Dear CCEURO Delegates,

After almost five years, the 33rd session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO33) will provide an opportunity for the region to meet again in person. The Federal Republic of Germany is pleased to host this meeting from 27 to 31 May 2024 in its capital, Berlin. The session will take place in physical mode in the centrally located Conference Center at Mauerstrasse 27.

The session will be broadcast (without the possibility to intervene) in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

The agenda, working documents, a timetable and other relevant information will be published on the CCEURO33 webpage on the Codex website, which I invite you to check regularly.

For me, this will be the first time serving as Chairperson of the Committee, having already had the pleasure of attending in the past both as an officer of the Codex Secretariat and as a delegate for Germany.

Following the 60th anniversary celebrations of the joint FAO/WHO food standards programme last year, the Codex Alimentarius Commission is about to frame its strategic agenda for the period 2026 to 2031. Since the development of the last Strategic Plan, the context in which Codex operates has changed and so have the possibilities for participation in the development of food standards. Several Members in our region have benefitted from support provided by the Codex Trust Fund (CTF2) with the aim of becoming more engaged in Codex activities. FAO and WHO projects have additionally helped strengthen national food control infrastructures and improved awareness of food safety issues.

Against this background, I look forward to facilitating the discussions on our agenda items and the region identifying its needs and priorities. This objective can only be met if the many different voices of CCEURO are brought to the table. I therefore count on your attendance and active engagement.

If you have any questions, please contact us at cceuro@bmel.bund.de or codex@fao.org.

I look forward to seeing you in Berlin in May and until then remain available for bilateral discussions.

Anne Beutling
CCEURO Chairperson