

C O D E X A L I M E N T A R I U S C O M M I S S I O N



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - Fax: (+39) 06 5705 4593 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Item 11 a)

**CX/CAC 13/36/11
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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

C O D E X A L I M E N T A R I U S C O M M I S S I O N

36th Session, FAO Headquarters

Rome, Italy, 1-5 July 2013

STRATEGIC PLANNING OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

C O D E X S T R A T E G I C P L A N 2 0 0 8 - 2 0 1 3 - G E N E R A L I M P L E M E N T A T I O N S T A T U S

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.

¹ Published in 2007 as ISSN 0259-2916.

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, CCNFSDU, relevant Task Forces and Commodity Committees	Continuing	Standards related texts adopted at respective steps	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 13/36/3, CX/CAC 13/36/3 Add.1 and CX/EXEC 13/68/2.		
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 13/36/3, CX/CAC 13/36/3 Add.1 and CX/EXEC 13/68/2.		
1.3 Review and develop Codex standards and related texts for food labelling and nutrition	CCFL, CCNFSDU	Continuing	Standards and related texts adopted at respective steps	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 13/36/3, CX/CAC 13/36/3 Add.1 and CX/EXEC 13/68/2.		
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 13/36/3, CX/CAC 13/36/3 Add.1 and CX/EXEC 13/68/2.		
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			

Goal 1: Promoting Sound Regulatory Frameworks							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
1.6 Explore innovative risk management frameworks	CCRVDF, CCPR	Completion by 2009	Reports by CCRVDF and CCPR respectively to CCEXEC and CAC	Ongoing	<p>See Note.</p> <p><u>CCPR:</u> Revision of the <i>Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCPR</i> (Approaches to the Periodic Review Procedure including submission of concern forms and other forms).</p> <p>Pilot project for JMPR recommendation of MRLs before national governments or other regional registration authorities for a global joint review chemical – completed by 45th CCPR.</p> <p><u>CCRVDF:</u> “Concern form” for the CCRVDF (format and policy procedure for its use).</p> <p>Risk Analysis Policy on Extrapolation of MRLs of Veterinary Drugs to Additional Species and Tissues.</p> <p>Risk Management Recommendations for Residues of Veterinary Drugs for which no ADI and/or MRLs has been recommended by JECFA due to Specific Human Health Concerns.</p>		
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	FAO and WHO capacity building activities are presented in CX/CAC 13/36/15. These activities are also considered regularly by FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees.		
1.8 Publish and disseminate the Codex Alimentarius	Codex Secretariat, Codex Contact Points	Continuing	Publication and dissemination of Codex Alimentarius	Ongoing	See Note.		

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			
2.2 Review risk analysis principles developed by relevant Codex Committees	CAC, CCEXEC, CCFA, CCCF, CCPR, CCRVDF, CCFH, CCFNSDU	Completion by 2013	Report by relevant Committees of completed review, taking into account the review of the activities in 2.1 and 2.3.	Ongoing Initiated at the 26 th CCGP (2010)	CCPR: revision of the <i>Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCPR</i> (see Activity 1.6)		
2.3 Enhance communication among relevant Codex subsidiary bodies and the FAO/WHO scientific expert bodies	CCFA, CCCF, CCPR, CCRVDF, CCFH, CCFNSDU	Ongoing	Incorporated into report as required in 2.2.	Ongoing	See CX/CAC 13/36/15.		
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 13/36/15. 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	FAO and WHO capacity building activities on risk analysis presented in CX/CAC 13/36/15. These activities are also considered regularly by FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees.		

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			
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 13/68/2 and CX/EXEC 13/68/3 (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			
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.			

Goal 3: Strengthening Codex Work-Management Capabilities							
Activities	Responsible parties	Timeframe	Output/Measurable indicators	Current Status	Notes	Advice by EXEC	Decision by CAC
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	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 13/36/15.		
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			
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			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 13/36/16. 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 13/36/16. See Note.		
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 13/36/16.		
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			

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	The FAO/WHO Trust Fund report is presented in CX/CAC 13/36/14.		
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.	Completed			
5.3 Evaluate effectiveness of Codex Committee sessions held in developing countries	Host countries, CCEXEC	Completion by 2009	Reports from host and co-hosting countries documenting experience co-hosting experience.	Completed			
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	Update on this activity has been <i>considered</i> in the sessions of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees held in 2012-2013 (see Reports of coordinating committees held in 2012/2013).		

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
5.5 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	Update on this activity has been considered in the sessions of the <i>FAO/WHO</i> Coordinating Committees, held in 2012-2013 (see Reports of coordinating committees held in 2012/2013).		
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 1.4 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.

Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

The Committee agreed to develop the scope of the “concern form”, the procedure policy for its use and its format. A proposal, which takes into account the work of CCPR, has been circulated for comments under reference (CX/RVDF 13/21/9) and will be considered by the 21st CCRVDF (Minneapolis, USA, 26-230 August 2013).

With regard to veterinary drugs with no ADI and/or MRLs due to specific human health concern, the 35th Session of the Commission has approved new work on the development of risk management recommendations for ten veterinary drugs, namely: carbadox, the two nitrofurans (furazolidone and nitrofurantoin), chlorpromazine, stilbenes, olaquinox and the four nitroimidazoles (dimetridazole, ipronidazole, metronidazole and ronidazole). Proposed draft risk management recommendations have been circulated for comments at Step 3 under reference CL 2012/23-RVDF, part B and CX/RVDF 13/21/6 and will be considered by the 21st CCRVDF.

The 21st CCRVDF will continue its discussion on the Risk Analysis Policy on Extrapolation of MRLs of Veterinary Drugs to Additional Species and Tissues on the basis of the advice of JECFA and country comments. In addition it will discuss a proposal for the new work on guidelines on the establishment of MRLs or other limits for honey (CX/RVDF 13/21/12).

Pesticide Residues

The Committee is working on the integration of the different sections of the *Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCPR* including some consequential amendments arising from the agreements achieved at its 44th and 45th sessions in addition to editorial adjustments. A single document should be finalised by the 46th Session of the Committee and adopted by the 37th Session of the Commission.

The Committee completed the *Pilot project for JMPR recommendation of MRLs before national governments or other regional registration authorities for a global joint review chemical* by forwarding proposed MRLs for a new chemical to the 37th Session of the Commission for adoption. A few proposed draft MRLs were retained for further evaluation by JMPR. No further action as a follow-up to this project has been identified.

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.

Updated Codex standards and related texts (following the 35th CAC) were published on the Codex website and the memory stick (USB key) replacing the CD-ROM was available in December – an updated version will be available at the 36th Commission. 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. The status of documents is presented and regularly updated on the website (<http://www.codexalimentarius.org/standards/en/>).

The Codex website allows an easy overview of the availability of texts in different languages and also the user interface of the page itself now exists in all official languages.

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

Activity 2.5 is ongoing. Document CX/CAC 13/36/15 provides a list of requests for scientific advice addressed to FAO and WHO. All requests for scientific advice directly related to Codex work in 2011-2013 originated from Codex subsidiary bodies. Some other expert meetings not directly related to Codex work were organised by FAO/WHO.

Goal 3: Strengthening Codex Work-Management Capabilities

Activity 3.5 is ongoing. The 64th CCEXEC recommendations and comments on practices on work managements approaches (ALINORM 10/33/3A, paras 66-114) were presented at relevant Committees., Further work on this matter in CCPR is underway within the ongoing revision of their Risk Analysis Principles and the CCPR pilot project for JMPR (see Activity 1.6).

CCGP is considering the issues related to standards held at Step 8. At its 27th Session, the Committee agreed to hold a facilitated discussion to identify and consider the root causes for holding standards at Step 8 with the purpose to enhance awareness and understanding of these issues amongst members (REP12/GP, paras 10-32). This session will be held in conjunction with the 36th Session of the Commission on 4 July 2013.

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

Activity 4.1 is implemented through the consideration of a working paper (CX/CAC 13/36/16) and several information documents at the Commission. The information on the work of OIE, WTO, IAEA and ISO is regularly presented at the Commission. In addition, the Codex Secretariat invites international organizations to present information on their work at the session of Codex committees and Task Forces, as appropriate.

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.

Goal 5: Promoting Maximum and Effective Participation of Members

Activity 5.6: The services offered by the Codex website have been extended and will allow members to participate more effectively. Online commenting and registration systems (currently in test phase) have been developed.

A monthly bulletin that will be sent automatically to all members and observers and summarize the main events and updates on the Codex website is in preparation. The Codex Secretariat newsletter will continue to be prepared 2-3 times per year and on special occasions such as the 50th anniversary of the Commission. Fact sheets on Codex replacing the publication: "Understanding the Codex Alimentarius" are also in preparation.