leafy Vegetables annex posted on the Forum for EWG comments
   30 April 2020 - comments due from the EWG on Fresh Leafy Vegetables annex.
   29 May 2020 – 2nd redraft of Fresh Leafy Vegetables annex posted on the Forum for EWG comments
   22 June 2020 - comments due from the EWG on Fresh Leafy Vegetables annex.

**Email for registration** constanza.vergara@achipia.gob.cl

**Registration deadline** 31 January 2020

**EWG online platform** Yes ☒ No ☐

Codex Members and Observers are invited to register their experts for this Electronic Working Group. When there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as the official representative to participate in the EWG.

Applications should be sent through the Codex Contact Point (CCP) of the member or recognized observer organization in an email detailing:

- participant’s name
- official title or position
- organization or country
- email address.

**The EWG platform**


Usergroup name: CCFH-STEC2020

The platform will require members to login. New participants to the platform should first register. ([online guide](http://forum.codex-alimentarius.net/index.php), [video tutorial](http://forum.codex-alimentarius.net/index.php))

Those participants who have previously registered on the platform can request to join the usergroup directly.

The EWG chair will give participants access to the group online once they have verified their credentials so please ensure that you follow the procedure for applications and email the chair through your CCP even if you are already registered on the platform.

We look forward to your participation.

**Constanza Vergara**
Chilean Food Safety and Quality Agency
Ministry of Agriculture
Chile