

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 10

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEx COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE

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Comments of Singapore

AGENDA ITEM 10

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New work / Forward workplan

Singapore thanks the USA for the work done in collating and preparing for CCFH's discussions on new work and the Forward Workplan. Singapore appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing discussions on the future work of the CCFH, which is crucial to ensuring that Codex continues to provide timely, science-based guidance in response to emerging technologies and production systems.

Cell based food production is one such area where practical hygiene guidance will be essential. This is why Singapore and co proponents—China, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, and the United Kingdom—have jointly proposed the development of a Code of Hygienic Practice for Manufacturing of Cell Based Foods.

While the technology is new, facilities are already being established across multiple regions, and regulators and industry alike are seeking clarity on how to apply Codex principles of food hygiene to these novel production methods. Our proposal is intended to remain firmly within the scope of Codex and CCFH. The focus is on food safety and hygiene—identifying hazards, establishing hygienic practices, and ensuring that production processes are designed to adequately mitigate risks. References to sustainability or production models were included only as background context; the work itself is strictly focused on food hygiene.

Initiating discussions on hygiene guidance now will allow Codex to build on the scientific work already undertaken by FAO/WHO, while ensuring that Member countries have a reliable point of reference to address food safety challenges as this sector develops. In doing so, Codex can help prevent fragmentation of standards, reduce regulatory uncertainty, and provide confidence to consumers and trading partners.

Codex has historically played a proactive role in providing hygiene frameworks that evolve alongside innovation, thereby safeguarding consumer health and supporting fair trade. Singapore therefore respectfully encourages Members to view this proposal as an opportunity to extend Codex's leadership in food hygiene into a new area of relevance, while maintaining Codex's mandate of protecting consumer health and facilitating fair trade.