



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

**CODEX**  
**ALIMENTARIUS**  
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS

🕒 **30 January 2025**

Kampala, Uganda - 11:30-13:00 EAT  
(Eastern Africa Time) UTC/GMT +3 hours

🗣️ Languages:  
English, French, Portuguese

## Effective regulation through harmonization of Food additives standards in Africa: FAO/WHO Risk assessment approach as a sound basis for regulatory and policy decisions

East African Business Council (EABC) and International Union of Food  
Science and Technology (IUFOST)

Side event tentative programme

# CCAFRICA25

### Concept note

Food additives play a crucial role in modern food production, enhancing the safety, quality, and shelf-life of food products. However, the regulation of these additives varies significantly across countries, leading to potential trade barriers and safety concerns. In many CCAFRICA Member States, food additives standards and regulations may not have been updated or constantly been amended, resulting in:

- a maze of rules which industry and consumers find difficult to interpret and implement
- Unharmonized regulations, limiting trade within Africa

The fast advancement in food technology and innovation, increase of trade within the region and consumer demand for safe food requires a pragmatic approach to update existing laws to protect consumers and facilitate intra-Africa trade.

The Codex General Standards for Food Additives (GSFA), established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), provides a comprehensive framework for the safe use of food additives globally. Aligning national regulations with the GSFA offers numerous benefits, including improved public health, enhanced trade opportunities, and streamlined regulatory processes. The Codex Alimentarius Commission relies heavily on the scientific evaluations and risk assessments conducted by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) to develop international food standards.

This side event provides an opportunity for member states to discuss opportunities and key considerations for food additives standards harmonization in Africa including leveraging JECFA Risk Assessment Frameworks as basis for science based regulatory and policy decisions.



**Programme**

Thursday  
30 January 2025

Time	Topic	Speaker/s
	<b>Opening session - Setting the scene</b> - Setting the context for regional food regulatory integration and its imperative to support AfCFTA - Role played by CCAFRICA as an engine for food regulatory integration in Africa	Moderator - Prof. Samuel Godefroy  CCAFRICA Coordinator - Mr. Hakim Mufumbiro
	<b>Presentation:</b> Importance of harmonization of African food standards/ regulations with regional and international standards	Mr. Reuben Gisore, Technical Director, ARSO
	<b>Presentation:</b> Overview of the efforts made by EAC to support Food Regulatory Harmonization	Mr. Peter Mutua, Kenya, Chair to the CCFA in-session working group (WG) on priorities
	<b>Oral intervention:</b> Ongoing developments within CCFA and relevance of the adoption of GSFA by African Countries	
	<b>Video Presentation:</b> Reviewing a Case Study of Discrepancy in Food Additive Standards - The Case study of Titanium Dioxide	Dr. Mark Feeley, Expert, Global Food Regulatory Science Society and coordinator of the JECFA Meetings on TiO2
	<b>Moderated Panel Discussion:</b> Sharing best practices and recommendations on the harmonization of food additives regulations	Moderator + All Speakers and ± 2 Additional Panelists from different regions
	<b>Questions and feedback from the Audience</b>	Moderator - Prof. Samuel Godefroy
	<b>Conclusion and wrap up</b>	Prof. Samuel. Godefroy Mr. Hakim Mufumbiro

**Complimentary Lunch**