



# CODEX COORDINATION SQUAD MEETING

21 MARCH 2024



01

**Welcome & Introduction**

02

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes – 03 November 2023

03

The Importance of Codex Standards

04

FIA Engagements in Codex

05

Strategic Workplan for FY2024-2025

06

Any Other Business

“

**All meetings of Food Industry Asia (FIA), including this one, shall be conducted in accordance with the relevant competition and antitrust laws. Members shall not enter into any discussion, activity or conduct that may infringe any applicable law.**

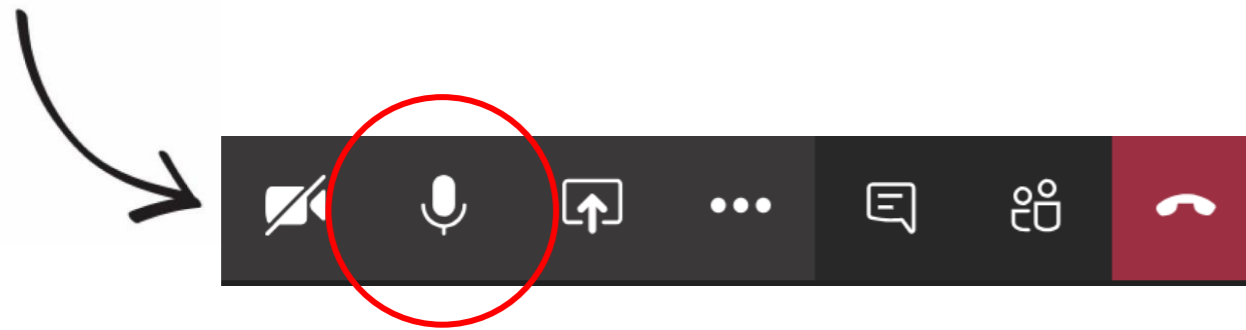
By way of example, participants shall not discuss, communicate or exchange any commercially sensitive information, including non-public information relating to prices, marketing and advertising strategy, costs and revenues, trading terms and conditions with third parties, including purchasing strategy, terms of supply, trade programmes or distribution strategy.

This applies not only to discussions in formal meetings but also to informal discussions before, during and after meetings. Should the meeting discuss matters that fall outside of FIA's legal remit or contravene its competition law policy, the Chairman will close the meeting.

”

## HOUSEKEEPING RULES

To minimise interruptions during this meeting, please note that **your mic will be muted**.



Please use the **raise hand feature** on the Microsoft Teams app if you have any questions or comments.

This meeting will **be recorded for internal note-taking purposes only**.

01

Welcome & Introduction

02

- **Approval of Agenda**
- **Approval of Minutes – 03 November 2023**

03

The Importance of Codex Standards

04

FIA Engagements in Codex

05

Strategic Workplan for FY2024-2025

06

Any Other Business

## 03 NOVEMBER 2023 MEETING

1

**FIA Action:** The Secretariat will develop a survey to grasp the priority topics and identify personnel in-charge within each member companies.

**Status Update:** A survey was conducted from December 2023 to January 2024 and the Secretariat has amended our engagement topics according to the inputs received. The updated list of engagement topics will be shared in Agenda #4.

2

**FIA Action:** The Secretariat will conduct a stakeholder mapping of ASEAN countries to understand their positions on the priority topics identified through the survey above.

**Status Update:** FIA is currently in the process of identifying the priority topics of ASEAN countries, and we will soon share the stakeholder mapping.

01

Welcome & Introduction

02

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes – 03 November 2023

03

**The Importance of Codex Standards**

04

FIA Engagements in Codex

05

Strategic Workplan for FY2024-2025

06

Any Other Business

# THE IMPORTANCE OF CODEX STANDARDS





# ASIAN COUNTRIES RELY SIGNIFICANTLY ON CODEX STANDARDS

## BANGLADESH

The Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA), in collaboration with FAO, announced **11,200 draft food regulations harmonised with Codex standards**, slated for gazetting by end-2023. These regulations encompass **vertical standards** covering milk and milk products, meat and meat products, fish and fish products, poultry products, fats and oils, along with **horizontal standards addressing food additives, processing aids, contaminants, food labelling, food hygiene, inspection and certification, and methods of sampling and analysis.**

## SINGAPORE

Singapore has been a member of Codex since 1969 and is **actively involved in various Codex Committees**, playing a significant role in the development of Codex standards and guidelines. Additionally, Singapore **actively adopts Codex standards related to food labelling, food hygiene, and other relevant areas.**

## FOOD ADDITIVES

Countries that adopt Codex General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)

### Philippines

Drafted Revised Guidelines on Food Additives and Processing Aids, Repealing Administrative Order 88-As, 1984

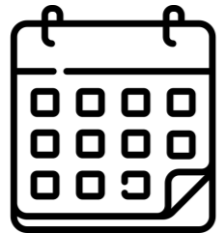
"Only those food additives adopted by Codex Alimentarius at the proposed level of use for specified food categories shall be included in this Order"

"Where there is no national standard for specific food products, the food additive/s and its maximum level of use shall follow the Codex standard."

### Vietnam

Issued Circular No 17/2023/TT-BYT, which amends Articles of Circular No.24/2019/TT-BYT of the Minister of Health on Guiding the Management and Use of Food Additives

"Following the CODEX STAN 192-1995, the maximum use levels of food additives and the list of food additives and food subjects used according to GMP will now be automatically updated."



### Schedule

Approximately 1 hour  
webinar in July or  
August 2024



### Speakers

Codex Secretariats extensively  
involved in CCFA and CAC, along  
with potentially JECFA Secretariats



### Objectives

Provide members with a comprehensive  
understanding of the Codex platform  
and its working mechanisms

### Proposed Agenda

- ABCs of Codex
  - What is Codex?
  - How to use the Codex website?
  - 8 step Codex procedures
- Science behind the development of Codex standards
- Difference between Members and Observers
- JECFA evaluation of food additives
  - Evaluation timeline
  - Requirements for inclusion of new food additives
- New work proposal procedure to each Codex Committees
- **Question & Answer section (pending inputs from members)**



### For discussion:

Identify additional areas where you would like the  
Codex Secretariat to address during the webinar

You may access the Codex e-learning courses [here](#).

01

Welcome & Introduction

02

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes – 03 November 2023

03

The Importance of Codex Standards

04

**FIA Engagements in Codex**

05

Strategic Workplan for FY2024-2025

06

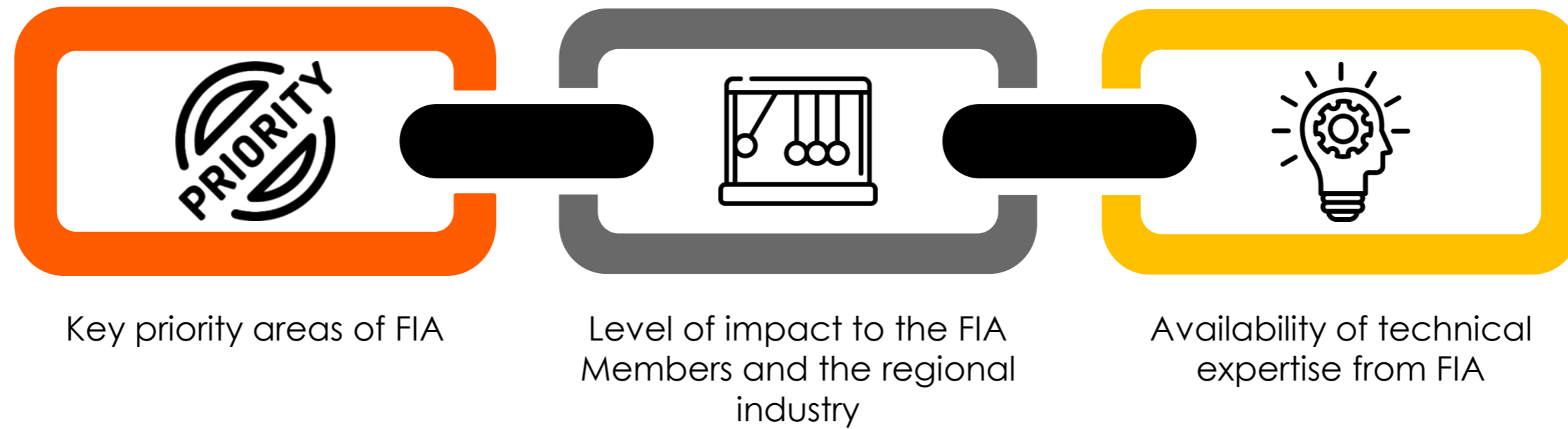
Any Other Business

# FIA ENGAGEMENTS IN CODEX



Committee	Participating Topics
CAC and CCEXEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Food Sources and Production Systems</li> </ul>
CCFL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EWG on Food Allergens Labelling</li> <li>• EWG on Use of Technology to Provide Food Information in Food Labelling</li> <li>• EWG on Guidance on the Sale of Food through the Means of e-Commerce</li> <li>• Application of Food Labelling Provisions in Emergencies</li> <li>• Sustainability labelling claims</li> <li>• Joint presentation and multi-packaged foods</li> <li>• Labelling Options to Support the Reduction of Trans Fatty Acids</li> </ul>
CCFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EWG on General Standard for Food Additives</li> <li>• EWG on Alignment of the food additive provisions</li> </ul>
CCFICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EWG on Prevention and Control of Food Fraud</li> <li>• EWG on Use of Remote Audit and Verification in Regulatory Frameworks</li> <li>• EWG on Proposed Draft Revision of the Principles for Traceability/Product Tracing as a Tool Within a Food Inspection and Certification System</li> </ul>
CCCF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum levels for lead in certain food categories</li> </ul>
CCFH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Guidelines for the Safe Use and Reuse of Water in Food Production and Processing</li> </ul>

Committee	Participating Topics	Monitoring Topics	Secretariat
<b>CAC</b> and CCEXEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Food Sources and Production Systems</li> <li>Recycled material in food packaging (potential new work)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031</li> </ul>	Liza and Matt
<b>CCFL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EWG on Food Allergens Labelling</li> <li><a href="#">EWG on Use of Technology to Provide Food Information in Food Labelling</a></li> <li><a href="#">EWG on Guidance on the Sale of Food through the Means of e-Commerce</a></li> <li><a href="#">EWG on Application of Food Labelling Provisions in Emergencies</a></li> <li><a href="#">EWG on Sustainability labelling claims</a></li> <li>EWG on Joint presentation and multi-packaged foods</li> <li><a href="#">Establishment of a Definition of Added Sugars</a> (potential new work)</li> <li><a href="#">Labelling Options to Support the Reduction of Trans Fatty Acids</a> (potential new work)</li> </ul>		Jelene and Liza
<b>CCFA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">EWG on General Standard for Food Additives</a></li> <li><a href="#">EWG on Alignment of the food additive provisions</a></li> <li><a href="#">EWG on Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives (INS)</a></li> <li>Baker's yeast (potential new work)</li> </ul>		Cyrus and Liza
<b>CCNFSDU</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">EWG on Harmonisation of Probiotics Guidelines For Use in Foods and Food Supplements</a></li> <li>EWG on General Principle for the establishment of NRVs-R for persons aged 6 to 36 months</li> <li>EWG on Optional Ingredients in the Standard for Infant Formula and Formulas for Special Medical Purposes Intended for Infants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EWG on Methods of Analysis for Sweetness of Carbohydrate Source in "Products for Young Children"</li> <li><a href="#">Guidelines on Nutritional Composition for Food &amp; Beverages Made from Plant-based and Alternative Protein Sources</a> (potential new work)</li> </ul>	Cyrus and Jelene
CCFICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EWG on Prevention and Control of Food Fraud</li> <li>EWG on Use of Remote Audit and Verification in Regulatory Frameworks</li> <li>EWG on Proposed Draft Revision of the Principles for Traceability/Product Tracing as a Tool Within a Food Inspection and Certification System</li> </ul>		Liza and Matt
CCCF		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priority list of contaminants for evaluation by JECFA</li> <li>Emerging issues in food safety relevant to contaminants</li> </ul>	Liza and Cyrus
CCFH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Draft Guidelines for the Safe Use and Reuse of Water in Food Production and Processing</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Code of Practice on Allergen Management for Food Business Operators</li> </ul>	Jelene
CCMAS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EWG on Methods of Analysis for Food Allergens</li> </ul>	Jelene
CCFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">EWG on Limitation of iTFAs or prohibition of PHOs</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standard for Microbial Omega-3 Oils</li> </ul>	Jelene



01

Welcome & Introduction

02

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes – 03 November 2023

03

The Importance of Codex Standards

04

FIA Engagements in Codex

05

**Strategic Workplan for FY2024-2025**

06

Any Other Business

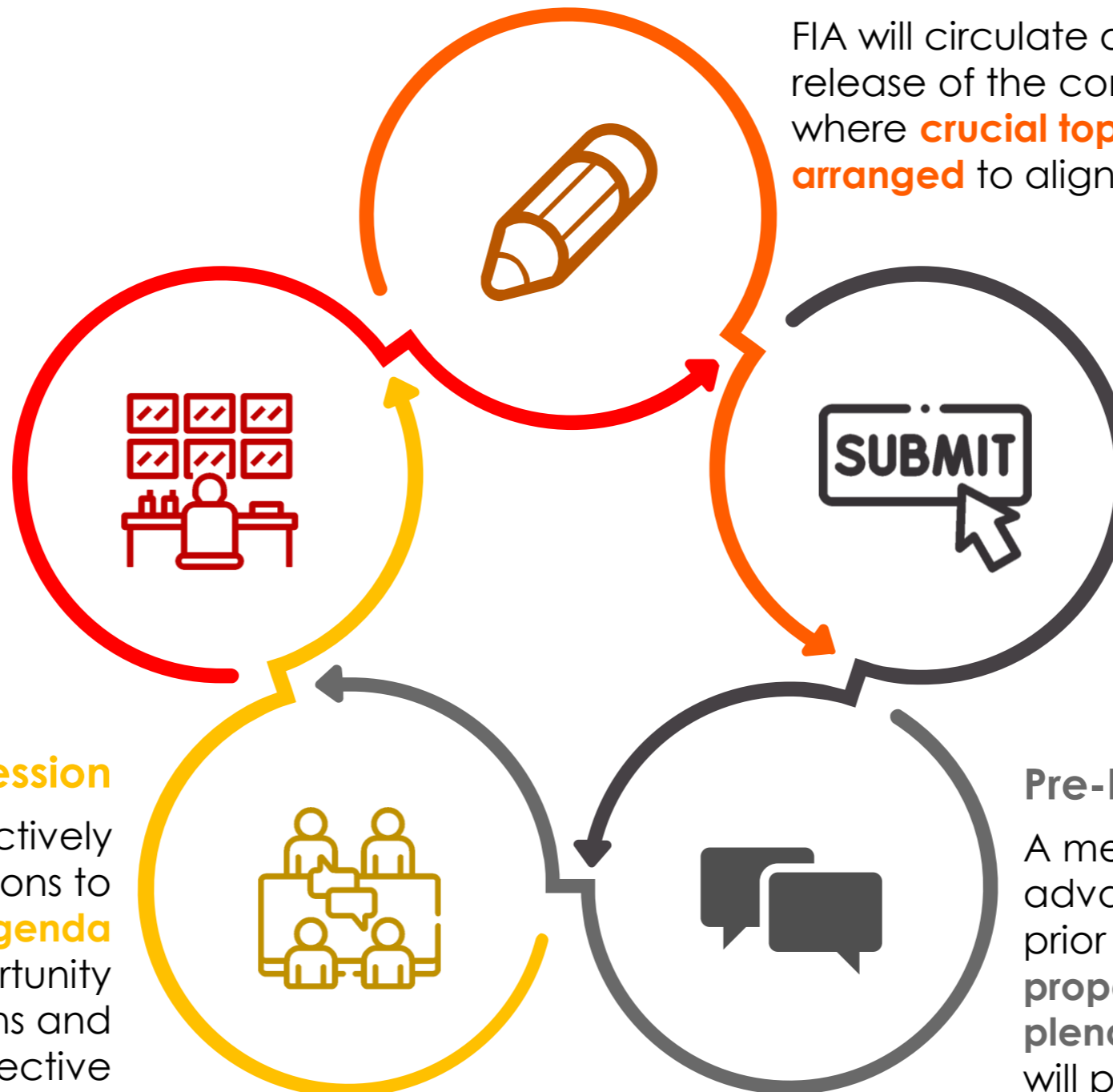


# STRATEGIC WORKPLAN FOR FY2024-2025



**Post-Plenary Phase**  
 FIA will conduct an analysis of the circular letter to ensure that it comprehensively **captures all the discussions and modifications that were addressed during the plenary session**. In the event that the electronic working group is reconvened, FIA will also participate in it.

**Plenary Session**  
 Throughout the plenary session, FIA will actively interact with different country delegations to **gain insight into their stances on crucial agenda topics**. Additionally, we will take the opportunity to advocate for the industry's positions and express our concerns to the respective delegation teams.



**Drafting Phase**

FIA will circulate our draft comments within two weeks of the release of the consultation paper or circular letter. In cases where **crucial topics are involved, a separate call may be arranged** to align on the industry's concerns.

**Submission of Comments**

FIA will **socialise our comments with the national industry associations**, aiming to foster a regional consensus. The Secretariat will also **closely monitor the comments submitted by the national Codex cells in APAC** to gain insights on their positions.

**Pre-Plenary Phase**

A meeting brief will be crafted one month in advance. This document will encompass FIA's prior comments, along with **potential points or proposals that FIA plans to raise during the plenary sessions**. As an advocacy strategy, we will prepare a **minimum of two alternative proposals**. Furthermore, an alignment call will be scheduled with the pertinent stakeholders to finetune these proposals.

**CAC 45:** Recognition of the importance of addressing new food sources and production systems (NFPS)

### **CAC 46 Outcome on NFPS:**

Members encouraged to submit discussion papers or new work proposals based on the range of ideas discussed at the meeting.

#### **FIA ACTION**

Aug 2023: FIA Secretariat submitted [comments](#) on the [Circular Letter](#), addressing the following:

1. "Guidance on Approval of New Ingredients and New Technologies" as a specific topic requiring development
2. Suggestion to establish an ad hoc intergovernmental task and working group under CAC, to work on identifying approaches to address NFPS topics
3. Labelling and adoption of consistent nomenclature as a key point for the scope of NFPS

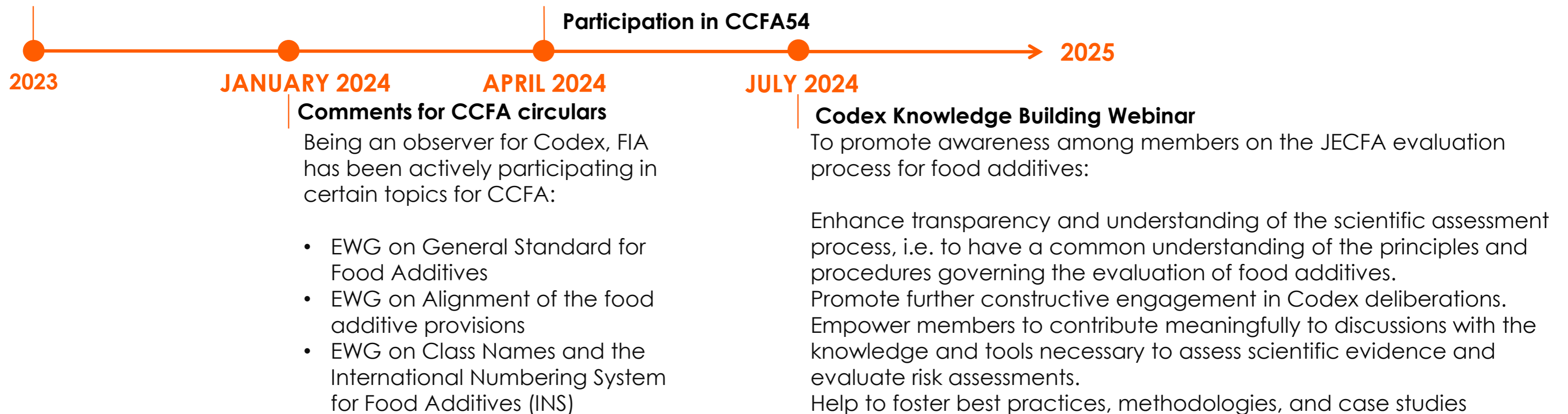
#### **OPPORTUNITY**

FIA Secretariat will engage with SFA's Codex & Novel Food Team, to align priorities and opportunities to collaborate in the workscope of new food sources and production systems (NFPS).

## Plan in 2024

The physical presence at CCFA54 allows for direct engagement with other stakeholders, including government officials, industry representatives, and experts, fostering networking opportunities and collaboration:

- FIA to participate in face-to-face discussions, ask questions, and share perspectives in real-time, which can lead to more impactful contributions to the deliberations.
- Understand the dynamics of the meeting, including non-verbal cues and informal interactions, which may not be fully captured in remote participation.
- To observe the decision-making process firsthand, gaining insights into the negotiation strategies, compromises, and outcomes achieved during the session.



## Topics under Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

### CURRENT TOPICS

Topics that FIA has participated/monitored since 2023

- **Proposed Harmonised Probiotic Guidelines for Use in Foods and Food Supplements:** FIA commented on first consultation document published on 31 October 2023, 2nd Consultation Paper: comments from members to be compiled by 15 March 2024.
- **Appropriate methods for assessing the sweetness of carbohydrate sources in “Product for young children”:** Not published yet.
- **Guidelines on Nutritional Composition for Food & Beverages Made from Plant-based and Alternative Protein Sources:** Not published yet

### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

FIA will be participating for the following topics related to infant formula and follow up formula

- **Establishing NRVs-R for persons aged 6 to 36 months 2023:** 2nd Consultation Paper will be sent to members to comment by end of March 2024.
- **Optional Ingredients in the Infant Formula Standard:** Deadline for comments on 1st Consultation Paper was on 2nd February 2024. Initially, the 2nd document was planned to be circulated on 31 January 2024 with the deadline for comments on 31 March 2024.



**Food Allergen Labelling and Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL)**

- Format for allergen and PAL declaration, along with certain degree of flexibilities

**Provision of Food Information for Prepackaged Foods offered via E-commerce**

- Pushback against the minimum durability period for products upon delivery

**Guidelines on Flexibilities to the Application of Food Labelling in Emergencies**

- Decision on the separate work to review GSLPF on ingredient substitution

**Use of Technology to Provide Food Information in Food Labelling**

**Food Labelling in Food Formats Joint Presentation and in Multiple Packages**

**Labelling Options to Support the Reduction of Trans Fatty Acids**

**Establishment of a Definition on Added Sugars**

01

Welcome & Introduction

02

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes – 03 November 2023

03

The Importance of Codex Standards

04

FIA Engagements in Codex

05

Strategic Workplan for FY2024-2025

06

**Any Other Business**

**Any Other Business**







---

**THANK YOU**

Liza Tan | Head of Scientific & Regulatory Affairs | [liza.tan@foodindustry.asia](mailto:liza.tan@foodindustry.asia)  
Cyrus Yeong | Regulatory Affairs Manager | [cyrus.yeong@foodindustry.asia](mailto:cyrus.yeong@foodindustry.asia)  
Jelene Teo | Regulatory Affairs, Senior Executive | [jieling.teo@foodindustry.asia](mailto:jieling.teo@foodindustry.asia)