

A photograph of Steve Wearne, a man with a beard and glasses, wearing a dark suit and a patterned tie. He is speaking at a podium with a microphone. In the background, another man is visible, also wearing a suit and glasses, looking down at a laptop. The background is a blurred indoor setting, likely a conference room.

# STEVE WEARNE

## FOR CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

Credit: FAO

Codex has been a huge part of my working life since I first headed the UK delegation to Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) in 2006, and it has been an honour to serve as Vice-Chairperson since 2017. It would be an even greater honour and a privilege to serve as your next Chairperson. I would bring experience and knowledge from an entire career dedicated to advancing food safety and quality standards, and the perspective of a scientist by training. If elected in November 2021, I commit to be impartial, and to work tirelessly to deliver an inclusive, transparent and resilient Codex respected throughout the world for its commitment to consensus-driven and science-based food standards.

The Codex family has been impacted hugely by the COVID-19 pandemic. I stand ready to steer Codex through the future challenges it will face as the world emerges from the pandemic.

 Watch [my video](#) to find out more

Captions available in Arabic, Chinese, English,  
French, Russian and Spanish



@[stevewearne](#)



#[LeadingTheCodexFamily](#) #[CodexFamily](#)



[Steve Wearne](#)

# MY VISION

## Bring the Codex Strategy to life

- I share the renewed sense of ambition in the Strategic Plan 2020-2025 for a well-resourced and responsive organisation that understands and acts on the priorities and needs of members to develop standards and texts that are actively used around the world.
- I will advocate for work to recognise and respond to challenges and opportunities for consumer health protection and fair trade that arise from changes in the food system.
- I will ensure we put member countries and regions at the centre of our policy – shaping it, owning it and delivering it.

## Build participation

- My leadership of the work on the new Strategic Plan exemplifies an inclusive, transparent and member-driven Codex.
- I apply a focused, dynamic and participatory style to chairing meetings which, with my understanding of how different Codex committees work, helps progress work in a timely manner.

## Be a credible leader and advocate

- I am experienced, knowledgeable and hard-working, having spent my entire professional career in the area of food safety and quality standards in the UK and internationally.
- I have built extensive relationships across the Codex family, with chairs of subsidiary bodies, fellow members of the Executive Committee, member countries and observers.
- I am passionate in advocating with parent organisations for funding for Codex and the science it is based on – from Director General-level down.

# MY TRACK RECORD

## As Vice-Chairperson of CAC

Since 2017, I have chaired discussion of several items at Commission meetings, including our discussion and adoption of the landmark Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025. As Chairperson of four successive CCEXEC sub-committees I led the inclusive and transparent development of the Strategic Plan and have engaged each of the Codex regions in identifying actions to deliver the plan.

## As part of the UK delegation

I have chaired physical working groups which have advanced important texts for Codex:

- the Physical Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in London in December 2016, which built consensus on next steps for this important global issue in the Codex process
- the Physical Working Group on proposed draft guidelines on regulatory approaches to third party assurance that preceded CCFICS24, securing adoption of the guidelines at step 5 by CAC42
- the Physical Working Group on revision of general principles for food hygiene that preceded CCFH51, securing adoption of this revision of one of the foundation texts for Codex at step 5/8 by CAC43



**Elect Steve Wearne**