



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
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MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO

(Prepared by FAO and WHO)

1. Introduction

1.1 This document highlights evolving policies and related matters of FAO and WHO that could be of interest or relevance to the work of Codex.

2. Recommendations

2.1 CCEXEC89 and CAC48 are invited to:

- note the information given in this document; and
- take necessary actions to best take into consideration the policies of the parent organizations.

3. Matters arising jointly from FAO and WHO

3.1 World Food Safety Day 2025

3.1.1 WHO and FAO jointly coordinated the World Food Safety Day campaign, with the launch on 7 March of the theme, “Food safety: science in action”, and on 7 May of the first FAO/WHO World Food Safety Day poster competition, titled “What makes food safe?”, aimed at school children and students. On 3 June, FAO and WHO participated in the United Nations Information Service press briefing. On 7 July, FAO hosted a Social Media Talk Show involving FAO and WHO experts, which streamed on social media platforms, while on 2-4 June, WHO convened virtual Health Talks on Food Safety to explore the campaign theme¹. The World Food Safety Day website², hosted by Codex, features information about many of the events and initiatives that took place around the world.

3.2 UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2030)

3.2.1 The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 2016³, aims to accelerate implementation of the commitments made at the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) in 2014, achieve the global nutrition and diet-related non-communicable disease (NCD) targets by 2025, and contribute to the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030⁴.

3.2.2 On 24 March 2025, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution to extend the Nutrition Decade until 2030⁵, in order to align it with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and maintain the political momentum to ending malnutrition in all its forms by 2030. It calls on FAO and WHO to continue leading and monitoring the Decade’s implementation, and to intensify efforts to advance the global nutrition agenda.

3.2.3. At the 53rd session of the Committee on World Food Security⁶, taking place in October 2025, a formal dialogue is planned (Fostering momentum and commitment for nutrition: accelerating action towards 2030 and

¹ <https://www.whofoodsystms.org/page/health-talks-2025>

² <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/world-food-safety-day/wfsd-news/en/>

³ <https://undocs.org/A/RES/70/259>

⁴ <https://www.un.org/nutrition>

⁵ <https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/79/276>

⁶ <https://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-governance/cfs53/en/>

beyond) with the aim to reflect on global progress achieved, challenges encountered, and start to prepare for the post-2030 era.

3.3 The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2025. Addressing high food price inflation for food security and nutrition (SOFI 2025)

3.3.1 FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO partnered to produce the joint report on The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2025 (SOFI 2025⁷), which provides latest trends and analysis on the global food security and nutrition situation, including updated estimates on the cost and affordability of healthy diets. For the first time, it also presents a new SDG indicator on minimum dietary diversity. While some progress and recovery have been made in recent years, the world is still above pre-COVID-19 pandemic levels and far from eradicating hunger and food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030 (SDG Target 2.1).

3.4 Joint Statement on the Principles of a Healthy Diet⁸

3.4.1 In October 2024, FAO and WHO published *What are healthy diets? Joint statement by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization*. The statement describes the four core principles of what makes a healthy diet: *adequacy, diversity, balance and moderation*.

3.4.2 The Joint Statement also emphasizes that many dietary patterns – or the combinations of foods that people consume over time and in context – can be healthy, when meeting these four principles. Dietary patterns are highly contextual, depending on local food access, preferences, culture and traditions.

3.5 The Healthy Diets Monitoring Initiative

3.5.1 The Healthy Diets Monitoring Initiative (HDMI), launched by FAO, UNICEF, and WHO in 2022, brings together experts to improve national and global monitoring of healthy diets. In 2024–2025, HDMI will update its guidance, focusing on recommending effective metrics and incorporating new consensus documents like the FAO/WHO Joint Statement on Healthy Diets.

3.5.2 A major milestone was reached in March 2025, when the UN Statistical Commission endorsed a new SDG 2 indicator: “Prevalence of minimum dietary diversity (MDD), by population group – children aged 6-23.9 months and women aged 15 to 49 years”. This indicator measures diet quality in children (MDD-C) and women (MDD-W) and is jointly overseen by UNICEF and FAO. As a simple, cost-effective tool, it enables countries to collect, analyze, and use data to inform policies and programs that combat malnutrition and support achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The new guidance will provide context for MDD, and clear understanding of other complementary measures, their strengths and limitations for a variety of data-related purposes.

4. Matters arising from FAO

4.1 FAO Governing bodies

4.1.1 The 44th Session of the FAO Conference was held from 28 June – 4 July 2025.⁹ FAO Members agreed by consensus on the Organization’s Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 2026-2027.¹⁰

4.2 Adoption of the FAO Conference Resolution 14/2025, Addressing Antimicrobial Resistance in Agrifood Systems and support to its implementation

4.2.1 FAO Members have approved a major resolution to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in agrifood systems, emphasizing FAO’s role in implementing the 2024 UN General Assembly Declaration on AMR.¹¹ Adopted at the 44th FAO Conference, it outlines measures to reduce antimicrobial use, promote prevention, and strengthen equity and accountability through a One Health approach. The resolution calls for coordinated national and international action, led by Kenya and the UK, reflecting global commitment to tackle AMR threats to food security, public health, and development.

4.2.2 The resolution also recognizes the importance of Codex guidance, notably the *Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance* (CXC 61-2005) and the *Guidelines on integrated monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance* (CXG 94-2021), in supporting risk-based food safety systems to mitigate AMR. FAO is implementing this resolution through flagship initiatives such as

⁷ <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd6008en>

⁸ <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd2223en>

⁹ <https://www.fao.org/governing-bodies/conference/c-44/en>

¹⁰ <https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/qu-dongyu-closes-44th-fao-conference-urging-ingenuity--solidarity-and-collective-will/en>

¹¹ <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/ld/n24/278/35/pdf/n2427835.pdf>

RENOFARM¹² and InFARM¹³, supported by technical tools including PMP-AMR¹⁴ and ATLASS¹⁵. These efforts are carried out in close coordination with the Quadripartite. FAO encourages Members and partners to maintain and expand their political, financial, and technical support, which remains essential to scaling up AMR control efforts and applying Codex texts at national levels. FAO, along with Quadripartite partners, have developed a roadmap¹⁶ for the establishment of an independent panel on evidence for action against AMR (IPEA).

4.3 *Reviewing the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management*

4.3.1 Responding to the call of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) in 2022, FAO's Committee on Agriculture in its 29th Session (COAG 29) in October 2024 requested FAO, in collaboration with WHO, to conduct a review of the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management through the Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPM). The review will assess potential gaps regarding Free, Prior and Informed Consent of Indigenous Peoples, and the findings of the review will be submitted to COAG 30 for consideration in 2026.

4.4 *FAO's 80th Anniversary, World Food Day and FAO Food and Agriculture Museum and its Network (FAO MuNe)*¹⁷

4.4.1 World Food Day 2025, on 16 October 2025, will have marked FAO's 80th Anniversary with the theme, "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future". This underscores the urgent need for collective action to transform agrifood systems across institutions, across borders and within communities. Global collaboration and solidarity are key to building a peaceful, sustainable and prosperous food future where everyone has access to a healthy diet, living in harmony with the planet.

4.4.2 World World Food Day 2025 will also have been the day where FAO inaugurates its new FAO Food and Agriculture Museum and its Network (FAO MuNe). The FAO MuNe will be a living space, dynamic and ever evolving, where content is regularly updated with contributions from across the Organization, Members and FAO MuNe Network members.

4.5 *Transforming food and agriculture through a systems approach*¹⁸

4.5.1 This new FAO publication discusses the purpose of transforming food and agriculture through a systems approach to clarify what a systems approach involves in practice across agrifood systems. It explains what a systems approach means in the context of agrifood systems, why it matters and how to adopt it. It advances the operationalization of a systems approach by outlining the key shifts needed to embed systems thinking into policies, programmes, projects, and interventions and illustrating how countries, regions and municipalities are putting these shifts into practice.

4.6 *Forty-four emerging food innovations by 2050*¹⁹

4.6.1 Agrifood systems are undergoing significant changes, in part due to new technological advances and scientific discoveries, as well as a recognized need to shift towards sustainability and resilience. New food sources and production systems (NFPS) are emerging worldwide in response to these changes, potentially altering the food landscape in the next 5 to 25 years. FAO conducted a multi-phase foresight exercise²⁰ to explore potential food safety implications related to the growing NFPS space. The findings highlighted various social, technological, economic, environmental and political issues that need to be considered and addressed for the safe integration of these innovations into food systems. Continuous monitoring and assessment of emerging NFPS issues will be crucial, with further analysis needed on their long-term implications for food safety and public health.

4.7 *Food safety foresight: approaches to identify future food safety issues*²¹

4.7.1 Within its Food Safety Foresight Programme²², FAO hosted the Food Safety Foresight Framework Meeting from 1–3 April 2025 in Rome. Sixteen experts from Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and the

¹² Reduce Need for Antimicrobials on Farms for Sustainable Agrifood Systems Transformation

¹³ <https://www.fao.org/antimicrobial-resistance/resources/infarm-system/en/>

¹⁴ FAO Progressive Management Pathway for Antimicrobial Resistance

¹⁵ FAOP assessment Tool for Laboratories and AMR Surveillance Systems

¹⁶ <https://www.qjsamr.org/independent-panel-for-evidence-for-action-against-amr/roadmap>

¹⁷ <https://www.fao.org/world-food-day/en>

¹⁸ <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd6071en>

¹⁹ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd5116en>

²⁰ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd4981en>

²¹ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd5135en>

²² <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/foresight/>

Caribbean, North America, and Oceania participated in the meeting, from governments, the private sector, international organizations, universities and research institutes, as well as from the UN World Food Programme. The summary report includes the executive summary of the document agreed during the meeting and key lessons learned shared by participants; the comments and insights received during the meeting will be incorporated into the final food safety foresight framework document, to be published in the coming months.

4.8 Ensuring food safety in a circular economy²³

4.8.1 Circular economies are critical to achieving the transformation needed for our agrifood systems to guarantee adequate food for all produced within the planetary boundaries. At the same time, this transformation requires adapting food safety policies and principles to ensure that food remains safe. FAO's food safety foresight programme has released a report: Food Safety in a Circular Economy, that provides an analysis of current and emerging evidence on food safety risks in circular food production systems and identifying four major dimensions of concern²⁴ – water scarcity²⁵, food loss and waste,²⁶ food packaging waste,²⁷ and land use efficiency.²⁸ FAO also hosted a side event on Food safety in a circular economy at the CAC47 on 29 November 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland²⁹. For more information download the infographic³⁰ and open-access article in Nature.³¹

4.9 Food safety in personalized nutrition: a focus on food supplements and functional foods³²

4.9.1 As personalized nutrition gains momentum, food supplements and functional foods are increasingly used to meet individual health needs. However, their growing popularity brings important food safety considerations, including proper dosing, potential interactions with medications, risks of misuse, and the safety of novel ingredients. To address these issues, in April 2025 FAO published the report “Food safety in personalized nutrition: a focus on food supplements and functional foods”, which provides a global overview of key safety challenges related to these products. The report also reviews regulatory frameworks from different regions and explores consumer perceptions and motivations behind their use. Alongside the report, FAO has released two complementary factsheets.^{33, 34}

4.10 Literature review on the exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals: changes from 2002 to 2024³⁵

4.10.1 In 2024, FAO commissioned a literature review regarding exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs). The report examines temporal trends since 2002 in the exposure of human populations and food-producing animals to chemicals consistently identified as EDCs, a period which has seen many changes in the manufacture, use and control of many EDCs. While FAO is primarily concerned with exposure to EDCs from the diet, the bulk of the available information on exposure trends is from human biomonitoring, which does not distinguish between dietary and non-dietary exposure.

4.11 Update on the Vision and Strategy for FAO's Work in Nutrition

4.11.1 At its 139th Session, the FAO Programme Committee³⁶ approved an update to the Vision and Strategy for FAO's Work in Nutrition,³⁷ in response to the evolving global context of hunger and malnutrition since the Strategy's adoption in 2021. This update aims to strengthen FAO's capacity to contribute meaningfully to improved nutrition outcomes. Aligned with the FAO Strategic Framework 2022–2031,³⁸ the updated document will now be titled the Vision and Approach for FAO's Work in Nutrition (VAN), will highlight priority areas of work and provide a clear overview of expected results and pathways to their achievement for FAO's work in Nutrition. VAN will draw on the results from several existing and ongoing external reviews of aspects of FAO's work on nutrition, ongoing review of the FAO Strategic Framework and planned strategic reflection activities,

²³ <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd1789en>

²⁴ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/CD1788EN>

²⁵ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd1686en>

²⁶ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/CD1800EN>

²⁷ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/CD1787EN>

²⁸ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/CD1799EN>

²⁹ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd3752en>

³⁰ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd2308en>

³¹ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/856a6018-0a5a-43d9-abe7-57bf45f24351>

³² <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd4280en>

³³ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd5143en>

³⁴ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd5142en>

³⁵ <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd3005en>

³⁶ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/2481bc84-8c85-4a03-b27f-cf10c03187ed>

³⁷ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/a76ef638-92fe-45d2-b452-35f8e0f13f76/content>

³⁸ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/4a3e64b5-f107-4652-8b16-5130b5af957b/content>

and additional targeted internal and external consultative processes. The VAN document is scheduled to be submitted for review during the Programme Committee's 141st Autumn Session in 2025.

4.12 High Level Report on Healthy Diets 2026

4.12.1 Scheduled for publication in 2026, the FAO High Level Report on Healthy Diets aims to provide a pivotal contribution to the global nutrition agenda. The report will provide an in-depth review of the evidence for actions to promote and enable access to and consumption of healthy diets and aligned with the updated Vision and Approach to Nutrition, will focus on areas most critical for FAO Members and partners. It will consolidate current knowledge and evidence to address key opportunities, persistent gaps, and critical challenges — spanning from the definition of healthy diets to data, and from evidence to actionable strategies. The report is intended to inform technical non-experts across a variety of fields, including governments, FAO and UN agencies, academic and implementing organizations.

5. Matters arising from WHO

5.1 Update of WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety

5.1.1 Regarding the WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety 2022-2030³⁹, WHO is working with regional offices to monitor and support the progress on the indicators of the strategy, particularly on indicators derived from the International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005).

5.1.2 An investment case on the surveillance of foodborne diseases was produced by WHO and is in the pipeline for publication. It demonstrated the positive return of investing in surveillance in the reduction of the burden of foodborne diseases in middle-income countries.

5.1.3 WHO has prepared a roadmap development tool to support Member States in the development of their national roadmaps to guide the implementation of the Strategy.

5.1.4 WHO established the WHO Alliance for Food Safety⁴⁰, a network to support the implementation of the Strategy with a particular focus on accelerating actions to improve foodborne disease surveillance.

5.2 WHO guidelines on the optimal intake of animal source foods (ASF)

5.2.1 WHO has initiated work on developing guidelines on the optimal intake of animal source foods which will include guidance on commonly consumed animal source foods (including red meat, dairy, poultry, eggs and seafood) and plant alternatives (legumes, whole grains, nuts/seeds and soy). In addition to health effects of consuming these foods, this work will address food safety considerations (both microbial and chemical) as well as sustainability and environmental impacts enabling a comprehensive assessment of the risks and benefits associated with different consumption and substitution patterns.

5.2.2 The first expert meeting was held in November 2024 at which the scope of the guideline and the framework of the risk-benefit assessment were established⁴¹. Guided by its outputs, subsequent virtual meetings, scoping reviews and numerous systematic reviews have been commissioned, and the development of methodological tools is currently underway.

5.3 WHO guidance on the consumption of “Ultra-processed” foods (UPF)

5.3.1 WHO is developing guidance on the consumption of highly processed (AKA “ultra-processed”) foods, in two parts. The first part will be the development of a more objective, operational definition of ultra-processed foods than is currently used, which will provide regulators and policy-makers with an intuitive, streamlined method of assessing whether individual foods are UPF or not. The second part will be the development of a WHO guideline on consumption of ultra-processed foods. A call for experts was issued to form a guideline development group⁴².

5.4 WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group (NUGAG) Subgroup on Diet and Health, and Subgroup on Policy Actions

5.4.1 Regarding the NUGAG Subgroup on Diet and Health, the WHO guideline on the use of **lower-sodium salt substitutes** was published in January 2025⁴³. The WHO guideline on **polyunsaturated fatty acid** intake for adults and children is currently being finalized.

³⁹ [https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA75/A75\(22\)-en.pdf](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA75/A75(22)-en.pdf)

⁴⁰ <https://www.who.int/initiatives/who-alliance-for-food-safety>

⁴¹ <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/first-who-meeting-on-optimal-intake-of-animal-source-foods-RBAG-summary-and-conclusions>

⁴² <https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-to-develop-a-who-guideline-on-consumption-of-ultra-processed-foods>

⁴³ <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/380227>

5.4.2 The NUGAG Subgroup on Policy Actions is working on developing guidelines on priority food environment policies. The guidelines on policies and interventions to create **healthy school food environments** and on **nutrition labelling policies**⁴⁴ are being finalized for publication.

5.5 Food classification, including nutrient profiling, to support food environment policies

5.5.1 WHO has been working on establishing nutrient profile models (NPMs)^{45,46}. WHO has developed region-specific models in five WHO regions to support governments in implementing policies to protect children from the harmful impact of marketing of foods and non-alcoholic beverages^{47,48,49,50,51} and a region-specific model in one WHO region to support implementation of multiple food environment policies, including front-of-pack warning labels, marketing restrictions, school food procurement policies, and taxation⁵². WHO continues to work on food classification systems, including nutrient profiling for applications other than marketing restrictions. The draft WHO information brief on classifying foods for food environment policies is currently being peer reviewed.

5.6 Elimination of industrially produced trans-fatty acids

5.6.1 Global efforts to eliminate industrially produced trans-fatty acids (iTFA) from the food supply continue to advance, with 65 countries adopting best-practice policies to date. These policies consist of a mandatory limit of 2 grams of iTFA per 100 grams of total fat in all foods, and/or a ban on the production and use of partially hydrogenated oils (PHO), the primary source of iTFA.

5.6.2 Since 2024, six countries (Colombia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nepal, Pakistan, and Qatar) have adopted best-practice policies⁵³. In May 2025, WHO awarded validation certificates to four countries (Austria, Norway, Oman, and Singapore) in recognition of implementing best-practice policies alongside effective monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. These achievements underscore the growing momentum to eliminate iTFA and reduce diet-related noncommunicable diseases⁵⁴.

5.6.3 WHO continues to provide technical support, policy guidance, and tools to help countries implement effective iTFA elimination measures. Governments are urged to take decisive action, and food manufacturers and oil suppliers are encouraged to reformulate products and transition to healthier alternatives⁵⁵.

5.7 Population sodium/salt intake reduction

5.7.1 WHO continues to support Member States to reduce population sodium intake, and achievement of the nine global voluntary targets, including a 30% relative reduction in mean population sodium intake, achieving an intake of < 2,000 mg/day sodium; and a 25% relative reduction in the prevalence of raised blood pressure by 2030. WHO has published several tools and technical documents: the updated SHAKE Technical Package for Salt Reduction, which will be re-released in 2025, the Action Framework for developing and implementing public food procurement and service policies to promote healthy diets⁵⁶, the Global Sodium Benchmarks for different food categories⁵⁷ and the Sodium Country Score Card, hosted within the Global database on the Implementation of Food and Nutrition Action (GIFNA)⁵⁸. WHO is also working on a "step-by-step" guidance on national adaptation of the WHO sodium targets, either the WHO global sodium benchmarks or regional sodium targets⁵⁹.

5.8 Alcohol

⁴⁴ <https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/online-public-consultation-draft-guideline-on-nutrition-labelling-policies>

⁴⁵ https://apps.who.int/nutrition/publications/profiling/WHO_IASO_report2010/en/index.html

⁴⁶ https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/pt/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-720-43%252FCRDs%252FNFSU43_CRD37x.pdf

⁴⁷ https://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/270716/Nutrient-children_web-new.pdf

⁴⁸ <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789290617853>

⁴⁹ <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/253459>

⁵⁰ https://applications.emro.who.int/dsaf/EMROPUB_2017_en_19632.pdf

⁵¹ <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/329956>

⁵² https://iris.paho.org/bitstream/handle/10665.2/18621/9789275118733_eng.pdf

⁵³ <https://gifna.who.int/summary/TFA>

⁵⁴ <https://www.who.int/news/item/19-05-2025-who-recognizes-four-countries-with-life-saving-trans-fat-elimination-policies>

⁵⁵ <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/trans-fat>

⁵⁶ <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240018341>

⁵⁷ <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240092013>

⁵⁸ <https://gifna.who.int/summary/sodium>

⁵⁹ <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/375596/9789290210818-eng.pdf> and https://iris.paho.org/bitstream/handle/10665.2/54658/PAHONMHRF210016_eng.pdf

5.8.1 Public health warning labels are a high-reach and low-cost means of informing the people about alcohol-related health risks and safety as well as countering the persuasive impact of marketing at the point of purchase or consumption. Despite this, only 55 countries required at least one warning label on pregnancy, underage drinking, drink-driving and/or cancer included on alcoholic beverage containers in 2019⁶⁰.

5.8.2 Improved labelling is a recommended WHO policy measure to reduce alcohol-related harm⁶¹, based on solid evidence^{62,63}. In this context, WHO has provided technical support to countries and delivered training and capacity-building activities on alcoholic beverage labelling in 20 WHO member states across its six regions from August 2024 to July 2025. Some countries are considering implementing or reviewing their labels on alcoholic beverage containers, for example, Jamaica, Kenya, Mongolia, Norway, United Kingdom.

5.8.3 In 2024, advocacy has sharply increased for improved alcohol labelling: cancer warnings, nutrition facts, allergen transparency. In 2025, growing media coverage and analysis have emerged across countries.

5.8.4 Regulatory hurdles remain significant across countries without international standards on labelling of alcoholic products. WHO strongly encourages Codex to continue its effort to provide global guidance to safeguard public health and facilitate global fair trade. WHO is committed to providing further support to countries on this subject at CCFL.

5.9 *WHO Guidance on Traditional Food Markets*

5.9.1 The World Health Assembly 75⁶⁴, requested to update the interim guidance on reducing public health risks associated with the sale of live wild animals of mammalian species in traditional food markets to answer questions on the scope of the guidance, including the species that the guidance covers and farmed or nature-caught wild animals.

5.9.2 WHO called for experts and selected 22 experts to form the Guidelines Development Group (GDG). The first meeting happened in November 2023 with the definition of the research criteria for the systematic reviews. The WHO commissioned the systematic reviews and the GDG will meet in the second half of 2025 to draft recommendations that will be peer reviewed and submitted for public consultation before the final publication.

5.10 *WHO technical support on the Code of marketing of breast-milk substitutes*

5.10.1 The World Health Assembly 78 adopted the resolution on Regulating the digital marketing of breast-milk substitutes⁶⁵. It calls on Member States to implement the WHO Guidance on regulatory measures aimed at restricting digital marketing of breast-milk substitutes⁶⁶. It also calls for stronger monitoring systems, assignment of government agencies responsible for implementation of the Code, and safeguards against conflicts of interest in applying the recommendations.

5.10.2 To address compliance with the WHO recommendation to prohibit sponsorship of health professional and scientific meetings by companies that market foods for infants and young children, WHO has published many briefs, including an information note clarifying the understanding of sponsorship⁶⁷, a model sponsorship policy⁶⁸, a brief on alternative funding options⁶⁹, and a compendium of case studies of associations that have refused sponsorship⁷⁰.

5.11 *Extension of Global Nutrition Targets to 2030*

5.11.1 The World Health Assembly 78 extended the comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and child nutrition to 2030⁷¹. The targets are:

- 40% reduction in the number of children under 5 years of age who are stunted, compared to the 2012 baseline;
- 50% reduction in anaemia in women of reproductive age, compared to the 2012 baseline;

⁶⁰ <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240096745>

⁶¹ <https://www.who.int/teams/mental-health-and-substance-use/alcohol-drugs-and-addictive-behaviours/alcohol/our-activities/towards-and-action-plan-on-alcohol>

⁶² <https://www.who.int/europe/publications/i/item/9789289061681>

⁶³ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38942559/>

⁶⁴ [https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA75/A75\(23\)-en.pdf](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA75/A75(23)-en.pdf)

⁶⁵ https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA78/A78_R18-en.pdf

⁶⁶ <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240084490>

⁶⁷ <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240074422>

⁶⁸ <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/378985>

⁶⁹ <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/378267>

⁷⁰ <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/378977>

⁷¹ https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA78/A78_R24-en.pdf

- 30% reduction in low birth weight, compared to the 2012 baseline;
- reduce and maintain overweight in children under 5 years of age to less than 5%;
- increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first 6 months up to at least 60%; and
- reduce and maintain wasting in children under 5 years of age to less than 5%.

5.11.2 The Assembly also adopted process targets to accelerate the achievement of these nutrition goals, including improving dietary diversity in women and children, increasing early initiation of breastfeeding, delivering infant and young child feeding counselling, increasing consumption of iron-containing supplements during pregnancy, and reducing the consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages.