

54th

SESSION OF THE
CODEX COMMITTEE ON

FOOD HYGIENE

NAIROBI • KENYA





THE 54TH SESSION OVERVIEW

The 54th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH), which will be co-hosted by the United States of America and Kenya, will convene as an in-person physical meeting from 11 – 15 March, 2024. CCFH54 will take place in Nairobi, Kenya at the Emara Ole-Sereni Hotel (<https://emara.ole-sereni.com/>). The Session will also be webcast in English, French, and Spanish.

The on-site registration desk will be open on Saturday, March 9, 2024, from 14:00- 18:00 EAT and on Sunday, March 10, 2024, from 08:00 – 18:00 EAT to collect badges and other information and materials. Printed documents will not be provided but will be available on the CCFH54 webpage.

On Sunday, March 10, 2024, there will be three-hour Physical Working Groups (PWG) on both the draft Guidelines for the control of Shiga-toxin producing Escherichia coli (STEC) and the draft Guidelines for the safe use and re-use of water in food production. The PWGs will also be webcast in English, French, and Spanish.

The CCFH54 plenary session will run from Monday, March 11 until Wednesday, March 13, 2024. The PWG on CCFH Work Priorities (New Work Proposals/Forward Work Plan) will meet in the afternoon on March 11th. A FAO/WHO Side Event on Food Allergens is also planned during the week to brief CCFH54 on the progress of the scientific advice and updates from the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL).

Thursday, March 14, 2024 will be the report writing day for the Codex Secretariat so delegates may explore Nairobi. An International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods (ICMSF) Side Event, preceded by lunch, is also planned for the afternoon of March 14th.

Report Adoption for CCFH54 will occur in person on Friday, March 15, 2024.



AGENDA

(all times EAT)

Saturday

MARCH 9

14:00-18:00 Registration

Sunday

MARCH 10

Physical Working Groups

8:00-18:00 Registration
9:00-12:00 PWG on STEC
12:00-14:00 Lunch Provided
14:00-17:00 PWG on Water

Monday

MARCH 11

Plenary Day 1

8:00-18:00 Registration
9:00-9:30 Briefing for First Time Delegates
9:30-10:30 Opening Ceremony
10:30-12:30 Plenary AM Session
12:30-14:30 Lunch Provided
14:30-16:00 PWG on CCFH Work Priorities/New Work Proposals/Forward Work Plan
16:00-16:30 Break
16:30-18:00 Plenary PM Session
19:00-21:00 Welcome Reception

Tuesday

MARCH 12

Plenary Day 2

9:00-10:30 Plenary AM Session 1
10:30-11:00 Break
11:00-12:30 Plenary AM Session 2
12:30-14:30 Lunch Provided
Food Allergen Side Event (1st hour)
14:30-16:00 Plenary PM Session 1
16:00-16:30 Break
16:30-18:00 Plenary PM Session 2

Wednesday

MARCH 13

Plenary Day 3

9:00-10:30 Plenary AM Session 1
10:30-11:00 Break
11:00-12:30 Plenary AM Session 2
12:30-14:30 Lunch Provided
14:30-16:00 Plenary PM Session 1
16:00-16:30 Break
16:30-18:00 Plenary PM Session 2

Thursday

MARCH 14

Report Drafting / Side Event

9:00-12:30 Open
12:30-14:30 Lunch Provided
14:30-18:00 ICMSF Side Event

Friday

MARCH 15

Report Adoption

9:30-12:30 Report Adoption
13:00 Lunch Provided



CCFH54 REGISTRATION



The CCFH Secretariat is using the Codex Online Registration System (ORS) to register delegates for the CCFH meeting. Please ensure that your Codex Contact Point (for member countries and observer organizations) registers all members of your delegation for the upcoming session, via the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/registration/en/>.

Please note that the invitation to CCFH54 issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) requests that delegates register by **February 11th, 2024**.

We would encourage all delegates who expect to attend CCFH54 in person to register well in advance to ensure that relevant visas, clearances, and appropriate seating arrangements will be available for them at the meeting.

***Please note that the CCFH meeting registration is a separate process from the hotel reservations for sleeping accommodations at the Emara Ole-Sereni Hotel and the 2.5.4 Ole-Sereni Hotel (please see section below CCFH54 Venue Hotel).*



CCFH54 WEBCAST



CCFH54 will be an in-person meeting that will also be webcast on YouTube to enable those who cannot attend physically to follow the proceedings, which will help ensure increased transparency and maximum participation.

Participants not able to join their Member Country or Observer Organization delegations in person at CCFH54 in Nairobi will be able to follow the discussions during the PWGs and the Plenary Sessions in English, French and Spanish via the YouTube webcast. They should not be registered as delegates for the meeting.

Only the delegates present in person for CCFH54 will be able to intervene during the discussions. Member Countries and Observer Organizations should plan to send at least one delegate to attend CCFH54 in Nairobi so that their interventions are included in the discussion.



PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

The United States and Kenya believe it is important that delegates from all Member Countries and Organizations have the opportunity to participate in Codex meetings. Having a valid passport and completing and submitting the application for the electronic travel authorization (ETA)– Kenya’s version of a visa application, will ensure that the work of Codex accurately reflects the views and contributions of all its members.

Passport validity:

Passports need to be valid for 6 months from the date of the ETA application and should have at least two blank pages.

ETA:

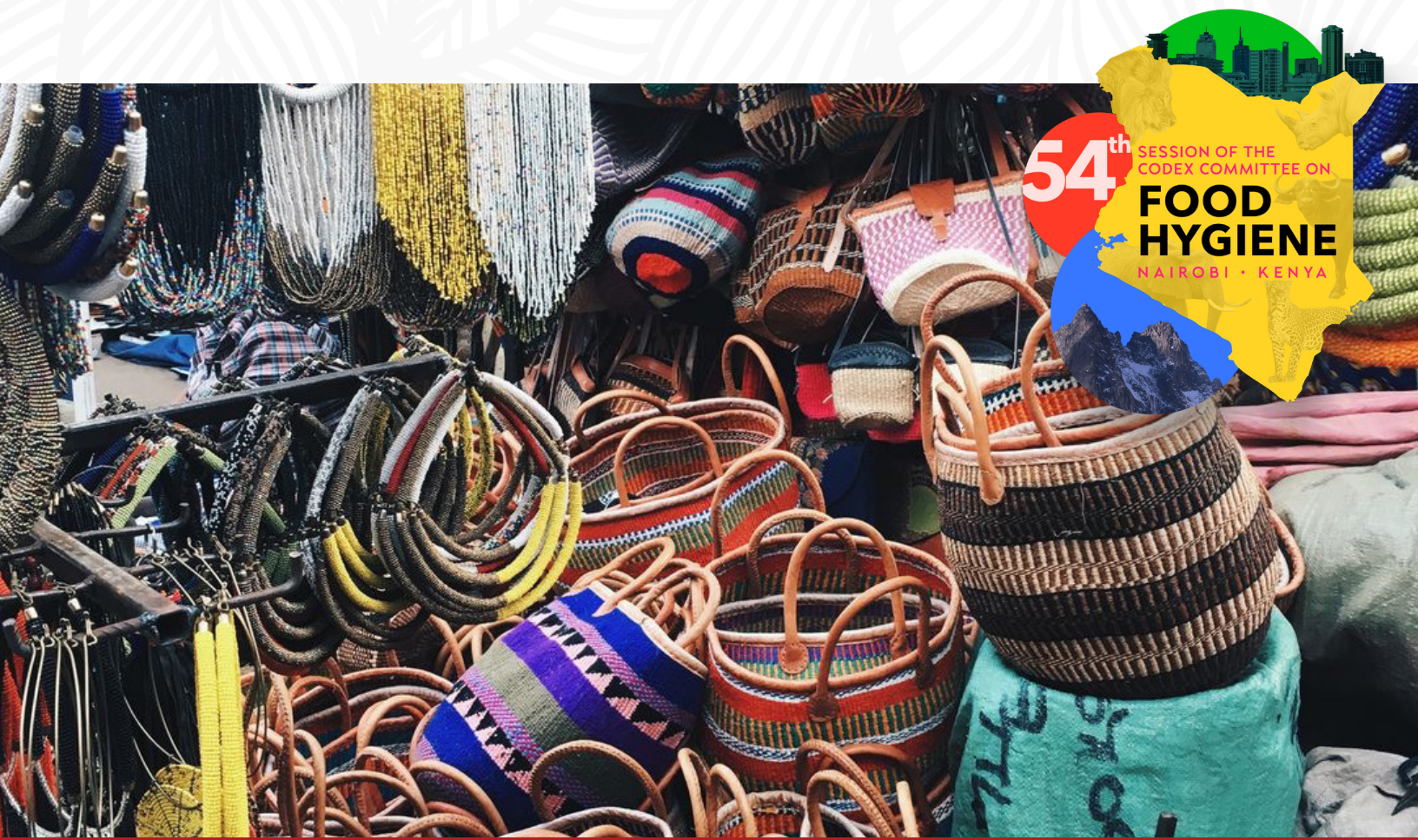
The ETA, which allows visitors to travel to Kenya for tourist, transit, and other purposes, is valid for one entry within three months. Delegates should apply for the ETA at: <https://evisa.go.ke/evisa.html>. In case of any issues with the ETA, please contact Felix Buluma at: felix.buluma@immigration.go.ke with a copy to bulumaf@gmail.com and the CCFH Secretariat (ccfh@usda.gov).



COVID-RELATED INFORMATION

The Government of Kenya no longer requires proof of either COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 PCR test for entry into Kenya.

Travelers with flu-like symptoms, will be required to undergo a rapid antigen test at their own expense of \$30 USD and will be required to fill the passenger locator form on the 'jitenge' platform. Those who test positive will be required to take a PCR test at their own expense of \$50 USD and self-isolate as per Ministry of Health guidance on isolation. Those with severe symptoms are also required to isolate as per the prevailing isolation requirements for mild, moderate and severe disease, even if they do not test positive.



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ABOUT NAIROBI, KENYA

Located in southern Kenya, Nairobi, the capital city of Kenya, is a fusion of rich diversity, vibrant culture, and breathtaking natural beauty. The city is renowned for the warm and friendly demeanor of its people that makes it an ideal destination for tourists and international visitors to explore the lively metropolis where urban life and untamed wildlife harmoniously coexist.

Nairobi is one of Africa's fastest growing cities. It boasts considerable infrastructure development and has emerged as an important economic and financial hub in East Africa. It is also home to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), along with a multitude of foreign organizations and diplomatic missions. In addition, Nairobi has earned the nickname 'Silicon Savannah' due to its flourishing technology sector, signifying its prominence in the tech industry.

The most striking feature is the Nairobi National Park, a haven of wildlife enveloped within the city's modern landscape. Adjacent to the bustling streets and towering skyscrapers, lions roam freely, giraffes elegantly grace the landscape, and zebras punctuate the urban skyline at the Nairobi National Park. This unique urban

sanctuary paints a vivid picture of the extraordinary coexistence between civilization and the wild.

Swahili and English are the official languages of Nairobi, but the city's population also speaks a variety of ethnic languages.

Nairobi's diverse culture, arts, and entertainment scene attracts both residents and tourists. This adds to the vibrancy of the city and fosters creativity and cultural exchange.

Nairobi's culinary culture reflects Kenya's diversity. You can savor traditional Kenyan dishes like Ugali (cornmeal porridge) and Nyama Choma (grilled meat), as well as international cuisines, including Indian, Chinese, and Middle Eastern.

Nairobi is located near eastern Africa's agricultural heartland, and a number of primary products are routed through Nairobi before being exported via Mombasa. The agricultural sector is the backbone of the economy, contributing approximately 33 percent of Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The agriculture sector employs more than 40 percent of the total population and 70 percent of the rural population.



HOW TO GET THERE

Flying to Nairobi, Kenya

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (NBO), is an international airport serving Nairobi. It is located only 8.4 miles (13.5km) from the Emara Ole-Sereni Hotel and takes approximately 20-30 minutes depending on traffic.

Transportation to the Emara Ole-Sereni Hotel

HOTEL CAR SERVICE

The Emara Ole-Sereni offers transportation to/from the airport and hotel as follows:

- One way @ \$25 for 1 guest (Mercedes E -Class 300)
- One way @ \$20 each for 2-3 guests (Mercedes E -Class 300)

To book your transportation through the hotel please send an email with your itinerary to: traveldeskt@ole-serenihotel.com with a copy to: reservations@ole-serenihotel.com and mkimani@ole-serenihotel.com. You may send a request for both your inbound and outbound flights to Kenya.

Airport Taxis and Uber

Airport Taxis and Uber are also other convenient modes of transportation to and from the airport. Uber riders may request a private car or a shared car, which will pick other passengers up along the way and discount your ride cost. To use Uber, you must download the Uber mobile app.

TAXIS

- Costs are approximately \$10-\$15 USD or 1,502.00 KES - 2,253.00 KES
- You can find a taxi in the Arrivals hall of NBO.

RIDE SHARES (UBER)

- Costs are approximately \$4 -\$7 USD or 710.00 KES - 1051 KES
- You can find your Uber at the designated area outside of NBO labeled "TNC/Rideshares."

****For more information on how to download the app, additional fares, and first-time user promo codes go to: <https://www.uber.com/global/en/r/airports/nbo/>.*



CCFH54 VENUE HOTEL

CCFH54 will take place at the Emara Ole-Sereni and their sister property 2.5.4 Ole-Sereni. Both properties are walking distance from each other and connected by the meeting space that will be used for CCFH54.

Capturing the authentic essence of Kenya, the Emara Ole Sereni and the 2.5.4 Ole-Sereni offer modern grandeur, unmatched services, and picturesque views of the Nairobi National Park and the city. Being situated at the heart of the vibrant city life and the majestic Nairobi National Park, CCFH Delegates will have the best launching pad for discovering the only urban escape surrounded by exquisite wildlife on one side and the hustle-bustle of the city center and airports on the other.

Emara Ole Sereni Hotel and 2.5.4 Ole-Sereni Hotel

Mombasa Road
Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254 732 191 000

Fax: +254 720 3910 400

Email: enquiries@ole-serenihotel.com

<https://emara.ole-sereni.com/>

<https://ole-sereni.com/>



HOTEL RESERVATIONS

AT EMARA OLE SERENI AND 2.5.4 OLE SERENI

In order to book, modify and cancel your reservations at the CCFH54 venue, delegates are asked to send an e-mail to reservations@ole-serenihotel.com with a copy to Milkah Kimani (mkimani@ole-serenihotel.com) with the following special group booking code in the subject line: **CCFH54MAR24**.

The special group room rates are available from 9 March - 16 March, 2024.

The special rates below for CCFH54 are inclusive of taxes and fees. This rate also includes complimentary breakfast buffet, as well as wifi and two complimentary bottles of water per room per day.

Emara Ole-Sereni

Single Occupancy: \$190 USD

Double Occupancy: \$240 USD

Triple Occupancy: \$290 USD

2.5.4 Ole-Sereni

Single Occupancy: \$150 USD

Double Occupancy: \$200 USD

Triple Occupancy: \$250 USD

Delegates will need to provide a credit card to secure the hotel room reservation. At that time, your credit card will be charged a one-night deposit (which will apply to the final bill). The balance of the bill will be cleared upon checkout.

If there are delegates who do not have a credit card to secure the hotel room reservation, please contact the CCFH54 Secretariat (ccfh@usda.gov) to discuss potential alternative options. The hotel also accepts payments by cash or personal check; however these are not preferred methods as these options require advance payment in full prior to check-in.

We encourage all delegates to secure a hotel room reservation as early as possible as the special rates are only available until February 9, 2024. After this date, delegates may still reserve rooms at the Emara and the 2.5.4, however the special rates may no longer be available.

If your plans change and you can no longer attend CCFH54, you may cancel your hotel reservation by sending an email to the same email addresses as at the time of booking: reservations@ole-serenihotel.com with a copy to Milkah Kimani (mkimani@ole-serenihotel.com) with the following booking code in the subject line of the e-mail: **CCFH54MAR24**.

No shows will be charged one-night stay and the remainder of the booking will be released accordingly.

Hotel Guest Room Features:

- Private bath/showers and WC with luxurious bath amenities
- Voltage of 240/220
- Built-in USB outlets
- Flat-screen Satellite TVs
- Hairdryer
- Clock/radio
- Writing desks and chairs
- Tea and Coffee
- Mini bar
- Iron and ironing board
- In-room safe
- Laundry valet and dry-cleaning pickup

Hotel Services:

- Multiple restaurants and bars between the two properties
- 24-hour room service
- Travel Desk/Concierge
- Duma Spa and Salon
- Swimming Pool
- Fitness Center
- Business Center

Check in time- 14:00

Check out time- 10:00



HELPFUL INFORMATION

Weather

The average temperature in Nairobi in March ranges from a high of 84°F (29°C) to a low of 59°F (15°C) with moderate humidity. A typical day is described as pleasantly warm with a gentle breeze. There is typically a 33% chance of moderate rain on an average day, amounting to about 0.62 inches (15.7 mm) of precipitation. The average March day in Nairobi has about 12.1 hours of daylight, with sunrise around 6:37 AM and sunset around 6:44 PM.

Electrical Current

Kenya operates on a 240V supply voltage (50Hz). The associated plug type is G, which is the plug that has three rectangular pins in a triangular pattern.

Currency

The Kenyan Shilling (KES) is the official currency. Currently approximately \$1 USD = 150.30 Kenyan Shilling. Mpesa is widely acceptable but it is optional.

Banking facilities and ATMs are found throughout Kenya's major travel destinations and all major credit cards are widely accepted, in particular MasterCard, Visa and American Express. There is also an ATM at the Venue Hotel.

Tips and Taxes

The Value Added Tax (VAT)-- the standard rate for taxable goods and services, as well as imports- is currently at 16% in Kenya.

CCFH Delegates should plan to tip around 10-15% in Kenyan restaurants. However, the exact tip amount when eating out in Kenya depends on the place, occasion, and order size. It's customary to give your waiter or waitress a slightly higher tip than you would a bartender, as they are likely sharing their tip with the kitchen staff.

AROUND NAIROBI



The Central Business District (CBD) is a great area for those planning to visit central attractions like the Kenyatta International Convention Centre, City Market, Jamia Mosque, Maasai markets, Central Park, Uhuru Park, Nairobi National Museum, Railways Museum, and shopping. The Westlands area, located just north of the center, is also an interesting neighborhood to check out and is popular with expats.

Lang'ata and Karen are two additional areas with popular tourist attractions such as the Giraffe Centre, Uhuru Gardens, Karen Blixen Museum, Bomas of Kenya, Carnivore

Restaurant, Kazuri Beads Factory, and Sheldrick Wildlife Trust Elephant Orphanage. These areas are also convenient for those visiting Nairobi National Park.

CCFH54 will feature a Tour Desk where you may learn about all that Nairobi and the surrounding area has to offer. The Tour Desk will also be able to help you book a variety of sightseeing options, excursions, and activities during your free time.

For more information on major attractions, tours, sporting events, and more, explore this website:

<https://nairobi.go.ke/explore-nairobi/>.



LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Nairobi National Park

Witness African wildlife against the backdrop of the city skyline in this unique national park.

David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust

Get up close with orphaned elephants and support their conservation efforts.

Giraffe Centre

Interact with and feed endangered Rothschild's giraffes while learning about conservation.

Karen Blixen Museum

Visit the former home of the renowned Danish author Karen Blixen, famous for "Out of Africa."

Nairobi National Museum

Explore Kenya's rich history and cultural heritage through exhibits on art, paleontology, and ethnography.

Maasai Market

Shop for traditional Kenyan crafts, including jewelry, clothing, and home decor.

Bomas of Kenya

Immerse yourself in Kenyan culture and traditions through music, dance, and exhibits.

Kazuri Beads Women's Cooperative

Support local artisans by purchasing intricately handcrafted ceramic beads.

Karura Forest

Find tranquility in this urban forest with walking trails, waterfalls, and a peaceful atmosphere.

Nairobi Railway Museum

Discover the history of Kenya's railways with a fascinating collection of locomotives and carriages.

The Hub Karen and Sarit Centre

Shop for international and local brands, enjoy dining, and experience modern retail culture.

Nairobi Gallery

Explore contemporary African art in this cultural space that hosts exhibitions and events.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN KENYA!

CCFH Secretariat

For additional information or questions about CCFH54 please contact Marie Maratos Bhat of the CCFH Secretariat: CCFH@USDA.GOV.

