



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

34th Session

Geneva, Switzerland, 4-9 July 2011

STRATEGIC PLANNING OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

PART A - Implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2008-2013 - General Implementation Status

1. The Thirtieth Session of the Commission adopted the Strategic Plan of the Codex Alimentarius Commission 2008-2013¹.
2. Part 3 of the Strategic Plan incorporates a check list that should be regularly updated for review by the Executive Committee and the Commission to monitor the implementation of the Strategic Plan.
3. The Commission is invited to review the checklist as presented in [Annex 1](#) to this document, together with additional notes by the Secretariat contained in [Annex 2](#), with a view to providing views and recommendations, where appropriate.

PART B - Preparation of the new Codex Strategic Plan for 2014-2019

4. The 33rd Session of the Commission agreed to seek suggestions from coordinating committees for the development of the next Codex Strategic Plan 2014-2019 on the basis of a questionnaire prepared by an electronic working group consisting of the Chair and the Vice-Chairs. The following questions were addressed to all Coordinating Committees.
 - a) Are the current five goals still relevant? What changes would you propose (if any)?
 - b) The 2003-2007 Framework did not include measurable indicators, as does the current Strategic Plan. Should the next Strategic Plan include measurable indicators? Is the current “table” format useful or would you suggest changes? For example, is it useful to track “ongoing” activities?
 - c) What are the most significant challenges facing Codex? What goals/activities should be included in the next plan to insure that these challenges get the necessary attention?
 - d) Given the fact that developing country participation in the work of Codex is presently a major issue, what goals/activities should be included in the next plan to insure that this issue gets necessary attention in 2013-2018?
 - e) Do current Codex structures and procedures adequately meet present needs of members (i.e., various “step procedure” options, critical review by CCEXEC, etc.)? What changes might be considered?
 - f) The Commission operates in an environment of change and technological advancement. Should issues such as the food safety consequences of climate change, and new production technologies such as nanotechnology, etc., be reflected in the new Strategic Plan? If so, how?

¹ Published in 2007 as ISSN 0259-2916.

5. The discussions held in the Coordinating Committees and replies to the questions may be found in the reports listed below.

- Coordinating Committee for Europe (REP 11/EURO, paras. 10-13)
- Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific, REP 11/NASWP, paras 34-39.
- Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean, REP 11/LAC, paras. 40-50.
- Coordinating Committee for Asia (REP 11/ASIA, paras. 26-34)
- Coordinating Committee for Africa, REP 11/AFRICA, paras 25-32.
- Coordinating Committee for the Near East (REP 11/NEA, paras. 36-55)

The Preparation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2014-2019 is considered in CX/EXEC 11/65/4.

Annex 1

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN 2008-2013

Goal 1: Promoting Sound Regulatory Frameworks							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
1.1 Review and develop Codex standards and related texts for food safety	CCFH, CCFA, CCCF, CCPR, CCRVDF, CCNFSU, relevant Task Forces and Commodity Committees	Continuing	Standards related texts adopted at respective steps	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/3 and CX/EXEC 11/65/2		
1.2 Review and develop Codex standards and related texts for food quality	Relevant Task Forces, Commodity Committees and FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees	Continuing	Standards and related texts adopted at respective steps	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/3 and CX/EXEC 11/65/2		
1.3 Review and develop Codex standards and related texts for food labelling and nutrition	CCFL, CCNFSU	Continuing	Standards and related texts adopted at respective steps	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/3 and CX/EXEC 11/65/2		
1.4 Review and develop Codex standards and related texts for food inspection and certification, and methods of analysis and sampling	CCMAS, CCFICS	Continuing	Standards and related texts adopted at respective steps	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/3 and CX/EXEC 11/65/2		

Goal 1: Promoting Sound Regulatory Frameworks							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
1.5 Develop guidance for safe and prudent non-human antimicrobial usage for containment of resistance	Existing relevant Codex Committees, <i>ad hoc</i> Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance	Completion by 2011	Guidance for safe and prudent non-human antimicrobial usage for containment of resistance	Completed	Draft Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance for adoption by the 34 th CAC (see REP 11/AMR)		
1.6 Explore innovative risk management frameworks	CCRVDF, CCPR	Completion by 2009	Reports by CCRVDF and CCPR respectively to CCEXEC and CAC	Ongoing	<u>CCRVDF</u> : ongoing work on development of risk management and risk communication recommendations for veterinary drugs with no ADI/MRL - review all factors considered for establishing ADI and recommending MRLs (See Note). <u>CCPR</u> : Revision of the Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCPR (Approaches to the Periodic Review Procedure). Pilot project for JMPR recommendation of MRLs before national governments or other regional registration authorities for a global joint review chemical (See Note)		
1.7 Encourage FAO/WHO to expand capacity building programmes	CAC, CCEXEC and FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees	Continuing	Report from FAO/WHO to CAC, CCEXEC and Coordinating Committees	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/15-Add.1		

Goal 1: Promoting Sound Regulatory Frameworks							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
1.8 Publish and disseminate the Codex Alimentarius	Codex Secretariat, Codex Contact Points	Continuing	Publication and dissemination of Codex Alimentarius	Ongoing	<p>Updated Codex standards and related texts (following the 33rd CAC) were published on the Codex website and the new CD ROM will be available at the Commission.</p> <p>Several new special publications by thematic area are in preparation. A project on updating and translating codex standards into Arabic and Russian is ongoing and standards are published on the Codex website as they get translated. Chinese translation continues in cooperation with the China CCP.</p>		

Goal 2: Promoting Widest and Consistent Application of Scientific Principles and Risk Analysis							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
2.1 Review the consistency of risk analysis principles elaborated by the relevant Codex Committees	CCGP	Completion by 2011	Report by CCGP of completed review to CAC.	Completed	See Note		
2.2 Review risk analysis principles developed by relevant	CAC, CCEXEC, CCFA, CCCF, CCPR,	Completion by 2013	Report by relevant Committees of completed review,	Ongoing Initiated at	CCFA considered that the present format of its risk analysis		

Goal 2: Promoting Widest and Consistent Application of Scientific Principles and Risk Analysis							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
Codex Committees	CCRVDF, CCFH, CCNFSDU		taking into account the review of the activities in 2.1 and 2.3.	the 26 th CCGP (2010)	<p>principles was adequate. CCRVDF agreed to revise the <i>Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCRVDF and the Risk Assessment Policy for the Setting of MRLs for Veterinary Drugs</i>”</p> <p>CCPR: ongoing work on the revision of the Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCPR..</p> <p>CCCF agreed to prepare separate risk analysis principles for contaminants and natural toxins in food and feed and to examine whether it was necessary to further specify the applicability to feed in the Principles.</p> <p>CCFH agreed to review its risk analysis principles and procedures with a view to its simplification. (See Note)</p>		
2.3 Enhance communication among relevant Codex subsidiary bodies and the FAO/WHO scientific expert bodies	CCFA, CCCF, CCPR, CCRVDF, CCFH, CCNFSDU	Ongoing	Incorporated into report as required in 2.2.	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/15		

Goal 2: Promoting Widest and Consistent Application of Scientific Principles and Risk Analysis							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
2.4 Review the set of criteria recommended to FAO and WHO for prioritization of requests from Codex for scientific advice.	CCEXEC	Completion by 2009	Report of review by CCEXEC to CAC, with recommendation to better match priorities and resources	Completed			
2.5 Encourage countries to channel their requests for scientific advice to FAO / WHO through the CAC	CAC, CCEXEC, all subsidiary bodies	Continuing	Reports by FAO and WHO of requests for scientific advice received directly from countries vs. requests received through CAC.	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/15 See Note.		
2.6 Encourage FAO/WHO to provide training and capacity building on risk analysis for food safety	CAC, CCEXEC, FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees and Codex Members	Continuing	Report from FAO/WHO to CAC, CCEXEC and Coordinating Committees	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/15-Add.1		

Goal 3: Strengthening Codex Work-Management Capabilities							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
3.1 Review the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities and procedures of the critical review carried out by the CCEXEC	CCEXEC, CCGP	Completion by 2009 Completion by 2011	Report by CCEXEC on analysis of the critical review process If there is need for revision, revise the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities by CCGP	Completed.	See Note		
3.2 Ensure effective standards management	CCEXEC	Continuing	Report on compliance of standards development against timelines (associated with critical review process)	Ongoing.	See CX/EXEC 11/65/2 and CX/EXEC 11/65/3 (critical review)		
3.3 Develop committee-specific decision making and priority setting criteria	All General Subject Committees and some other subsidiary bodies as appropriate	Completion of criteria by 2008 Review of criteria starting in 2008	Committee-specific decision-making and priority-setting criteria Confirmed review of criteria beginning in 2008	Completed Decision making criteria CCFH, CCFA, CCCF, CCPR, CCMMP, CCMAS, CCRVDF Priority setting criteria CCFH, CCFA, CCCF, CCRVDF, CCPR, CCMMP	Other committees consider that the general criteria for priority setting are adequate. CCPFV and CCFFV: See Note.		

Goal 3: Strengthening Codex Work-Management Capabilities							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
3.4 Analyse work-management approaches that facilitate advancement of texts in the Codex step process	Either by Codex Secretariat or by consultant for next step (3.5)	Completion by 2009	Report to the CCEXEC and CAC on analysis of work-management approaches	Completed.	See report of 64 th CCEXEC (2010) (ALINORM 10/33/3A, paras 66-114).		
3.5 Adopt approaches proven to facilitate advancement of texts in the Codex step procedure by subsidiary bodies not currently using such approaches	CCEXEC and CAC	Completion by 2011	Adoption by CAC of work - management approaches.	Ongoing	Initiated on completion of Activity 3.4 See Note		
3.6 Implement priority-ranked comprehensive accounting of all requests for scientific advice	CCEXEC, CAC, FAO and WHO	Continuing	Comprehensive report by FAO/WHO to CAC on accounting of all requests for scientific advice	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/15		
3.7 Evaluate the capacity of the Codex Secretariat to perform its function effectively	Codex Secretariat, CCEXEC, CAC	Completion by 2009	Report by Secretariat to CAC on the staff and other key resources	Completed	The 33 rd CAC (2010) completed the review of the evaluation of the Codex Secretariat (see ALINORM 10/33/REP paras 159-189)		

Goal 3: Strengthening Codex Work-Management Capabilities							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
3.8 Streamline Codex Commodity work	CCEXEC, CAC	Completion by 2010	Implementation of the decisions of the Commission on how to streamline Codex work on commodities through an improved structure of Codex subsidiary bodies	Completed	Discontinued at the 32 nd CAC (2009)		CAC 32 decided to discontinue discussion on this subject.

Goal 4: Promoting Cooperation between Codex and other relevant international organizations							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
4.1 Track the activities of other international standard-setting bodies	CAC, CCEXEC, Codex Secretariat, subsidiary bodies	Continuing	Report to the CCEXEC and CAC indicating potential complementarities, gaps, duplication, or conflict with the work of other international organizations	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/13 See Note.		
4.2 Encourage Codex contributions to the work of other international bodies	Codex Secretariat	Continuing	Number of standards elaborated by other international organisations with a cross reference to Codex standards and relevant texts	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/13		

Goal 4: Promoting Cooperation between Codex and other relevant international organizations							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
4.3 Encourage contributions from other international bodies in Codex work	Observers, Codex Secretariat	Continuing	Number of Codex standards elaborated with identifiable input from other international organisations	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/13		
4.4 Consider cooperation with other relevant international intergovernmental organizations	Legal Counsels of FAO and WHO, Codex Secretariat	Continuing	Devise the means by which Codex can strengthen cooperation with OIE and IPPC	Ongoing	See Note.		
4.5 Promote interdisciplinary coordination at the national and regional level	Codex Members, FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees	Completion by 2009	Reports from members to Regional Coordinating Committees on mechanisms and evaluation criteria.	Completed	Reports of coordinating committees held in 2010/2011. See Note.		

Goal 5: Promoting Maximum and Effective Participation of Members							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
5.1 Promote enhanced participation of developing countries in Codex	CAC, CCEXEC	Continuing	Reports from FAO / WHO presenting analysis of measures of enhanced participation achieved through the Codex Trust Fund.	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 11/34/14. See Note.		The 33 rd CAC agreed that coordinating committees would further consider the Mid-Term Review of the CTF based on comments on a set of questions.
5.2 Promote effective use of written comments in the Codex process	Codex Members, Observers, CCEXEC, Codex Secretariat	Continuing	Reports by host countries on patterns of submission of written comments in response to CLs, and adherence by chairs to the guidelines for the conduct of the meetings.	Ongoing	The Codex Secretariat sent a questionnaire on current practice of consideration of written comments to Chairpersons and secretariats of host countries. A compilation of replies will be prepared for the 66 th Session of the Executive Committee.		
5.3 Evaluate effectiveness of Codex Committee sessions held in developing	Host countries, CCEXEC	Completion by 2009	Reports from host and co-hosting countries documenting experience co-hosting experience.	Completed			

Goal 5: Promoting Maximum and Effective Participation of Members							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
countries							
5.4 Strengthen Codex Contact Points and National Codex Committees	CAC, CCEXEC, Codex Secretariat	Continuing	Reports from FAO/WHO on countries whose National structure and Codex Contact Points have been supported.	Ongoing	Reports of coordinating committees held in 2010/2011. See Note		
5.5 Enhance participation of non-governmental organizations at international, regional and national levels	CAC, Codex Members, subsidiary bodies	Continuing	Reports from member countries under relevant agenda items of the Regional Committees, on participations of non-governmental organizations at National level.	Ongoing	Reports of coordinating committees held in 2010/2011. See Note		
5.6 Enhance communication about Codex work at international and national levels	Codex Secretariat, WHO and FAO, Codex Contact Points, subsidiary bodies	Continuing	Reports by Secretariat to CAC on increased use of audio/ webcasting, enhancement of webpages, increase use of electronic distribution of Codex materials, etc.	Continuing	See Note		

Annex 2

Notes by the Secretariat

Goal 1: Promoting Sound Regulatory Frameworks

Activities 1.1 through 1.5 are ongoing activities that constitute the core business of the Commission. They are regularly monitored through the Critical Review undertaken by the Executive Committee.

Activity 1.6 specifically addresses issues on exploring appropriate risk management frameworks to be applied in developing maximum residue limits (MRLs) of veterinary drugs and pesticides by the Committees on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) and on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) respectively.

Veterinary drugs residues

The 19th CCRVDF (September 2010) agreed to establish an electronic working group to revise and update the *Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCRVDF* and the *Risk Assessment Policy for the Setting of MRLs for Veterinary Drugs* with special emphasis on: (i) the revision of Section 3.2 “Evaluation of risk management options” in order to provide JECFA with specific directions, together with their rationale, on how to generate and submit for consideration of the Committee a range of acceptable values for each MRLs to be established; (ii) developing risk management and risk communication recommendations for veterinary drugs for which no ADI and/or MRL has been recommended by JECFA either due to specific human health concerns or a lack of information ; and (iii) to consider the “concern form” used by the CCPR (REP 11/RVDF, paras. 101, 116 and 18).

The Committee, in recognizing the need to begin working on recommendations for veterinary drugs for which JECFA clearly identified human health concerns, agreed to establish an electronic working group with the following terms of reference: (i) To develop risk management recommendations for the following veterinary drugs for which no ADI and/or MRL has been recommended by JECFA due to specific human health concerns; (ii) The risk management recommendations should be based on an evaluation of the information available through the JECFA reports and monographs and through dialogue with the JECFA secretariats; and (iii) The risk management recommendations should incorporate the decisions of the 18th Session of CCRVDF that chloramphenicol and malachite green should not be used in food producing animals (REP 11/RVDF, paras 115-116).

Pesticide residues

The Committee agreed to consider proposals for the revision of the periodic review as a priority and, if feasible, to review the entire text of the Risk Analysis Principles, for consideration by the next session (REP 11/PR para. 137).

The pilot project will allow the 2011 JMPR to conduct an independent, parallel review along with a global joint review team and recommend MRLs before national governments establish MRLs for consideration by the 2012 CCPR. The proposal is to *pilot* a new process that involves a slightly altered way of JMPR and CCPR doing their usual work. This proposal, for JMPR to recommend MRLs before national governments or other regional registration authorities, is expected to further the harmonization of endpoint selection and MRL setting on a global basis. The global joint review process seeks to harmonize endpoint selection and MRL setting, to the extent possible, among national and regional authorities. Extending this process to Codex would involve bringing all of the globally available expertise together into the international standard setting process so that endpoint selection and MRLs are as fully harmonized globally as possible. This would allow technical issues to be resolved quickly and effectively (ALINORM 10/33/24, para. 202)

Activity 1.7 is an ongoing activity. FAO and WHO capacity building activities are presented in CX/CAC 11/34/15-Add.1. These activities are also considered regularly by FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees.

Activity 1.8 is being implemented by the Codex Secretariat on an ongoing basis, including through the Codex website. All Codex Contact Points play an important role in effective distribution and dissemination of the Codex Alimentarius at the national level.

Goal 2: Promoting Widest and Consistent Application of Scientific Principles and Risk Analysis

Activity 2.1 -The 26th Session of the Committee on General Principles (2010) considered a review of risk analysis principles and agreed that risk analysis policies developed by Codex committees were generally consistent with the *Working Principles for Risk Analysis*, which completed Activity 2.1, and agreed to forward the review presented in CL 2010/1-GP to the committees concerned for their consideration and review of their risk analysis policies, initiating **Activity 2.2** (ALINORM 10/33/33, para. 55).

Activity 2.2

Committee on Food Additives

The Committee agreed that the present format of its risk analysis principles was adequate, and that there was no merit in reformatting or reviewing the principles at present. The Committee thus considered Activity 2.2 as completed.

The Committee agreed that separate risk analysis principles for the CCFA and the CCCF were useful to allow the texts to develop independently in accordance with the needs of each committee. Therefore, the Committee requested that the Codex Secretariat prepare draft Risk analysis principles applied by the CCFA, based on the current *Codex Committee on Food Additives and the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods*, by deleting any reference to CCCF, for consideration at the next session (REP11/FA, paras 9-12).

Committee on Contaminants in Foods

The Committee agreed that no action was necessary on the revision of the Principles, but in view of the decision of the 43rd Session of CCFA to advocate separate risk analysis principles on food additives and on contaminants, agreed to proceed with this separation (REP11/CF, para.7).

Committee on Food Hygiene

The Committee agreed to review its risk analysis principles and procedures with a view to its simplification in line with Activity 2.2 and taking into account the recommendations in CL 2010/1-GP (REP11/FH, para.6).

Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

(see Activity 1.6)

Committee on Pesticide Residues

The Committee agreed that the revision of the *Risk Analysis Principles applied by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues* in relation to their consistency with the *Working Principles for Risk Analysis* and their applicability to animal feed should be considered in the framework of the ongoing revision of the Risk Analysis Principles that should be finalized by the 44th Session of the Committee in 2012 (REP11/PR, paras. 8 and 137).

Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses

The Committee agreed that it was not necessary to revise the *Nutritional Risk Analysis Principles* as they had been adopted by the Commission in 2009 and it was too early to revise them for the time being (REP 11/NFSDU, para. 12).

Activity 2.5 is ongoing. Document CX/CAC 11/34/15 provides a list of requests for scientific advice addressed to FAO and WHO. All requests for scientific advice directly related to Codex work in 2010-2011 originated from Codex subsidiary bodies. Some other expert meetings not directly related to Codex work were organised by FAO/WHO.

Activity 2.6 is ongoing. FAO and WHO capacity building activities on risk analysis presented in CX/CAC 11/34/15-Add.1. These activities are also considered regularly by FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees.

Goal 3: Strengthening Codex Work-Management Capabilities

Activity 3.1 - The 61st CCEXEC (2008) agreed that it was premature to make concrete proposals on how to initiate review of these criteria and procedures and decided to revisit the matter after the Executive Committee had gained more experience in the conduct of the critical review (ALINORM 08/31/3A, para.133).

Amended *Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities* and new *Guidelines on the Application of the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities Applicable to Commodities* were adopted by the Commission in 2010 as proposed by CCEXEC (ALINORM 10/33/3, Appendix II).

Activity 3.3: Develop committee-specific decision making and priority setting criteria

All committees have considered this question and provided a reply, whether they developed specific criteria or confirmed that the use of the general criteria was adequate.

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

Development of specific decision making and priority setting criteria for the development (including revision and amendments) of Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables

The Committee agreed that there was no need to develop specific decision-making and priority setting criteria as the existing guidance in the Procedural Manual was sufficient and the delays in standard setting were not due to the absence of specific criteria (REP11/FFV, para. 12).

Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables

Development of specific decision making and priority setting criteria for the development (including revision and amendments) of Codex standards for processed fruits and vegetables

The Committee reasserted its previous decision not to develop any additional specific criteria for the setting of work priorities as the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities of the Procedural Manual were sufficient for setting priorities for its future work (REP11/PFV, paras. 16-18).

Activity 3.4. The review of work management approaches was completed at the 64th CCEXEC (2010) (ALINORM 10/33/3A, paras 66-114), which recommended to Codex Committees to consider adopting the good practices identified under Activity 3.4 and relevant recommendations were forwarded to the committees concerned, thereby initiating Activity 3.5.

Activity 3.8. The 32nd Commission (2009) decided to discontinue “Consideration of merging or dissolving existing committees” (ALINORM 09/32/REP, paras. 223-228).

Goal 4: Promoting Cooperation between Codex and other relevant international organizations

General Note: Following the request of the 63rd CCEXEC, the information in document CX/CAC 11/34/12 will be presented to follow Activities 4.1 to 4.3.

Activity 4.1 is implemented through the consideration of a working paper (CX/CAC 11/34/12) and several information documents at the Commission. The information on the work of OIE, WTO, IAEA and ISO is presented at each session of the Commission, while the information on the work of other international organizations is presented to the Commission when relevant.

Activity 4.2 is implemented through the participation of the Codex Secretariat in relevant meetings of other international standards setting organizations either regularly or as required for subjects of specific interest, or through written contribution, mainly to draw the attention of other organizations to existing standards or ongoing Codex work.

Activity 4.4 The *Guidelines on Cooperation between the Codex Alimentarius Commission and International Intergovernmental Organizations in the Elaboration of Standards and Related Texts* provide the framework for cooperation with IGOs. Information on the cooperation with OIE and IPPC will be provided at the Commission.

Activity 4.5 Update on this activity has been considered in the sessions of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees held in 2010-2011

Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific

The Coordinating Committee recognised that a number of countries had in place effective mechanisms to promote interdisciplinary coordination, including procedures for inclusion and participation of interested parties in Codex matters, and effective communication mechanisms to ensure whole of government positions were developed on Codex issues. It further noted that there was a need to improve coordination at the regional level (REP 11/NASWP, para. 30).

Coordinating Committee for Europe

The Committee noted that, according to the replies provided in writing and orally, effective mechanisms of coordination were in place in many countries and the European Union and in order to ensure interdisciplinary coordination on food standards issues (REP 11/EURO, para. 8).

Coordinating Committee for Asia

The Committee noted that this activity was very important, particularly in the context of the ongoing debate on private standards, and that interdisciplinary coordination should be enhanced at national and regional level to avoid duplication and prevent development of contradictory standards (REP 11/ASIA, para. 24).

Coordinating Committee for Africa

The Coordinating Committee took note of the written replies submitted on Activity 4.5 and noted that mechanisms had been established to promote interdisciplinary coordination at the national level (REP11/AFRICA, para. 24).

Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Committee took note of the written comments submitted on Activity 4.5 and Activity 5.5 of the Strategic Plan and had no additional comments to make on these matters (REP11/LAC, para. 51).

Coordinating Committee for the Near East

No comment.

Goal 5: Promoting Maximum and Effective Participation of Members

Activity 5.1 is an ongoing activity. The FAO/WHO Trust Fund report is presented in CX/CAC 11/34/14.

Activity 5.4: Update on this activity has been considered in the sessions of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees held in 2010-2011. This Activity is supported by Activity 5.6.

Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific: REP11/NASWP, paras 85-89.

Coordinating Committee for Africa: REP 11/AFRICA, 55 -73.

Coordinating Committee for Europe: REP 11/EURO, paras 62-73.

Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean: REP 11/LAC, paras. 94-109.

Coordinating Committee for Asia: REP 11/ASIA, paras. 80-81.

Coordinating Committee for the Near East: REP 11/NEA. para. 109.

Activity 5.5: Update on this activity has been considered in the sessions of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees held in 2010-2011.

Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific

The Coordinating Committee noted that a number of countries had already established mechanisms to involve stakeholders in national Codex processes, including the development of brochures, dedicated websites and consultation with stakeholders; and that there was a need for PICs, in particular, to foster involvement of consumers' organizations (REP 11/NASWP, para. 31).

Coordinating Committee for Europe

The Committee noted that, according to the replies provided in writing and orally, NGOs participated actively in Codex work in many countries and the European Union. The Committee welcomed this positive development and encouraged those countries that did not involve NGOs to establish appropriate mechanisms for this purpose (REP 11/EURO, para. 9).

Coordinating Committee for Asia

The Committee noted that governments should strengthen participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at national level. It was suggested to highlight the importance of collaboration and participation of

NGOs in Codex work in the next Strategic Plan and to identify mechanisms to involve a greater number of NGOs, in particular consumers (REP 11/ASIA, para. 25).

Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean

See Activity 4.5.

Coordinating Committee for Africa

The Committee noted that mechanisms had been established to enhance participation of NGOs at the national level (REP11/AFRICA, para. 24).

Coordinating Committee for the Near East

The Committee noted the comment from the delegation of Egypt that they had mechanisms for cooperation in place but were revising them to meet current needs and that they continued to make sure that NGOs were involved and all Codex documents were distributed to them (REP 11/NEA, para. 35).

Under **Activity 5.6**, the Codex Secretariat has redesigned the website in order to improve its functionality and include interactive functions. The new website will be available online from mid-June 2011 but the existing website will remain available for at least six more months to allow users to test the new site while ensuring that all information will remain available as usual and to allow for comments and adjustments. At the same time a test of the interactive features will take place with selected Codex Contact Points.

Overall progress on the development of the new site has been slow due to lack of in-house FAO resources and re-structuring of the relevant internal divisions.

The new Codex video “Based on science – built on trust” was published on DVD after the 33rd session of the Commission.

The Codex Secretariat will review with Codex contact points and other users the need for further information material and will also review the usefulness of newsletters and audio-recordings of the Executive Committee and the Commission and will report to the 66th Session of the CCEXEC on the results.