



## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD MICROBIOLOGY AND HYGIENE (ICFMH)

Since 1953

[www.icfmh.org](http://www.icfmh.org)

The **International Committee on Food Microbiology and Hygiene (ICFMH)** was founded in 1953 and officially represents the International Union of Microbiological Societies (IUMS) in all issues related to food microbiology. The ICFMH has observer and/or advisory status in activities of FAO and WHO, ISO working groups related to the detection and enumeration of microorganisms and their toxins in foods.

### **ICFMH mission**

The major scope of the ICFMH is to contribute to food safety internationally, by means of symposia (e.g., FOOD MICRO), workshops, support of international bodies in food safety issues, publications, and by supporting and initiating education and training in food microbiology. The ICFMH particularly focuses on the food safety situation in developing countries.

### **ICFMH main activities**

**FOOD MICRO Conference.** The initially small ICFMH Symposia and expert meetings developed into the international biennial "FOOD MICRO" Conference. The ICFMH and the national organisers managed to keep track with increasing challenges and complexity posed by diverse areas of Food Microbiology.

**FOOD MICRO 2018** will be held in Berlin (Germany), 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> September 2018 ([www.foodmicro2018.com](http://www.foodmicro2018.com)). Guidelines for organising future FOOD MICRO conferences can be found [here](#).

**International Journal of Food Microbiology (IJFM).** As the "flagship" of the ICFMH, and published by Elsevier, it has gained and enjoys constantly increasing international recognition.

**Scholarships.** The ICFMH regularly sponsors food microbiologists in developing countries to participate in international meetings and workshops such as FOOD MICRO.

**ICFMH Mobility Grants** are short-term fellowships annually sponsored to assist young scientists active in food microbiology and hygiene in pursuing research at a host laboratory.

**ICFMH awards** for best student communications (oral and/or poster) are regularly sponsored at international meetings, symposia and conferences, including FOOD MICRO.

**Subcommittee on Predictive Modelling in Food (ICPMF).** In 2014, the Executive board agreed to incorporate the **International Committee on Predictive Modelling in Food (ICPME)** as a subcommittee. The ICPMF has as mission to catalyse the development of predictive modelling in foods, primarily through advancing the success and sustainability of the biannual ICPMF-conferences.

**Working Party on Quality Assurance and Quality Monitoring of Culture Media (WPCM)** was initiated in 1978 to elaborate a "Pharmacopoeia of Culture Media". Documents were published in two special issues of the International Journal of Food Microbiology. The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the *Handbook of Culture Media for Food and Water Microbiology* was published by The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) in 2012.

**Working Party on Advanced Education in Food Microbiology (WPAEFM)** aims to provide a forum for discussion and structuring curricula in food microbiology so that a harmonized set of proposals can be used during discussions with relevant authorities, national bodies and academicians offering courses in food microbiology and food safety.

**Workshops and other activities.** Workshops on special issues in food microbiology and food safety form part of the international scope of ICFMH. Workshops on Food Safety in Africa have been conducted in South Africa (2003 and 2007) and in Ghana (2014). Workshops on Traditional Fermented Foods were held in Burkina Faso, Denmark and France in 2009, 2010 and 2014, respectively. Within the IUMS Outreach Program, Food Safety Workshops were held in Bali (2011) and Yogyakarta (2017), Indonesia.

### **National Delegates and Representatives**

In order to achieve ICFMH goals, it is essential to establish and maintain collaboration with National Societies for Microbiology throughout the world, and to interact with research groups and scientists focused on food microbiology. We encourage you to directly contact the National Delegate of your country for any issues related to Food Microbiology.

We invite you to visit [www.icfmh.org](http://www.icfmh.org) and to inform and update yourself on the ICFMH. Please do not hesitate to [contact us](#) if you believe valuable information could be uploaded in our website.