



Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

73rd WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY (resumed session)

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Item 15.3 - Accelerating efforts on food safety

Written statement by BRAZIL

Brazil welcomes the adoption of Resolution WHA73.5 on strengthening efforts on food safety, which Brazil is pleased to cosponsor.

Brazil reiterates the importance of food safety for the health and well-being of all populations.

The *Codex Alimentarius* Commission and its subsidiary bodies, as well as the the joint expert bodies of WHO and FAO, are fundamental instruments for the promotion of food safety, through the promotion of internationally agreed standards that uphold consumers' health and fair practices in trade, thus promoting equity in access to safe and nutritious food. The Commission is also key to establishing sustainable practices and production systems.

Brazil recalls the importance of the *Codex* multilateral consensus-based process, guided by science. Sound and solid evidence-based standards, recommendations and guidelines from the *Codex Alimentarius* help ensure food safety everywhere. The international risk-focused and science-based *Codex* texts should be the basis to make sure that transparency and predictability are duly in place in the international food trade.



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Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, maintaining food safety has proven to be as important as ever. In the midst of an unprecedented social and economical crisis, international markets have been essential to mitigate food security risks and ensure access to nutritious and safe food.

The *Codex Alimentarius* Commission has lived up to the challenge, by continuing its prominent activities in innovative ways. It has also developed several international best practices to ensure food hygiene in general, as well as when handling meat and other food and to control viruses in food.

Brazil reiterates the call for the WHO secretariat to update, in coordination with FAO, and in consultation with Member States and OIE, the WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety in order to address current and emerging challenges.

Brazil looks forward to the consultation process associated with this initiative that should be as inclusive, transparent and evidence-based as possible, with a view to aligning the WHO programmatic framework for global safety with the innovations and advancements in the field.
