



### Electronic Working Group (EWG) Invitation

#### CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE (CCFH)

**Invitation to participate in the electronic working group (EWG) on the revision of the *Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the control of Viruses in Food* (CXG 79-2012)**

This message is sent on behalf of Canada and the Netherlands

<b>Title</b>	<b>REVISION OF THE <i>GUIDELINES ON THE APPLICATION OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF FOOD HYGIENE TO THE CONTROL OF VIRUSES IN FOOD</i> (CXG 79-2012)</b>
<b>Committee</b>	Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)
<b>Session</b>	55th Session
<b>Chair of EWG</b>	Canada
<b>Co-Chairs</b>	The Netherlands
<b>Working Languages</b>	English <sup>1</sup>
<b>Description of work</b>	<p>CCFH55 agreed to re-establish the EWG to:</p> <p>a) continue with the revision of the <i>Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Viruses in Food</i> (CXG 79- 2012) based on the written comments submitted and the discussions in plenary for further consideration by CCFH56; and</p> <p>b) prepare a report and a revised text to be submitted to the Codex Secretariat three months before CCFH56 for circulation for comments at Step 3 (REP26/FH para. 89 ii).</p>
<b>Timetable for work</b>	<p>The tentative timetable for the work is as follows:</p> <p><b>20 March 2026</b> - Due date for EWG member registration.</p> <p><b>Consultation with EWG:</b></p> <p><b>15 April 2026</b> - Draft revision of the Guidelines posted on the EWG Forum for comments</p> <p><b>15 June 2026</b> - Deadline for comments</p> <p><b>August 2026 (Three months before CCFH56)</b> - Report and revised Guidelines submitted to Codex Secretariat.</p>
<b>Email for registration</b>	<a href="mailto:cathy.breau@hc-sc.gc.ca">cathy.breau@hc-sc.gc.ca</a>
<b>Registration deadline</b>	March 20, 2026
<b>EWG online platform</b>	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>

Codex Members and Observers are invited to register their experts for this Electronic Working Group. When there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate **one** as the official representative to participate in the EWG.

Applications should be sent through the Codex Contact Point (CCP) of the member or recognized observer organization in an email detailing:

- participant's name
- official title or position
- organization or country
- email address.

<sup>1</sup> Comments in French also accepted

[The EWG platform](#)

Link: <http://forum.codex-alimentarius.net/index.php>

**Usergroup name: CCFH55 - Virus (2026)**

The platform will require members to login. New participants to the platform should first register. ([online guide](#), [video tutorial](#))

The EWG chair will give participants access to the usergroup online once they have verified their credentials, so please ensure that you follow the procedure for applications and email the chair through your CCP even if you are already registered on the platform. Once your CCP has sent your application you can request to join the EWG usergroup directly on the platform. You do not need to create a new registration if you have previously used the platform.

[Technical support](#)

For all technical assistance regarding the platform please contact the platform administrator (Codex Secretariat) using the Contact link on the platform homepage or via [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org).

We look forward to your participation.

Martin Duplessis – Canada

Ana Viloria Alebesque – The Netherlands