



## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

#### 40<sup>th</sup> Session

CICG, Geneva, Switzerland, 17 - 22 July 2017

### RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(Prepared by the Codex Secretariat)

#### BACKGROUND

1. The Statutes of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Article 1(b) state as one of the purposes of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme: “*promoting the coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations*”. In accordance with Objective 1.3 of the Codex Strategic Plan 2014-2019, coordination and cooperation with other international standard setting organizations shall be strengthened to avoid duplication of efforts and optimize opportunities. A report on the implementation status of this objective is given annually to the Executive Committee when reporting on the overall implementation status of the Strategic Plan.

2. The Codex Secretariat regularly liaises with relevant international organizations on matters that are pertinent to the work of Codex. The Codex Secretariat regularly prepared working document for the Commission with the present title “Relations between the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other international organizations”, outlining coordination and cooperation activities with (a) international intergovernmental organizations and (b) nongovernmental organizations.

3. For almost two decades the structure of the document remained unchanged and little or no discussion under this agenda item took place. The Secretariat reported on activities related to the following international organizations (ISO being the only non-governmental organization in this group):

- (i) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- (ii) International Olive Council (IOC)
- (iii) International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)
- (iv) International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- (v) International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV)
- (vi) Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- (vii) United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- (viii) World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
- (ix) World Trade Organization (WTO)

4. Most of the organizations listed above additionally provided information documents and/or made verbal interventions during the Commission session to report on activities of potential relevance for the Commission.

#### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5. Information on relations between the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other international organizations is to some extent contained in the annual implementation report of the Codex Strategic Plan and complemented by the reports of international organizations submitted as information documents for Commission sessions.

6. The Commission is invited to discuss the value added of the document as presented in the past and consider what information would be of interest and whether there are options for stimulating discussion/strategic decisions related to this subject matter.

7. The Commission is furthermore invited to note that the Secretariat will create a dedicated web page on the new Codex website for organizations liaising with Codex. Such organizations could use this space to list a contact point and provide information of interest to the Codex community.