



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

**CODEX**  
**ALIMENTARIUS**  
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS

🕒 **Thursday**  
**28 November 2024**  
13:05-14:15 CET

# Addressing Food Safety Challenges from the Production of Cell-based Foods and the Role of Codex

🗨️ Languages:  
English only

CICG, Amphithéâtre D - Geneva, Switzerland

**CAC47 Side Event**

**CAC47**

## Objective

Cell-based food production, or the field of growing animal agricultural products directly from animal cell cultures instead of using livestock (also known as cell-cultured meat or cultivated meat), has been explored as a potentially sustainable option to complement the conventional livestock agricultural system. However, this new food production system may also pose food safety challenges that food agencies will need to pay attention to.

This side event aims to discuss the important roles Codex could play in addressing emerging food safety issues on cell-based foods in a timely manner. The session provides an overview of the FAO/WHO work on cell-based foods and how international standardization may be useful in addressing challenges on ensuring the safety of these new foods. The session will also feature the recent publications on "[Food safety aspects of cell-based food](#)" and "[Addressing the safety of new food sources and production systems](#)". A panel discussion would be held for food agencies to share about the relevance of cell-based food production, regulatory situations and identify possible collaborative actions for the Members to consider undertaking.

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**13:05-13:15** Overview of Cell-based food production  
*This presentation will provide an overview on what cell-based meats are being considered to supplement the global food supply*

**13:15-13:25** Saudi Arabia's Regulatory Framework for Novel Food  
*Saudi Arabia will share more details on their regulatory framework on novel foods and the importance of advancing regulations in cell-based meats*

**13:25-13:35** Food safety challenges related to cell-based food production  
*Singapore will share on food safety challenges related to cell-based foods and opportunities suitable for international standardization.*

### Speakers:

Masami Takeuchi,  
Food Safety Officer, FAO

Hind Alajaji,  
Senior Standards and Regulation  
Specialist, Saudi Food and Drug  
Authority (SFDA), Saudi Arabia

Francesca Ong,  
Scientist, Singapore Food Agency  
(SFA)



▲  
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13:35-14:05 Panel Discussion on role of Codex in Addressing Food Safety Challenges from the Production of Cell-based Foods  
*The panel would share about their own experiences in regulating cell-based meats and highlight the role that Codex could take to address the emerging food safety challenges, and how these could help in Members' own risk management activities.*

**Speakers:**

Christel Leehumis,  
General-Manager – Science and Risk Assessment, FSANZ

Diego Varela Maino,  
Executive Secretary ACHIPIA

Eric Stevens,  
International Policy Analyst,  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
(US FDA)

Rebecca Sudworth, Director of  
Policy, Food Standards Agency,  
United Kingdom (FSA UK)

Jongseok Park, Director-General,  
Food Standard Planning Office,  
Ministry of Food and Drug Safety  
(MFDS), Republic of Korea

Hind Alajaji, Senior Standard and  
Regulation Specialist, Saudi Food  
and Drug Authority (SFDA), Saudi  
Arabia

Moderated by Low Teng Yong,  
Director, Singapore Food Agency  
(SFA)

14:05-14:15 Q&A from audience

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**Resources**

- FAO Food Safety and Quality - Cell-based food. <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/crosscutting-and-emerging-issues/cell-based-food/>

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**Publications**

- FAO Thinking about the future of food safety. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb8667en>
  - FAO & WHO. 2023. Food safety aspects of cell-based food. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc4855en>
  - Tan, Y. Q., Ong, H. C., Yong, A. M. H., Fattori, V., & Mukherjee, K. 2024. Addressing the safety of new food sources and production systems. *Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety*, 23(3): e13341. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1541-4337.13341>
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