

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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27 December 2024

Dear Codex Members and Observers,

We are honoured and humbled to have been elected as Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. We extend our gratitude to Codex Members for placing your trust in us and we wanted to take this early opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to you and to outline our proposed ways of working.

We promise to maintain utmost impartiality, and to work diligently to deliver an inclusive, transparent and resilient Codex. We will endeavour to ensure Codex remains the foundation of the global food system, protecting consumer health, facilitating fair trade practices, and addressing emerging challenges with science-based solutions. We will work towards fostering unity and collaboration of all Members, by engaging Members, working closely with committee chairpersons and the Codex Secretariat to understand the issues and agree on the most appropriate options that would facilitate resolution in a consensual manner. We will work tirelessly to ensure that every voice is heard, and every contribution is valued, fostering a spirit of open dialogue and consensus that drives our mission forward.

We recognize our Observer Organizations as an integral part of the Codex family. The invaluable contributions through provision of technical expertise, advocacy for diverse interests, as well as your contribution to consensus building and facilitating use of Codex texts in international trade, is greatly appreciated. As Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons, we support your continued involvement in Codex's work through participation in committees and taskforces as you share your expertise, knowledge and insights.

In the run-up to the elections, we had a common theme of strengthening national Codex capacities, promoting participation, or increasing awareness and use of Codex standards. These aspirations are captured in the Codex Strategic Plan 2020–2025 and highlight the importance we each attach to various parts of our plan. As Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons, we are fully committed to the successful delivery of these aspirational goals and to the finalization of the monitoring and evaluation framework of the new Codex Strategic Plan for the period 2026–2031 which was adopted by CAC47 and is focused on addressing standard-setting in the evolving global landscape. We collectively recognize this as the pathway towards our vision for Codex as an intergovernmental organization that makes a positive impact on food safety, where the world comes together to create food safety and quality standards that protect everyone, everywhere.

We welcome your input and encourage you to share your thoughts and reflections with us. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us by email at any time, using the contact details provided below.

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On behalf of

Allan Azegele, Chairperson

Khalid Al Zahrani, Vice-Chairperson

Jing Tiang, Vice-Chairperson

Betül Vazgeçer, Vice-Chairperson

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