



FOOD SAFETY NEWS



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<http://www.who.int/foodsafety/en>

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Foodborne Disease Burden Stakeholder Event

From 26 to 30 October 2009, the WHO hosted the third formal meeting of the Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG) in connection with the third international Foodborne Diseases Stakeholder Event in Geneva. For the first time, the FERG reviewed preliminary burden of disease results in the areas of enteric, parasitic and chemical causes of foodborne diseases. Specifically, they discussed interim results of diarrhoeal disease morbidity and mortality in persons older than 5 years, as well as the burden of dog and pork tapeworm and peanut allergens. The results were presented to stakeholders in a one-day event (reported on by PLoS Medicine: <http://speakingofmedicine.plos.org/2009/11/02/counting-the-global-burden-of-foodborne-disease/>). Stakeholders were invited to a second day of consultation where they discussed in extended workshops how the burden estimates may be used to inform food safety policy. WHO is now preparing the reports which will be publicly available in due course.

Contact Claudia Stein (Tel: +41 22 791 3234 -E-mail: steinc@who.int).

Five Keys to Safer Food - Train the Trainer course - Module 1: Directed to Women

WHO has developed a training course on the Five Keys to Safer Food which provides guidance on how to both educate and promote the adoption of safe food handling behaviours. The first module was designed to target women as women play an important role in the production and the preparation of safe food. This course was developed in response to the increasing number of requests from countries to assist in strengthening their food safety education programmes for the prevention of foodborne diseases. This course also supports the WHO Director-General's priority to promote the health of women, particularly in developing countries (see the WHO Report on Women and Health launched on 9 November 2009 at www.who.int/gender/women_health_report/en).

The training course is available in English at: www.who.int/foodsafety/consumer/keys_training/en

Contact: Françoise Fontannaz (Tel: +41 22 791 3697 - E-mail: fontannazf@who.int).

Five Keys to Safer Food - Sharing and reapplying practical knowledge

To foster the exchange and reapplication of practical food safety knowledge in and between Member States, FOS has created a section on the WHO Five Keys web page to enable countries and partners to have access to the different tools produced in different parts of the world to deliver the Five Keys messages (www.who.int/foodsafety/consumer/5keys/en/index2.html). Countries can greatly benefit from exchanging experiences and tested solutions with each other and users of the Five Keys to Safer Food are encouraged to send their feedback to WHO (including web site links) to Françoise Fontannaz (Tel: +41 22 791 36 97 - E-mail: fontannazf@who.int).

Mid-term review of the Codex Trust Fund

A mid-term review to assess the progress and sustainability of the Codex Trust Fund is being undertaken between November 2009 and March 2010. The review will also serve as the basis to determine the focus of the Fund's activities for the remaining project duration. The Consultative Group for the Trust Fund has chosen the company *Andante Tools for thinking AB* in Sweden to undertake the review. The team is composed of Dr Kim Forss, evaluation specialist from Sweden; Ms Eve Kasirye-Alemu, food safety expert from Uganda and Mr Jens Andersson, trade, aid and development specialist from Sweden. For the full terms of reference of the mid-term review, or any additional information, please contact: Catherine Mulholland (Tel: +41 22 791 3080 - E-mail: codextrustfund@who.int).

Call for data for evaluation of residues of ractopamine in pig tissues

In response to a request from the Thirty-second session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission above data are request until 15 December 2009. For more details please refer to the call for data at: www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa_new_en.asp

Call for data for the 73rd JECFA at: www.who.int/ipcs/food/jecfa/data/en - Deadline 1 December 2009

Call for data for the 2010 JMPR at: www.who.int/ipcs/food/jmpr/data/en - Deadline 20 December 2009

Contact: Angelika Tritscher (Tel: +41 22 791 3569 - E-mail: tritschera@who.int).

New publications available on the web:

Summary report of the 2009 JMPR meeting available at the following website: www.who.int/ipcs/food/jmpr/summaries/en