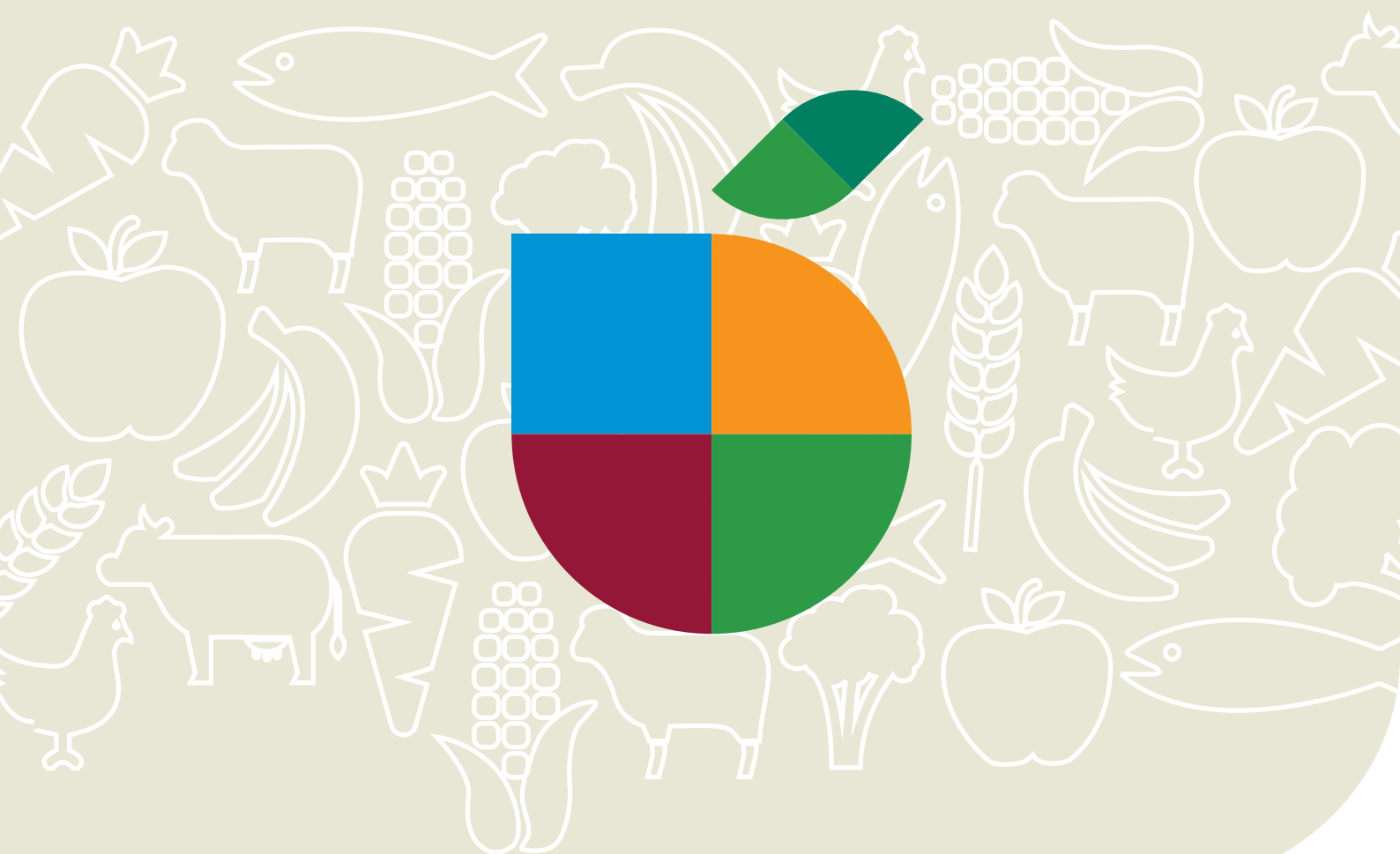


REPORT OF THE

 **First** meeting

OF THE

Technical Advisory Group on Food Safety:
Safer Food for Better Health



**World Health
Organization**

Virtual meeting, 8–10 February 2021

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This report was developed by Dr Amina Benyahia, Scientist, and Mr Cheng Liang, Technical Officer, Multisectoral Actions in Food Systems Unit (AFS), WHO Department of Nutrition and Food Safety (NFS). WHO is most grateful to Professor Alan Reilly who is commissioned by WHO to provide the extensive technical and indispensable advice throughout the process of drafting and finalization of this report. Input was provided by Dr Francesco Branca, Director NFS and Dr Luz Maria De-Regil, Unit Head, AFS.



Declarations of interest

All experts participating in WHO meetings must participate in their individual capacity and declare any interest relevant to the meeting prior to their participation. All members of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) submitted a declaration of interests along with their application to join the TAG and before each meeting. The declarations were reviewed by the responsible technical officer and the relevant departments before their appointment and/or receiving an invitation to attend a TAG meeting. In addition, TAG members made a verbal declaration of their interest during the meeting. No conflicts affecting the outcomes of the meeting were identified for any TAG members.



Summary

The first Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting on the update of the WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety was held on 8–10 February 2021, from 12:00–15:00 CET each day. The meeting was attended by WHO Multisectoral Actions in Food Systems (AFS) headquarters staff, WHO Regional Advisors for Food Safety, 24 TAG members, and staff from the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as observers.

The overall objective of the first TAG meeting was to collect experts' advice on the discussion paper on the update process of the WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety developed for this meeting.

The TAG meeting participants agreed on the role of food safety in the global development agenda, the drivers of change for the future of food safety, the aim and the vision, and the proposed five strategic priorities. The meeting highlighted the need to foster global and regional cooperation. While recognizing the strategy should be Member State oriented, it was agreed to enhance WHO's leadership and give more visibility to WHO's role in supporting Member States to strengthen food safety and lower the burden of foodborne disease.

The consultation recommended the WHO Secretariat:

1. Draft WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety in line with the comments and inputs provided during the consultation and the written comments received by 15 February.
2. Organize a follow-up meeting to address the unfinished agenda on the implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and the draft strategy.

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