



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

**CODEX
ALIMENTARIUS**
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS

🕒 **12 May 2026**
12:15 – 13:15 EDT (UTC -4)

🗣️ Languages: English only

From Science to Practice: *Implementing Food Allergen Risk Assessment in Real-World Settings*

Tentative programme: SIDE EVENT

CCFL49

Certain foods can trigger allergic reactions in some individuals. Food allergy means a reproducible adverse health effect arising from an IgE antibody or non-IgE antibody immune-mediated response following oral exposure to a food. It is estimated that approximately 220 million people worldwide are affected by food allergies. The proteins responsible for triggering these reactions are known as food allergens.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), has convened a series of meetings of the ad hoc Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Risk Assessment of Food Allergens to update the advice available on this important topic. Five full reports ([Priority list, threshold for priority food allergens](#), [precautionary labelling](#), [exemptions](#), [threshold for other food allergens](#)) and two summary reports ([guidance for risk assessment](#) and [reference dose for gluten](#)) were published.

Based on this FAO/WHO work, several countries have begun transitioning from a traditional hazard-based approach to a risk-based approach to food allergen management. Although challenges remain, an FAO/WHO workshop on risk assessment of food allergens was organized to support countries in understanding and implementing this shift.

The objectives of the side event are to:

- showcase the Netherlands' experience in implementing the FAO/WHO/Codex food allergen reference doses and guidance within their national legislative framework for food allergen control;
- explore how these experiences could be applied by other countries, including potential challenges and possible solutions;
- discuss how risk-based science can be translated into practical implementation; and
- share lessons learned and feedback from the food allergen risk assessment workshop held in Asia last year.

Programme

12:15-12:25	Presentation 1: <i>workshop outcomes and the risk-based approach globally</i>	Kang Zhou, FAO Akio Hasegawa, WHO
12:25-12:35	Presentation 2: <i>the Netherlands' experience in implementing the FAO/WHO/Codex food allergen reference doses and guidance</i>	Nikki Emmerik, the Netherlands
12:35-13:00	Panel discussion	The Netherlands, Australia, Canada, Thailand, allergic patient organization and others
13:00-13:15	Questions and answers	