

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

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TO: Codex Contact Points
Interested International Organizations

FROM: Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

SUBJECT: Distribution of the Report of the 66th Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (REP12/EXEC)

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Draft Codex Strategic Plan 2014-2019 (para. 62, Appendix II)

Governments and interested international organizations wishing to comment on the Draft Codex Strategic Plan (Introduction, Strategic Vision Statement, Codex Core Values, Strategic Goals and Objectives) should do so in writing to the above address, before **15 April 2012**.

APPENDIX II

DRAFT CODEX 2014-2019 STRATEGIC PLAN
(Introduction, Strategic Vision Statement, Codex Core Values, Strategic Goals and Objectives as agreed by the 66th Session of the CCEXEC)

Introduction

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) was set up by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1963 and today has over 180 members and over 200 IGOs and NGOs are accredited as observers. The Commission's main work is the development of international food standards, guidelines and codes of practice to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade. The Commission also promotes the coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations. For food safety matters, the Commission bases its work on the scientific advice provided by FAO and WHO.

Codex food safety standards, guidelines and recommendations, are recognized as the reference for food safety in the WTO SPS Agreement. Codex standards are also taken into account as international standards in the implementation of the WTO TBT agreement.

The 2014-2019 Strategic Plan:

- Presents the vision, goals, and objectives for the Commission and is supported by a more detailed work plan that includes activities, milestones, and measurable indicators to track the work progress towards accomplishment of the goals.
- Underpins the high priority placed on food safety and quality by FAO and WHO and ensures that the Commission will carry out the responsibilities given to it by FAO and WHO.
- Informs Members, intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders of how the CAC intends to fulfill its mandate and to meet the needs and expectations of its Members during the period 2014-2019.

Strategic Vision Statement

To be the preeminent international food standard setting body working to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

Codex Core values

In fulfilling its strategic vision, Codex adheres to core values that include:

- *collaboration,*
- *inclusiveness,*
- *consensus building, and*
- *transparency.*

Strategic Goals and objectives

Strategic Goal 1: Establish international food standards that address current and emerging food issues.

Objective 1: Establish new and review existing food standards, based on priorities of the CAC.

Objective 2: Proactively identify emerging issues and member country needs and where appropriate, develop relevant food standards.

Objective 3: Strengthen coordination and cooperation with other international standard-setting organizations to minimize duplication of efforts and optimize opportunities.

Strategic Goal 2: Ensure the application of risk analysis principles in the development of Codex Standards

Objective 1: Consistent use of scientific advice and risk analysis principles.

Objective 2: Sustainable access to scientific advice.

Objective 3: To increase scientific input from developing countries.

Strategic Goal 3: Ensure the effective participation of all Codex members.

Objective 1: Increase the participation of developing countries in Codex.

Objective 2: Promote capacity building programs that assist countries in creating sustainable national Codex structures.

Strategic Goal 4: Implement effective and efficient work management systems and practices.

Objective 1: Ensure efficient, transparent and flexible standard setting process for the timely adoption of standards.

["Implementing a programme for policy review and assessment" (should be clarified and could be rephrased and included as an activity under the first objective)]

["Overcome major obstacles faced in the context of standard development" or "Enhance the capacity to arrive at/build consensus". (could be rephrased as an activity under the first objective)]