

The First FAO/WHO/AU
International Food Safety Conference
ADDIS ABABA, 12–13 February 2019

PROGRAMME

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The Conference will include technical panel presentations and discussions as well as ministerial panels involving Health, Trade and Agriculture officials and experts to address key food safety issues and strategic actions. Discussions will focus on sharing perspectives, emerging problems and best practice examples.

The thematic sessions will cover:

- The burden of foodborne diseases and the benefits of investing in safe food;
- 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.

Each of the four themes will feature five topics – with speakers giving short presentations during the Conference and publishing papers prior to the meeting. The background papers are available on the Conference website:

www.who.int/food-safety/international-food-safety-conference

THE FUTURE OF FOOD SAFETY

Transforming knowledge into
action for people, economies
and the environment

OBJECTIVES

Identify key actions and
strategies to address current
and future challenges to food
safety globally

Strengthen commitment at
the highest political level to
scale up food safety in the
2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development



12 FEBRUARY

10:00-11:30

OPENING SESSION

Ibrahim Assane Mayaki,
Chief Executive Officer, New Partnership
for Africa's Development (NEPAD) –
Conference Chairperson

Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko,
African Union Commissioner for Rural
Economy and Agriculture

José Graziano da Silva,
FAO Director-General

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus,
WHO Director-General

Roberto Azevêdo,
WTO Director-General

Moussa Faki Mahamat,
African Union Commission Chairperson

Abiy Ahmed,
Prime Minister of Ethiopia

12:00-13:00

OPENING MINISTERIAL PANEL

OVERCOMING FOOD SAFETY CHALLENGES

Oumer Hussein, Minister of Agriculture,
Ethiopia

Noel Holder, Minister of Agriculture, Guyana

Datuk Seri, Minister of Health, Malaysia

Ezechiel Joseph, Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural
Resources and Co-operatives, Saint Lucia

Peter Bayuku Conteh, Minister of Trade
and Industry, Sierra Leone

Sun Meijun, Vice Minister, State
Administration of Market Regulation, China

Ashraf Esmael Mohamed Afifi,
First Deputy Minister - Chairman of the
Board of the Egyptian Organization for
Standardization and Quality, Egypt

Erkinbek Choduev, Deputy Minister of
Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration,
Kyrgyz Republic

MODERATOR:

Girum Chala, Journalist, China Global
Television Network (CGTN), Ethiopia

14:30-16:30

THEMATIC SESSION 1

THE BURDEN OF FOODBORNE DISEASES
AND THE BENEFITS OF INVESTING IN
SAFE FOOD

**The public health burden of unsafe
foods: a need for global commitment**

Arie Hendrik Havelaar, Professor,
University of Florida, USA

**Economic case for investments in
food safety**

Steven Jaffee, Lead Agricultural Economist,
World Bank Group

**Leveraging private sector investment
for safe value chains**

Ed Mabaya, Manager, African Development
Bank

**People-focussed food safety
investment in low- and middle-income
countries**

John McDermott, Director of CGIAR
Research Program on Agriculture for
Nutrition and Health (A4NH), International
Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

**The need for integrated approaches to
address food safety risk – the case of
mycotoxins**

Chibundu Ezekiel, Senior Postdoctoral
Researcher, Babcock University, Nigeria

MODERATOR:

Nathan Belete, Agriculture Global Practice
Manager, World Bank Group

16:30-18:30

THEMATIC SESSION 2

SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS
IN AN ERA OF ACCELERATED
CLIMATE CHANGE

**Climate change and implications for
food safety**

Cristina Tirado-von der Pahlen, Director
of International Climate Initiative, Loyola
Marymount University, USA

**Safe, sustainable crop production:
meeting the goals**

Howard-Yana Shapiro, Chief Agricultural
Officer, Mars Inc., USA

**Safe and sustainable livestock
production**

Tim McAllister, Principal Research Scientist,
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

**Safe and sustainable aquaculture
intensification**

José Miguel Burgos, Researcher, University
of Chile and former Director Sernapesca

Alternative food and feed products

Eva Maria Binder, Chief Research Officer,
ERBER Group, Austria

MODERATOR:

Abebe Haile-Gabriel, Assistant Director-
General and Regional Representative for
Africa, FAO

18:30-19:30

PANEL DISCUSSION

CIVIL SOCIETY AND PRIVATE SECTOR

Leon Gorris, Head of Food Safety,
International Union of Food Science and
Technology (IUFOST)

Cris Muyunda, CSO Coordinator,
Comprehensive Africa Agriculture
Development Programme (CAADP)

Samuel Godefroy, Professor, Laval
University, Canada

Laura Fernández Celemin, Director-
General, European Food Information Council
(EUFIC)

Owen Fraser, President, Association of
Analytical Communities (AOAC International),
Sub-Saharan Africa Section

Greg S. Garrett, Director, Food Policy and
Financing, Global Alliance for Improved
Nutrition (GAIN)

Barbara Kowalczyk, Co-founder and former
CEO of the Center for Foodborne Illness
Research & Prevention (CFI), USA

David Crean, Vice President, Corporate
R&D, Mars Inc., USA

MODERATOR:

Girum Chala, CGTN Journalist, Ethiopia

19:30-21:30

CONFERENCE RECEPTION

Multipurpose Hall

All events will be held in the **Nelson Mandela Hall** except where specified.

For updated and more extensive programme information, please visit:

www.who.int/food-safety/international-food-safety-conference

13 FEBRUARY

9:00-11:00

THEMATIC SESSION 3

SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AT THE SERVICE OF FOOD SAFETY

Whole genome sequencing – paving the way forward globally to better understand food systems

Juno Thomas, Head of the Centre for Enteric Diseases, National Institute for Communicable Diseases, South Africa

Novel food production

Aideen McKeivitt, Professor, University College Dublin, Ireland

Novel analytical methods and models for enhanced food safety

Steven Musser, Deputy Center Director of Scientific Operations, Food and Drug Administration, USA

Policy considerations for the development and adoption of technologies for local food value chains

Kennedy Bomfeh, Food Scientist, University of Ghana

Digital transformation of the food system

Mark Booth, Chief Executive Officer, Food Standards Australia and New Zealand

MODERATOR:

Robert van Gorcom, Director of the Food Safety Research Institute (RIKILT), Wageningen University & Research, The Netherlands

11:30-13:30

THEMATIC SESSION 4

EMPOWERING CONSUMERS TO MAKE HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES AND SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

Understanding food safety risks and uncertainties and meeting citizens' expectations as food systems become more complex

Barbara Gallani, Head of Communication, Engagement and Cooperation, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

Effective communication and engagement with the public about food safety and quality issues in the digital age

Lynn Frewer, Professor, Newcastle University, UK

Dietary transitions and the triple burden of malnutrition necessitate action

Francesco Branca, Director of the Department of Nutrition for Health and Development, WHO

Harnessing market drivers of food safety

Stephen Mbithi, Technical Advisor and former Chief Executive Officer of the Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya

Sharing responsibility for consumer empowerment

Rebecca Berner, Institutional Development Director, Consumers International, Mexico

MODERATOR:

Svetlana Akseleod, Assistant Director-General, Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health, WHO

14:30-15:30

SIDE EVENT:

AFRICAN UNION SPECIAL EVENT ON TRADE OF SAFE FOOD IN FREE TRADE AREAS

15:30-16:00

SUMMARY OF THE THEMATIC SESSIONS

Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) – Conference Chairperson

16:00-17:00

PANEL DISCUSSION

POLICY MAKERS AND HEADS OF NATIONAL AGENCIES

Pawan Agarwal, Chief Executive Officer, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, India

Jorge Dal Bianco, National Directorate for Food Safety and Quality (DNICA), Argentina

Sètondji Epiphane Hossou, Director General, Benin Food Safety Agency (ABSSA), Benin

Zainab Jallow, Director General, Food Safety and Quality Authority, Gambia

Bernhard Kühnle, Director-General for Food Safety and Animal Health, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Germany

Mohammad Mahfuzul Hoque, Chairman, Bangladesh Food Safety Authority, Ministry of Food, Bangladesh

Hussein Mansour, Chairman of the National Food Safety Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Egypt

Pietro Noè, Director, Directorate General for Food, Hygiene and Safety and Nutrition, Ministry of Health, Italy

Vyacheslav Y. Smolenskiy, Deputy Head of Rosпотребнадзор, Russian Federation

MODERATOR:

Mary Lou Valdez, Associate Commissioner for International Programs, Office of International Programs, Food and Drug Administration, USA

17:00-18:00

PANEL DISCUSSION

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Jimmy Smith, Director-General, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director-General, Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

Aurelia Patrizia Calabrò, Representative and Director of the Regional Hub in Ethiopia, UNIDO

Simeon Ehui, Director of Food and Agriculture Global Practice, World Bank Group

Matthew Hudson, Director, DG Health and Food Safety, European Commission

Stephanie Hochstetter, Director-Rome Based Agencies Coordination, World Food Programme

MODERATOR:

Girum Chala, CGTN Journalist, Ethiopia

18:00-19:00

CLOSING SESSION

Summary of key messages from the panels

Addis Ababa Statement on the Future of Food Safety

Closing remarks

THE FIRST FAO/WHO/AU INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE EXHIBITION

Exhibitions will be held in “Lobby A” and “Lobby D” of the African Union Commission Headquarters on 12-13 February 2019 from 9:00 to 19:00. The following organizations will showcase their food safe initiatives and share information materials:

- African Regional Economic Communities
- African Union
- African Union Member States
- Ethiopia Ministry of Health
- European Union
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius
- FAO/WHO International Network of Food Safety Authorities (INFOSAN)
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- Global Food Safety Partnership (GFSP)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- World Bank Group
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
- World Trade Organization (WTO) / Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)

THE FIRST FAO/WHO/AU INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE IS ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



WORLD BANK GROUP



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Protecting animals, preserving our future

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of Health



Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and
Food Quality of the Netherlands



Government
of Norway

THE FUTURE OF FOOD SAFETY

Addis Ababa, 12–13 February 2019
The First FAO/WHO/AU International Food Safety Conference

Geneva, 23–24 April 2019
The FAO/WHO/WTO International Forum on Food Safety and Trade



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