Diseases caused by foodborne pathogens constitute a global public health challenge. The globalization of the food supply chain impacts the food safety and quality aspects of food on markets everywhere, as well as imports and exports, which are critical to the economic progress and food security of countries. Effective global food safety management systems and standards are therefore important from a public health as well as economic standpoint as national governments seek to protect their consumers while facilitating trade. Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), the global organization responsible for setting up international food standards, has been key in promoting effective use of microbiological testing and microbiological criteria to help drive improvement in food safety and public health. Many member countries of Codex Alimentarius Commission have been actively engaged in modernizing their food safety management with the help of updated technology in analysis, testing and trained resources. To support this important effort, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods (ICMSF) and CII-HUL Initiative on Food Safety Sciences (CHIFSS) are jointly organizing an International Symposium on “Microbiological Food Safety: Sampling and Testing in Food Safety Management” to further strengthen capacity building.
Food safety professionals including experts from Central and State Governments responsible for development or enforcement of microbiological food safety standards, as well as risk assessors and microbiologists in Government, Academia or Industry, i.e. food safety and quality assurance managers, researchers and other relevant R&D personnel, regulatory affairs as well as sampling and testing laboratory specialists. Relevant also for food safety professionals that represent consumer organizations and others with interest in food safety and/or public health.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND**

Develop understanding of microbiological sampling and testing procedures as part of microbiological food safety standards and effective food safety management.

Strengthening appreciation of the basics of microbiological sampling and testing concepts, incl. ICMSF cases, available tools for microbiological criteria setting and the underpinning statistics.

Enable better appreciation of key microbiological safety issues encountered by consumers, industry and the government.

Promote the understanding and use of a risk based approach to food safety management.

Establish a forum to address and discuss global and regional microbiological food safety issues.

Access to world-class expertise in food safety and public health protection with the opportunity to join the knowledge network and meet practitioners on the subject.

**KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

The Symposium comprises of several technical sessions in which eminent International and Indian speakers will speak on important aspects of microbiological food safety management.

- Microbiological sampling and testing: Food Safety Management
- Statistical aspects of microbiological sampling and testing.
- Microbiological challenges in India and role of sampling and testing.
- Useful microbiological testing in general and for specific food commodities

Additionally, there will be poster sessions for young scientists/scholars. Best Posters will be eligible for awards from co-organisers.

**BENEFITS**

**Call for Abstracts for Poster Presentation**

Research abstracts are being invited for poster sessions and will be reviewed for quality and suitability. A select number of abstracts may be accepted for presentation to the discretion of the organisers. National or International young scientists/ scholars may submit an abstract (up to 200 words) on results of their original research (experiments, trials, surveys, analysis of existing datasets) or case studies in the broad area of microbiological food safety management. When abstracts are not clearly written and in correct English, they will be rejected. The bulk of words in the abstract should cover methods and results.

Send abstracts to kiranvph@gmail.com and leon.gorris@unilever.com by 30 August 2018 the latest. Selected authors will be notified by 15 September 2018 of abstract acceptance and poster format requirements. For each accepted abstract, at least one author must register for the Symposium. Each registered author can present only one poster.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND**

Food safety professionals including experts from Central and State Governments responsible for development or enforcement of microbiological food safety standards, as well as risk assessors and microbiologists in Government, Academia or Industry, i.e. food safety and quality assurance managers, researchers and other relevant R&D personnel, regulatory affairs as well as sampling and testing laboratory specialists. Relevant also for food safety professionals that represent consumer organizations and others with interest in food safety and/or public health.

**REGISTRATION FEES**

The delegates/ participants are invited to register as early as possible to enable us to make best possible arrangements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delegates (India)</td>
<td>₹4500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>₹2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delegates (International)</td>
<td>US$ 100</td>
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SPEAKERS

• Shri Pawan Agarwal  
  CEO, FSSAI, India

• Dr Martin Cole  
  CSIRO, Australia

• Dr Ashok Kumar  
  ICAR, India

• Dr Darrell Donahue  
  Michigan State University, USA

• Dr Iddaya Karunasagar  
  FAO consultant, India

• Dr Jeff Farber  
  University of Guelph, Canada

• Dr John Donaghy  
  Nestle, Switzerland

• Dr Katherine Swanson  
  KMJ Swanson Food Safety Inc., USA

• Dr Kiran Bhilegaonkar  
  ICAR-IVRI, India

• Dr Leon Gorris  
  Unilever, Netherlands

• Dr Marcel Zwietering  
  Wageningen University, Netherlands

• Dr Michelle Dany luk  
  University of Florida, USA

• Dr N Bhaskar  
  FSSAI, India

• Dr Naresh Kumar  
  ICAR-NDRI, India

• Dr Paul Cook  
  Food Safety Authority, UK

• Dr Peter McClure  
  Mondelez, UK

• Dr Ratih Dewanti-Hariyadi  
  Bogor University, Indonesia

• Dr Ravindra Zende  
  Bombay Veterinary College, India

• Dr Suchart Chaven  
  Pepsico, Dubai, UAE

• Dr Tom Ross  
  University of Tasmania, Australia

• Dr. Wayne Anderson  
  Food Safety Authority of Ireland, Ireland

And others....
About FSSAI
The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is established by Govt. of India to ensure safe and nutritious foods to citizens of India. FSSAI has been created for laying down science based standards regarding articles of food and to regulate requirements for their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure the availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. http://fssai.gov.in/home

About ICMSF
The International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods (ICMSF, the Commission) was formed in 1962 with a purpose of providing ‘Science based advice and guidance to governments and industries on appraising and controlling the microbiological safety of foods in support of public health protection and facilitation of fair trade.' The commission is very active and authoritative, with members from government, academia and industry representing all different geographies and environments around the world. For over 50 years, the International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods (ICMSF) has had a profound and global impact on the field of food microbiology by addressing issues such as microbial test methods, sampling plans, microbiological criteria, HACCP, risk assessment and risk management. Many ICMSF concepts have been adopted by Codex and governments. ICMSF concepts, views and recommendations are published as books, scientific and popular papers, opinion papers, conference proceedings and presentations. http://www.icmsf.org/

About CHIFSS
CII-HUL Initiative on Food Safety Sciences (CHIFSS) was set up by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in financial and technical partnership with Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) with the purpose of ‘Driving activities related to science based food safety' in the country by engaging with all relevant stakeholders. CHIFSS operates in technical collaboration with FSSAI. http://www.chifss.in/

For registration contact:
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