

The Future of Food Safety

Transforming knowledge into action for people, economies and the environment

The First FAO/WHO/AU International Food Safety Conference

Addis Ababa, 12-13 February 2019

Overall conference objectives:

- Identify key actions and strategies to address current and future challenges to food safety globally
- Strengthen commitment at the highest political level to scale up food safety in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Draft conference structure:

The conference will include technical panel presentations and discussions as well as ministerial panels involving Health, Trade and Agriculture officials and experts to address key food safety issues and strategic actions. The thematic sessions will cover:

- The burden of foodborne diseases and the benefits of investing in safe food
- Safe and sustainable food systems in an era of accelerated climate change
- Science, innovation and digital transformation at the service of food safety
- Empowering consumers to make healthy choices and support sustainable food systems.

Each of the four themes will feature five topics – with speakers giving short presentations during the Conference and publishing more detailed papers ahead of the meeting. The background papers are available on the Conference website:

<https://www.who.int/food-safety/international-food-safety-conference>.

Moderated panel discussions will focus on sharing perspectives, emerging problems and best practice examples.



Draft timetable: First FAO/WHO/AU International Food Safety Conference

12 February 2019	
8:00	Registration desk open
	Main Conference
10:00-11:30	Opening Session
	<p>Opening Remarks and Introduction to the Conference (including the introduction of the Conference Chairperson: Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD))</p> <p>Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission</p> <p>José Graziano da Silva, FAO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director General Roberto Azevedo, WTO Director General Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of African Union Commission Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of Ethiopia</p>
11:30 -12:00	Coffee will be made available
12:00-13:00	<p>First Ministerial Panel Moderator: Girum Chala, Journalist, China Global Television Network (CGTN), Ethiopia</p>
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 16:30	<p>Thematic Session 1: The burden of foodborne diseases and the benefits of investing in safe food Moderator: Nathan Belete, Food & Agriculture Global Practice Manager, World Bank Group</p> <p>Arie Hendrik Havelaar, Professor, University of Florida, USA: The public health burden of unsafe foods: a need for global commitment Steven Jaffee, Lead Agricultural Economist, World Bank Group, Singapore: Economic case for investments in food safety Ed Mabaya, Manager, African Development Bank, Côte d'Ivoire: Leveraging private sector investment for safe value chains John McDermott, Director of CGIAR Research Programme on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH), International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), USA: People-focussed food safety investment in low- and middle-income countries Chibundu Ezekiel, Senior Postdoctoral Researcher, Babcock University, Nigeria: The importance of integrated approaches for addressing food safety problems - the case of mycotoxins</p>
	Coffee will be made available
16:30 – 18:30	<p>Thematic Session 2: Safe and sustainable food systems in an era of accelerated climate change Moderator: Abebe Haile-Gabriel, Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Africa, FAO</p> <p>Cristina Tirado, Director of the International Climate Initiative, Loyola Marymount University, USA: Climate change and implications for food safety Howard Shapiro, Chief Agricultural Officer, Mars Inc., USA: Safe, sustainable, crop production: meeting the goals Tim McAllister, Principal Research Scientist, Agri-Food Canada, Canada: Safe and sustainable livestock production José Miguel Burgos, Researcher, University of Chile and Former Director Sernapesca, Chile: Safe and sustainable aquaculture intensification Eva Maria Binder, Chief Research Officer, ERBER AG, Austria: Alternative food and feed products</p>
18:30 – 19:30	<p>Panel Discussion – Civil Society and Private Sector Moderator: Girum Chala, Journalist, China Global Television Network (CGTN), Ethiopia</p> <p>Leon Gorris, Head of Food Safety, International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST) Cris Muyunda, CSO Coordinator, Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Samuel Godefroy, Professor, Laval University, Canada</p>

	<p>Laura Fernandez Celemin, Director General, European Food Information Council (EUFIC), Belgium</p> <p>Owen Fraser, President, Association of Analytical Communities (AOAC International) Sub-Saharan Africa Region</p> <p>Greg S. Garrett, Director, Food Policy & Financing, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)</p> <p>Barbara Kowalczyk, Co-founder and former CEO of the Center for Foodborne Illness Research & Prevention (CFI), USA</p> <p>David Crean, Vice President, Corporate R&D, Mars Inc., USA</p>
19:30– 21:30	Conference Reception at the Multipurpose Hall at the AUC Headquarters
	13 February 2019
8:00	Registration desk open
9:00-11:00	<p>Thematic Session 3: Science, innovation and digital transformation at the service of food safety</p> <p>Moderator: Robert van Gorcom, Director of the Food Safety Research Institute (RIKILT), Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands</p>
	<p>Juno Thomas, Head of the Centre for Enteric Diseases, National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), South Africa: Whole genome sequencing – paving the way forward globally to better understand food systems</p> <p>Aideen McKeivitt, Professor, University College Dublin, Ireland: Novel food production</p> <p>Steven Musser, Deputy Center Director, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), USA: Novel analytical methods and models for enhanced food safety</p> <p>Kennedy Bomfeh, Food Scientist, University of Ghana: Policy consideration for the development and adoption of technologies for local food value chains</p> <p>Mark Booth, Chief Executive Officer, Food Standards Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ), Australia: Digital transformation of the food systems</p>
11:00-11:30	Coffee will be made available
11:30-13:30	<p>Thematic Session 4: Empowering consumers to make healthy food choices and support sustainable food systems</p> <p>Moderator: Svetlana Akselrod, Assistant Director General, Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health, WHO</p>
	<p>Barbara Gallani, Head of Communication, Engagement and Cooperation, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Italy: Understanding food safety risks and uncertainties and meeting citizens’ expectations as food systems become more complex</p> <p>Lynn Frewer, Professor, Newcastle University, UK: Effective communication and engagement with the public about food safety and quality issues in the digital age</p> <p>Francesco Branca, Director of the Department for Nutrition for Health and Development, WHO: Dietary transitions and the triple burden of malnutrition necessitate action</p> <p>Stephen Mbithi, Technical Advisor and former Chief Executive Officer of the Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya: Harnessing market drivers of food safety</p> <p>Rebecca Berner, Institutional Development Director, Consumers International, Mexico: Sharing responsibility for consumer empowerment</p>
13:30 –14:30	Lunch
14:30-15:30	Side Event: African Union Special Event on Trade of Safe Food in Free Trade Areas
15:30 -16:00	<p>Summary of Thematic Sessions</p> <p>Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer, New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), Conference Chairperson</p>
16:00-17:00	<p>Panel Discussion – Policy Makers (heads of national agencies)</p> <p>Moderator: Mary Lou Valdez, Associate Commissioner for International Programs, Office of International Programs, Food and Drug Administration</p>
	<p>Pawan Agarwal, Chief Executive Officer, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, India</p> <p>Jorge Dal Bianco, National Directorate for Food Safety and Quality (DNICA), Argentina</p> <p>Sètondji Epiphane Hossou, Director General, Benin Food Safety Agency (ABSSA), Benin</p>

	<p>Zainab Jallow, Director General, Food Safety and Quality Authority , Gambia</p> <p>Bernhard Kühnle, Director-General for Food Safety and Animal Health, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Germany</p> <p>Mohammad Mahfuzul Hoque, Chairman, Bangladesh Food Safety Authority, Ministry of Food, Bangladesh</p> <p>Hussein Mansour, Chairman of the National Food Safety Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Egypt</p> <p>Pietro Noè, Director, Directorate General for Food, Hygiene and Safety and Nutrition, Ministry of Health, Italy</p> <p>Vyacheslav Y. Smolenskiy , Deputy Head of Rospotrebnadzor, Russian Federation</p>
17:00-18:00	<p>Panel Discussion – Partner Organizations</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Girum Chala</i>, Journalist, China Global Television Network (CGTN), Ethiopia</p>
	<p><i>Jimmy Smith</i>, Director General, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)</p> <p><i>Jean-Philippe Dop</i>, Deputy Director General, Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)</p> <p><i>Aurelia Patrizia Calabro</i>, Representative and Director of the Regional Hub in Ethiopia, UNIDO</p> <p><i>Simeon Ehui</i>, Director of Food and Agriculture Global Practice, World Bank</p> <p><i>Matthew Hudson</i>, Acting Director Food Chain, DG-SANTE, European Commission</p> <p><i>Stephanie Hochstetter</i>, Director, Rome Based Agencies Coordination, World Food Programme</p>
18:00-19:00	<p>Closing Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of key messages from the panels - Addis-Ababa Statement on the Future of Food Safety - Closing remarks