



CONCEPT NOTE WEBINAR - WORLD FOOD SAFETY DAY" 10 JUNE 2025

Background



The first-ever World Food Safety Day, declared by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018, is celebrated on 7 June every year. It is an important event for advocacy, awareness, and education on food safety issues of public interest. It promotes solutions and methods of making food safe and highlights emerging issues and challenges of food safety and consumer health protection.

Everyone involved in the food supply chain—from producers to processors, transporters, retailers, cooks, and consumers—relies on the universal application of good practices, agreed-upon processes, and standards to keep food safe. In other words, food safety is a shared responsibility and meaningful engagement of all stakeholders to discuss and agree on collaborative approaches to improved food safety through public-private partnerships.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an intergovernmental food standards-setting body established jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1963 with the objective of protecting consumer's health and ensuring fair practices in food trade. Codex Alimentarius is a collection of internationally adopted food standards that are presented uniformly. Codex standards are firmly based on science and risk assessment and meet the goals of consumer health protection and trade facilitation. These all draw on the careful, precise, and thoughtful application of the best available scientific evidence, exploring how and why food can become contaminated and make consumers sick. Scientists assess and analyze risks to human health associated with known, established, emerging, and anticipated food safety hazards, and they provide advice to help policymakers, food businesses, and consumers make safe choices. Joint FAO/WHO expert committees on nutrition, food additives, pesticide residues, and microbiological risk assessment provide evidence-based information to various Codex committees to develop standards, guidelines, and codes of practice.

Without science, food safety along supply chains, which often span the globe and across multiple borders, would not be possible. Science provides the fundamental basis for food safety.

Considering the importance of science-based food standards and food safety risk analysis in international food trade and consumer health protection, the World Food Safety Day 2025 campaign has been designed to highlight science-based decision-making for food safety. This campaign aims to elaborate science-based decision making in formulating Codex standards, guidelines, and code of practices, including food safety risk analysis, and to draw attention to and inspire action toward the development of national food standards and food safety risk analysis, its implementations to promote fair practices in food trade and to protect consumer health. By doing so, it contributes not only to food safety and consumer health but also to economic prosperity, agriculture, market access, tourism, and sustainable development.

World Food Safety Day is an important way of:

- ✓ making people aware of food safety issues demonstrating how to prevent
- ✓ illness through food safety
- ✓ discussing collaborative approaches to improved food safety across sectors
- ✓ promoting science-based solutions and ways of making food safe

Theme: Food safety: Science in actions



Objectives of the Webinar



- ✓ To raise awareness about the role of science in food safety.
- ✓ To explain how science-based data and information are used to formulate Codex standards to ensure fair practices in trade and consumer health protection.
- ✓ To share knowledge and best practices to generate data and scientific evidence to inform policy decisions and formulation national food safety standards.
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Webinar logistics



Date: 10 June 2025 Time: 10:00 – 12: 00 (GMT +5.30, New Delhi time) Zoom registration link: <https://who-e.zoom.us/meeting/register/6Y79IQpARb-xcq1jlsbgYA>

SCAN ME



Zoom registration QR code

SCAN ME



YouTube Live Streaming Link:<https://www.youtube.com/@whosoutheastasia>

Institutional arrangement for organizing a webinar



Lead organizer: Gyanendra Gongal - WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia (SEARO)

Coordinator: Sridhar Dharmapuri, Panpilad Saikaew – FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO RAP)

Co-organizer: Jessica Kayamori Lopes and Syed Hossain - WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WHO WPRO);

Sithar Dorjee and Citra Prasetyawati – WHO SEARO

Target audience



- ✓ Government counterparts – Governments are responsible for developing policies and regulations related to food safety standards.
- ✓ Food business operators - Food business operators can play a critical role in implementing science-based food standards for fair practices in food trade and consumer health protection, working collaboratively with government authorities and other stakeholders.
- ✓ Consumers - Consumers can play a crucial role by practicing safe food handling, staying informed, and implementing science-based food safety standards.

The proposed webinar is aimed at food safety regulators from various sectors, businesses, and disciplines, including consumers, academia, and students.



PROVISIONAL AGENDA

10 JUNE 2025



Time	Topic	Speaker
Welcome		
10:00 – 10:10	Opening Remarks	Ms. Sarah Cahill , Codex Alimentarius Commission, HQ
10:10 - 10:15	Video show (WFSD2025)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0kub_6T3yY
10:15 – 10:20	Ice breaker	WHO/WPRO
Presentation		
10:20 – 10:35	Food Safety: Science in Action	Professor Samuel Godefroy , GForSS
10:35 – 10:50	Science-based Food Safety Standards and Food Safety Risk Analysis and their Importance	Gyanendra GONGAL , Senior Public Health Officer, WHO/SEARO, New Delhi
Panel Discussion		
10:50 – 11:55	Topic: “Role of the Asia-Pacific Region in science-based food standards” Panelists: • Dr Debabrata Kanungo (India) – Member, JMPR • Dr Aya Orito Nozawa (Japan) – CCASIA Coordinator • Representative from Singapore - (TBC) • Dr Steve Crossley (Australia) - Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) • Dr Atul Upadhyaya (Nepal) - Representative from a professional organization	Moderator: Sridhar DHARMAPURI, Senior Food Safety & Nutrition Officer FAO RAP, Bangkok
Closing		
11:55 – 12:00	Closing remarks	Jessica KAYAMORI-LOPES , Technical Officer, WHO WPRO