

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 6

CX/LAC 01/6

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

12th Session

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 13 – 16 February 2001

HARMONIZATION AND COOPERATION IN FOOD LEGISLATION AND FOOD CONTROL ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

BOLIVIA

1. Updated Survey of National Food Control Authorities, including Import and Export Matters

Official Agencies

Law 2061 of 16 March 2000 established the National Service of Plant Protection, Animal Health and Food Safety - SENASAG. According to the following article:

ARTICLE 1. The National Service of Plant Protection, Animal Health and Food Safety - SENASAG - is established as the executive arm of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development responsible for administering the System of Plant Protection, Animal Health and Food Safety under the provisions of Article 9 of the Law Organizing the Executive Authority.

Supreme Regulatory Decree 25729 of 7 April 2000 states:

ARTICLE 7. (RESPONSIBILITIES) - The SENASAG has the following responsibilities:

These include:

- (i) To regulate procedures of inspection, control and monitoring of food safety in the different stages of agricultural production and processing.
- (n) To authorize and certify the functioning with due regard to food safety and quality of agricultural establishments and agro-processing plants.
- (p) To promote the harmonization and equivalence of international standards and sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

Import/Export Matters

ARTICLE 2. The SENASAG is charged with:

- a) Certifying the plant protection, animal health and food safety standards of products for national consumption, export or import.
- b) Certifying the competence of natural or juridical persons to perform plant protection, animal health and food safety services.
- c) Controlling and guaranteeing the safety and quality of food throughout agricultural production and processing.

2. Food Legislation

Progress made towards harmonization of food safety and quality in the Region, including codes, standards and related texts.

The Codex Alimentarius is used as the basis for national standards, as the standards adopted by the national body, IBNORCA (Bolivian Institute of Standardization and Quality), are not mandatory. Because of its national scope, the SENASAG is expected to regulate and control production processes.

3. Cooperation Activities

The SENASAG requested, through PAHO/WHO, the advisory assistance of an expert to help draw up the National Programme of Food Safety. Support is envisaged from INPPAZ, which sent the résumés of two Brazilian experts.

PARAGUAY

1. Updated Survey of National Food Control Authorities, including Import and Export Matters

Official Agencies

Food quality control is governed by:

Law 836/80 Public Health Code and the decrees and regulatory resolutions of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare.

Law 81/92, Law 1146/66 and the decrees and regulatory resolutions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock which set the requirements for the control of animal-based products.

Law 862/63 establishing the National Institute of Technology and Standardization, the national body that determines standards and thus the requisites, technical specifications and methods of analysis of food commodities.

Decree Nº 937/83 and its regulation Nº 1988/99 designating the National Institute of Technology and Standardization as the National Standards Laboratory.

Decree 15552/96 designating the National Institute of Technology and Standardization as the National Certification Agency.

Import/Export Matters

The Department of Food Production of the National Institute of Food and Nutrition is charged with ensuring that the currency of registers of food products for human consumption.

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Resolution 515/00 regulates the import of animal-based foods.

The National Institute of Technology and Standardization is involved in Import/Export through the voluntary certification of products at the request of commercial enterprises.

Through Law 838/26 and Law 881/81 relating to Ordinance 30/99, the Municipality of Asunción, acting through its Department of Food Imports, is responsible for authorizing the import of foods at different customs points in the capital.

2. Cooperation Activities

Paraguay is a member of the economic bloc MERCOSUR whose four Party States harmonize their food legislation on the basis of Codex Alimentarius.

The country receives technical advisory assistance from international organizations such as FAO/WHO, PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, IICA, AIEA, and JICA.