TO: Codex Contact Points  
Contact Points of international organizations having observer status with Codex  

FROM: Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission,  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme  

SUBJECT: Request for comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft guidelines for the control of STEC in raw beef, fresh leafy vegetables, raw milk and raw milk cheeses, and sprouts  

DEADLINE: 21 January 2022  

BACKGROUND  
1. For background information, please refer to CX/FH 22/52/7.  

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS  
2. Codex Members and Observers are invited to submit comments on the proposed draft guidelines for control of STEC in raw beef, fresh leafy vegetables, raw milk and raw milk cheeses, and sprouts, which are uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/, as per the guidance below.  
3. In submitting comments on the above, Codex Members and Observers are invited to consider the summary of discussion and conclusions (paragraphs 1 – 5 and Appendix I), the recommendations outlined in paragraph 6, i.e. to provide comments on the proposed draft Guidelines and its annexes and, to provide inputs on specific points outlined in paragraph 6 i and ii.  

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS  
4. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.  
5. Contact Points of Codex members and observers may login to the OCS and access the document open for comments by selecting “Enter” in the “My reviews” page, available after login to the system.  
6. Contact Points of Codex members and observers organizations are requested to provide proposed changes and relevant comments/justifications on a specific paragraph (under the categories: editorial, substantive, technical and translation) and/or at the document level (general comments or summary comments). Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS Frequent Asked Questions (FAQs).  
7. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can be found at the following link: http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/.  
8. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.