UN Secretary-General’s 2021 Food Systems Summit

COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR DELEGATES
ATTENDING THE FOOD SYSTEMS PRE-SUMMIT

Background

The Pre-Summit organizers have worked intensively to offer participants the best experience possible while ensuring that all precautionary measures to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) are taken to safeguard participants’ health safety.

The present guidelines are the result of a close coordination between the Food Systems Summit (FSS) Secretariat, the Government of Italy and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations with the aim of defining an effective, inclusive, simple, understandable, and non-discriminatory health protocol, based on the latest scientific information and best practice of what is safe and possible at the time of the event.

In this regard, additional support has been provided by independent Food Systems Summit Scientific Advisor, Prof. Giuseppe Ippolito, appointed by the Special Envoy, who is the Scientific Director of Rome’s Lazzaro Spallanzani National Institute for Infectious Diseases and member of the Italian Technical Scientific Committee (CTS) against the spread of Coronavirus, and has served as WHO’s focal point in Italy on similar large-scale events.

Furthermore, intense discussions and consultation have taken place with the Advisory Committee and Group of Friends (Rome and New York), and there have been consultations with all the competent Italian authorities, first and foremost with the Italian Ministry of Health.

As a result of this work, the present COVID-19 Guidelines are based exclusively on a rigorous on-site COVID-19 testing for all delegates. Please note that while delegates are encouraged to be vaccinated against COVID-19, they do not require a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination. Delegates are encouraged to consult a medical professional prior to their participation to the Pre-Summit.

To ensure the highest level of health and safety for the event, all testing in Italy will be required to be performed exclusively at one of two FSS COVID-19 testing facilities set in place by the Government of Italy for the Pre-Summit.

All delegates are strongly recommended to secure medical, accident and travel insurance, as appropriate, for the period of participation in the Pre-Summit.

Please note that two different requirements are set in place for the Pre-Summit – one for entry into the Italian territory, and the other for accessing the FAO Headquarters as the venue of the Pre-Summit.
Requirements for entry into Italian territory

1. Delegates travelling to Italy, via all means of transportation, are required to complete a Passenger Locator Form (PLF) via the EUdPLF application (https://app.euplf.eu/). In filling in the form, delegates are required to insert the code “UNFSS” in the field “Temporary Address 1” (see Figure 1 at the end of this Section below).

2. Delegates travelling to Italy must present a COVID-19 negative molecular (PCR) test performed 72 hours or 48 hours prior to entering the Italian territory, in compliance with the current provisions of the Italian law. Please check the daily updated lists issued by the Italian Ministry of Health for country-specific measures applied.

3. Delegates coming from EU countries (or List C countries under Italian COVID-19 travel guidelines) and holding their regular EU Digital Covid-19 Green Certificate can enter the Italian territory with no numerical limitation in the composition of delegations and without restrictions on entry points in Italy.

4. All delegates that do not have an EU Digital Covid-19 Green Certificate must enter the country through Fiumicino International Airport in Rome where they must take a COVID-19 Antigen rapid test. Testing will be done at a Food Systems Summit designated facility set up at the airport. Upon negative test result from the rapid diagnostic (3rd generation test), an electronic certificate (ad-hoc EU Digital Covid-19 Green Certificate) will be released with 48 hours validity from the time of testing.

5. Upon clearance of the COVID-19 Antigen rapid test, and consequent release of the ad-hoc EU Digital Covid-19 Green Certificate, delegates will be required to reach their accommodation by private means and, thereafter, no further quarantine period will be required.

6. In case further assessment and additional testing would be required with respect to the results of the COVID-19 Antigen rapid test, individuals will be assisted by competent Italian health authorities, as per National Health protocols.

7. Delegates travelling to Italy from countries where entry restrictions apply will be granted a waiver from the Italian Ministry of Health to standard COVID-19 entry restrictions, as long as they are officially registered as an in-person delegate with the Food Systems Summit Secretariat. This waiver will apply strictly for the necessary time to attend the official event. Please note this does not apply for those who register on the virtual platform to participate virtually.

8. For UN Member-State Delegations where restrictions for entry in Italy apply, the Italian government will allow entry in the country for a delegation consisting of four (4) members (Head of delegation plus three (3) members). Consequently, where visas are required, these will be issued for four Delegates.

9. For all other delegates coming from countries where restrictions for entry into Italy apply, the Italian Government will allow entry in the country solely for the individual delegate herself or himself, as long as they are officially registered as an in-person delegate with the Food Systems Summit Secretariat. Consequently, where a visa is required, this will be issued for one Delegate.

---

1 A regular EU Digital Covid-19 Green Certificate is the one issued according to EU legislation currently in force.

2 Delegates must travel with a taxi, car, or other private means, rather than other forms of public transportation. Delegates are required to wear face masks for the entire travel.
Requirements for entry into the FAO Headquarters

10. To have access to the Pre-Summit venue (FAO headquarters), all persons must take a COVID-19 Antigen rapid test\(^3\) done exclusively at one of the FSS designated COVID-19 testing facilities within 48 hours prior to their first entrance to the building. For maximum health and safety of the event, this includes delegates coming from EU countries and otherwise holding regular EU Digital Covid-19 Green Certificate as described in bullet 3 above.

11. Delegates that are holders of a regular EU Digital Covid-19 Green Certificate are only required to take one COVID-19 Antigen rapid test prior to their first entrance at FAO building.

12. Delegates from countries where restrictions apply are required to renew the COVID-19 Antigen rapid test every 48 hours at one of the FSS designated COVID-19 testing facilities.

13. To take a first COVID-19 Antigen rapid test or to repeat the rapid test, a second FSS designated testing site will be set up in immediate proximity to the FAO headquarters. All delegates, staff, and crew must take a COVID-19 Antigen rapid test at either this facility or the Fiumicino Airport as the two FSS designated testing sites (Nando Martellini Stadium, Largo delle Vittime del Terrorismo, is the nearest FSS COVID-19 testing site to FAO).

14. For all Member-State Delegations, FAO authorities will enable access to the venue for a delegation consisting of two (2) members (Head of delegation plus one (1) member). Consequently, building passes will be issued for two delegates per Member State.

15. For all other delegates, FAO authorities will allow access to the venue solely for the individual herself or himself, as long as they are officially registered as an “in-person” delegate with the Food Systems Summit Secretariat. Consequently, a building pass will be issued for the delegate.

---

\(^3\) After testing, all persons will receive an SMS to their phone saying either the result is negative, or they are requested to return immediately to the testing site for further check-in.
16. Temperature check and hand sanitization will be performed at the entrance of the venue.
17. Persons with COVID-19 symptoms or those with body temperature of 37.5 and above are not permitted to enter FAO premises.
18. Persons who do not comply with Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures may be requested to leave the venue without prejudice.
19. Designated staff shall be deployed at the FAO complex to support in the verification of COVID-19 test results before entering the venue and enforce further IPC measures (per current national standards).
20. The following are key elements to consider for IPC measures at the venue:
   a. Physical distancing of minimum of 1 meter must be respected at all times.
   b. Delegates are required to wear surgical face masks correctly at all times, while in the building. Face masks will be provided at the venue.
   c. Delegates should follow pre-established walking pathways as guided by FSS to avoid using restricted areas.
   d. The FAO premises will be regularly sanitized, particularly frequently touched surfaces (including seats, handles, washrooms, and technical equipment).
   e. Adequate indoor ventilation will be in place.
   f. Hand sanitizers will be installed throughout the venue as appropriate.
   g. Meals and refreshments will be made available in pre-packaged, grab-and-go containers.

**FSS designated sites for COVID-19 testing**

The Italian competent health authorities in collaboration with the Food Systems Summit Secretariat have put in place **two (2) FSS designated COVID-19 testing points:**

21. **Fiumicino International Airport** in Rome, Italy. Delegations will be assisted by FSS and Italian Red Cross personnel deployed at the airport.
22. **Nando Martellini stadium**, in the immediate surroundings of the Pre-Summit venue (Largo delle Vittime del Terrorismo, 00153 Rome).

**Period of operation for COVID-19 testing sites**

The two COVID-19 testing sites, as described above, will be operational at:

23. **Fiumicino International Airport**, from Wednesday 21 July up to up to Friday, 30 July.
24. **Nando Martellini stadium**, from Friday 23 July up to up to Friday, 30 July (hours to be determined).

Participants to the Pre-Summit staying in Italy beyond Friday, 30 July, have to arrange for antigen/PCR tests by their own means and comply with prevalent Italian regulations.

Participants to the Pre-Summit requiring a **COVID-19 negative molecular (PCR) test** to travel back to their own countries, can be tested at the two FSS designated sites for COVID-19 testing.

COVID-19 testing at the FSS designated sites will be done free of charge.