

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) - [www.codexalimentarius.org](http://www.codexalimentarius.org)

CL 2019/83-OCS-AMR  
October 2019

**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 on the proposed draft Guidelines on integrated monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance (at Step 3)**

**DEADLINE:** 25 November 2019

## BACKGROUND

1. See CX/AMR 19/7/6<sup>1</sup>.

### REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft Guidelines on integrated monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance as revised by the EWG (Appendix I of CX/AMR 19/7/6), which is uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS)<sup>2</sup> as per the general guidance below.
3. In providing comments, Codex members and observers are invited to consider the following:
  - The decisions and recommendations made at the last session of the Task Force on the different sections of the guidelines as described in the report<sup>3</sup> of the plenary meeting.
  - The outstanding issues identified at the last session of the Task Force as described in the Terms of Reference<sup>4</sup> of the Electronic Working Group established by the Task Force for the further revision of the guidelines and the revisions made by the EWG as described in the summary report (CX/AMR 19/7/6).
  - The conclusions and recommendations of the EWG as summarized in CX/AMR 19/7/6 in order to assist the Task Force in progressing this work at its plenary session, in particular as to those sections that need further development.
4. In addition to specific comments on the different sections of the guidelines, general comments on the points raised under the recommendations are most welcome to facilitate discussion when addressing horizontal issues namely:

#### General comments request

- Consistency of the terminology used in the guidelines (including coherence with relevant Codex texts such as the *Code of practice to minimize and contain foodborne AMR* (see CX/AMR 19/7/6)).
- Key points to address in sections 7-10 to ensure proper flow between these sections and to avoid overlaps and redundancies including their relationship with Figure 1 to ensure progressive approach for the implementation of the guidelines.
- Degree of technical details in the guidelines, particularly in sections 7-10, and how such information, if useful, could be addressed to remain available for consultation in support of the implementation of the guidelines.
- Any other comments such as areas that may need further revision in the guidelines.

<sup>1</sup> All working documents for TFAMR07 are available at:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=TFAMR&session=07>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>

<sup>3</sup> REP19/AMR, paras. 84 - 116

<sup>4</sup> REP19/AMR, para. 115

**GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS THROUGH THE OCS**

5. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
6. 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.
7. 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).
8. At the end of the commenting period, the Codex Secretariat will compile comments in a relevant working document using the system.
9. Additional guidance on the OCS can be found on the Codex website<sup>5</sup>.
10. For questions on the OCS, please contact [Codex-OCS@fao.org](mailto:Codex-OCS@fao.org).

**Important Notice:** When providing comments on paragraphs or bullets containing several sentences, it is advisable the revision be made if possible in one go as opposed to introducing revisions at different times in the sentences pertaining to one paragraph or bullet point. Therefore, do not close the system until all the revisions pertaining to one paragraph or bullet point have been completed before addressing the next set of revisions to the next paragraph or bullet point.

This is to avoid the OCS tabulated compilation of comments from producing several rows for each sentence revised of the same paragraph or bullet point which requires additional time to manually put all revisions introduced by a Codex member or observer to a single paragraph or set of bullet points into a single row to facilitate easier reading and understanding of comments.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/ocs/en/>