Dear colleagues,

We look forward to meeting with you to discuss the Draft Guidelines on Front-of-pack nutrition labelling at the two working sessions. The sessions will be run in three languages (English/Spanish/French).

In preparation for the working group sessions we would like to draw your attention to some important documents. Firstly the ‘Quick Start Guide for Codex Meetings’ and the ‘Guidance for Participants to Virtual Sessions of Codex Subsidiary Body Meetings’. Both can be found at the following link:

ENGLISH | SPANISH | FRENCH

These documents include important information on how to participate in the sessions including ensuring you have the most up to date version of zoom, using the interpretation function, how to identify yourself, how to make an intervention and who can intervene. It is important to read these documents before the sessions for the smooth running of the session and to ensure you are able to participate fully.

In particular, we request you:
• please use a USB headset with integrated microphone
• please turn on your video when taking the floor

In addition this video from CCFL Chair Kathy Twardek is helpful too. It emphasises the need for good preparation and to come to the sessions with constructive suggestions to progress the work. Her motto ‘don't throw out the good for the perfect’ will definitely be fitting for our working group sessions.

The essential documents for this discussion are:

CX/FL 21/46/6
PROPOSED DRAFT GUIDELINES ON FRONT-OF-PACK NUTRITION LABELLING

The FOPNL landscape is changing rapidly with new systems implemented since CCFL45 or planned for implementation. This places increased importance on Codex guidance being available in a timely manner. To facilitate this, agreement on the Guidelines is essential. We recognize that getting agreement on the Guidelines is ambitious and will require compromise and we will use these two working group meetings to really discuss and progress the key issues and agree on recommendations to put forward to the Committee. To not come to agreement on and progress the guidelines at this session would potentially render the guidance redundant in this fast moving international FOPNL landscape.

To ensure we use our time wisely, for the principles the two principles identified in the agenda paper as needing the most discussion will be addressed first. At the end of the first working group session we will ask the Heads of Delegation to vote on which of the remaining principles you would like to discuss. Your feedback will help us prioritise our discussions for the second working group session.

We look forward to fruitful and constructive discussions and have confidence that with your cooperation we can progress these guidelines so that they are available for use in a timely manner.

Electronic Working Group Chairpersons
Costa Rica and New Zealand