

EWG Invitation

This message is sent on behalf of Honduras, Chile, Denmark, European Union, India.

Title	Guidelines for the Safe Use and Reuse of Water in Food Production
Committee	Codex Committee on Food Hygiene CCFH
Session	51 st Session
Chair of EWG	Honduras
Co-Chairs	Chile, Denmark, European Union, India
Working Languages	English
Description of work	<p>CCFH51 agreed to establish an EWG to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Elaborate Guidelines for the safe sourcing, use and reuse of water in direct and indirect contact with food across the food chain (primary production and processing) by applying the principle of 'fit for purpose' using a risk-based approach, such document should follow the proposed structure:<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. General guidance document on key elements, including guidance for determining appropriate and fit for purpose microbiological criteria for pathogens (bacteria, viruses, parasites) and definitions, relevant for safe water sourcing, use and reuse as part of a food safety management program in food production.ii. Draft an Annex (1) on: Risk based sector-specific potential intervention strategies for water sourcing, use and reuse in the food chain (e.g. from primary production to retail), examples and/or practical case studies for determining appropriate and fit for purpose microbiological criteria (bacteria, viruses, parasites) and examples of the decision support system (DSS) tools such as Decision trees (DT) to determine the water quality needed for the specific intended purpose in fresh produceiii. Draft an Annex (2) on: Risk based sector-specific potential intervention strategies for water sourcing, use and reuse in the food chain (e.g. primary production to retail), examples and/or practical case studies for determining appropriate and fit for purpose microbiological criteria (bacteria, viruses, parasites) and examples of the decision support system (DSS) tools such as Decision trees (DT) to determine the water quality needed for the specific intended purpose in the fishery sector2. The EWG should take into account published and future JEMRA work on water (REP20/FH, para 116)

Timetable for work	<p>The tentative timetable for the work is as follows:</p> <p>17 February 2020 – Due date for answer to the invitation and establish EWG members.</p> <p>31 July 2020 – Revised Guidelines submitted to Codex Secretariat.</p>
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With the following dates for each part of the Draft Guideline:

1. General Part

31 March 2020 – Draft of General Guidelines posted on the Forum for EWG comments.

15 May 2020 – comments due for eWG members on draft

2. Fresh Produce Annex

3 April 2020 - draft of the Fresh Produce Annex posted on the Forum for EWG comments;

18 May 2020 – comments due from the EWG on the Fresh Produce Annex

3. Fishery Sector Annex

13 April 2020 - draft of an annex on Fishery Sector posted on Forum for EWG comments

29 May 2020 - comments due from EWG members on the draft of annex on Fishery Sector

Email for registration msevilla@senasa.gob.hn

Registration deadline 17 February 2020

EWG online platform Yes No

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.

The EWG platform

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

Usergroup name: **CCFH-GL-Water**

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

Those participants who have previously registered on the platform can request to join the usergroup directly.

The EWG chair will give participants access to the group 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.

Programme and timeline

The work programme and timelines will be circulated to members of the EWG soon after its establishment.

We look forward to your participation.

Maria Eugenia Sevilla
National Service of Plant, Animal Health and Food Safety (SENASA)
Honduras