



**Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations**

Call for presenters

**FAO and the Israeli Ministry of Health Stakeholder roundtable meeting  
Cell-based food and the future of food security and food safety**

Application deadline: 18 July 2022

**FAO and the Israeli Ministry of Health Stakeholder roundtable meeting**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with the Israeli Ministry of Health (MoH), is organizing a one-day global stakeholder roundtable meeting on the topic of cell-based food on Wednesday, 7 September 2022 in Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel.

**Background**

As the global demand for proteins grows and more consumers seek to reduce their consumption of animal origin products, many in the food sector are looking into opportunities to expand the sources of proteins that can be both environmentally sustainable and nutritionally sound. Cell-based food, also often called cultured/cultivated meat, is considered an option.

Since the initial studies in the early 2000s, methodologies for cell-based food production, also known as cellular agriculture, have been well characterized. In 2013, the first beef burger produced through this technology was presented to the world. In December 2020, the first cell-based chicken nuggets were approved in Singapore. Currently there are more than 100 start-ups developing various cell-based products around the world. This commercial landscape is fast expanding with many types of products and commodities such as various meats, poultry, fish, aquatic products, dairy and eggs in the pipeline for commercialization.

FAO considers that the time is ripe to initiate the discussion on the potential benefits of this type of food. In particular, it is important for FAO as well as its Members to engage in the proactive sharing of relevant knowledge and information among various stakeholders to identify concrete ways to assure the safety of cell-based food products for consumers.

**Call for presenters**

In collaboration with the MoH of Israel, FAO will organize a global stakeholder roundtable meeting on 7 September 2022 in Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel. Cell-based food developers, producers and researchers from various parts of the world are invited to respond to the call for presenters. A total of 8 – 16 presenters will be selected based on the criteria below to deliver presentations at the meeting.

**Benefits of participation**

- The meeting will provide an opportunity for cell-based food producers to network.
- There is a study tour being planned by the MoH of Israel for participants to visit a large cell-based food production facility in Israel.
- The report of the meeting will include each presentation so that various cell-based food products and respective potentially unique elements can be considered for the future work of FAO, in particular for the expert consultation scheduled in November 2022.
- All presenters and their teams will be acknowledged if/when they are referred to the FAO milestone technical publication on this topic to be published in 2023.

**Travel expenses and support**

Note that travel expenses for the private sector presenters will not be compensated by FAO. Partial travel support may be made available on request for presenters from Academia/Universities.

### Presenter selection criteria

- Representability of having/producing original cell-based food product(s). While different stages of development can be considered as “having the original product(s)”, hypothetical/theoretical products may be excluded.
- Availability to give an overview of the production steps, while protecting the relevant Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs).
- Preparedness on scientific data/information to discuss potential benefits.
- Ability to discuss scientific methodologies to assure food safety at the production/facility level. This can consider both preventative methods and assurance/testing methods.
- Availability to physically present and actively participate in all the sessions of the one-day meeting.
- Up to 3 speakers from the same organization may be admitted, while one speaker per presentation is ideal.
- Considerations will be given to select a wide variety of different cell-based food products and technologies.
- Geographical and gender balance will also be considered for the final selection.
- No observers/media will be admitted to the meeting.

### Application process

Interested applicants can visit <https://forms.office.com/r/iQ8Q9TtMXF> to fill in the application form. The deadline to apply is **18 July 2022**. The final selection will be made and the result will be informed to the successful applicants only, before 1 August 2022.

### Tentative agenda

#	Time	Item	Note
1.	08.00 – 09.00	Registration	All
		Networking/coffee	
2.	09.00 – 09.15	Opening session	MoH of Israel
3.	09.15 – 09.30	Objectives and relevant FAO activities	FAO
4.	09.30 – 10.30	2-4 Speakers	15/30 min each
5.	10.30 – 11.00	Coffee/tea break	All
6.	11.00 – 12.00	2-4 Speakers	15/30 min each
7.	12.00 – 13.00	Lunch	All
8.	13.00 – 14.00	Special session on communication / consumer tasting strategies	FAO to facilitate
9.	14.00 – 15.00	2-4 Speakers	15/30 min each
10.	15.00 – 15.30	Coffee/tea break	All
11.	15.30 – 16.30	2-4 Speakers	15/30 min each
12.	16.30 – 17.00	Closing session	MoH of Israel