



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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**Agenda Item 5.2**

**CX/EXEC 17/73/6**

**April 2017**

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

**73<sup>rd</sup> Session**

**WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland**

**10 - 13 July 2017**

**STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025 - DRAFT**

**Prepared by the Codex Chair and Vice-Chairs**

## **Background**

1. CCEXEC71 (Rome, 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016) examined the document entitled “Preparation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025”<sup>1</sup> which had been prepared by the Codex Secretariat under Agenda Item 6, and recommended to CAC39<sup>2</sup> to request the Codex Secretariat to start the process of developing a new Strategic Plan for Codex, taking note of the following:

- (i) The current Strategic Plan 2014-2019 should be the starting point for the new plan;
- (ii) Relevant findings from the on-going internal work management review should feed into the Strategic Plan development process;
- (iii) The effectiveness and measurability of indicators, with an aim to substantially reduce their number;
- (iv) The strategies/work programmes of FAO and WHO, and especially whether they will have an influence on the chosen timeframe of the plan;
- (v) UN goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. CCEXEC71 noted that the preparation of a draft Strategic Plan could be entrusted to the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Commission, but also that CCEXEC should be involved in its preparation at suitable stages of drafting.

3. The Drafting Team<sup>3</sup> developed the draft Strategic Plan 2020-2025 taking into account the above-mentioned recommendations as well as the suggestions and proposals made by the five FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees<sup>4</sup> which met between September 2016 and April 2017<sup>5</sup>. The Drafting Team acknowledges with gratitude the excellent advice and support that were given to them by the Codex Secretariat.

## **Discussion**

4. The Drafting Team noted that the contribution of CAC to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) would be included in a document prepared by FAO and WHO for CCEXEC73<sup>6</sup>. The Drafting Team also noted that the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the CCEXEC Sub-Committee on committees working by correspondence<sup>7</sup> would be taken into account at a subsequent stage.

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<sup>1</sup> CX/EXEC 16/71/6

<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 88, Report of the 71st session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, REP 16/EXEC

<sup>3</sup> Mrs Awilo Ochieng Pernet (CAC Chair) and Dr Yayoi Tsujiyama, Dr Guilherme Antonio Costa Junior and Dr Mahamadou Sako (CAC Vice-Chairs)

<sup>4</sup> CCNASWP, CCASIA, CCEURO, CCLAC and CCAFRICA.

<sup>5</sup> The 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNEA) will take place in Rome (Italy) from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

<sup>6</sup> CX/EXEC 17/73/8 “Codex and the Sustainable Development Goals”

<sup>7</sup> CX/EXEC 17/37/7 “Committees Working by Correspondence”

5. The zero draft prepared by the Codex Chair served as the basis for the discussions of the Drafting Team. The Drafting Team identified the draft strategic goals and objectives contained in **Annex 1**.
6. The Drafting Group also identified some activities which could be undertaken to achieve some of the objectives and agreed that this list would be provided separately in **Annex 2 for information and consideration** in the further elaboration of the Strategic Plan.

#### **Recommendation**

7. Codex Members and Observers are invited to provide comments on the draft set of strategic goals and objectives presented in Annex 1. Comments should be submitted in reply to [CL 2017/50-EXEC](#).

**DRAFT SET OF STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES****Strategic Goal 1: Elaborate relevant Codex food standards in an inclusive and transparent manner.**

**Objective 1.1:** Proactively identify emerging issues and Member needs.

**Objective 1.2:** Ensure Codex standards are in line with the priorities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

**Objective 1.3:** Enhance the capacity to arrive at consensus in the Codex standard-setting process.

**Objective 1.4:** Ensure that the Executive Committee of the CAC conducts the critical review process in an efficient manner.

**Objective 1.5:** Promote the coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organisations.

**Objective 1.6:** Enhance the transparency of the Codex standard-setting process.

**Strategic Goal 2: Ensure the availability and relevance of scientific advice.**

**Objective 2.1:** Achieve sustainable access to scientific advice.

**Objective 2.2:** Enhance the generation of qualitative and robust scientific data from developing countries.

**Strategic Goal 3: Raise awareness about the importance of Codex standards to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.**

**Objective 3.1:** Increase the visibility of the Codex Alimentarius Commission within the governing bodies of FAO and WHO.

**Objective 3.2:** Increase the visibility of the Codex Alimentarius Commission among all relevant stakeholders involved in the food chain.

**Objective 3.3:** Encourage the use of Codex standards at the national level.

**Strategic Goal 4: Ensure the effective participation of all Codex Members, in particular developing countries**

**Objective 4.1:** Identify the challenges Codex Members face in their effective participation in Codex.

**Objective 4.2:** Increase the effective participation of Codex Members, in particular developing countries, in Codex.

**Objective 4.3:** Promote capacity development programmes that address challenges for effective participation in Codex work.

**Strategic Goal 5: Implement effective and efficient work management systems and practices.**

**Objective 5.1:** Enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of Codex work.

**Objective 5.2:** Continue developing tools to facilitate effective and efficient contributions from all Codex Members.

**Objective 5.3:** Enhance the capacity of Chairs of Committees and Working Groups and the host country secretariats to support Codex work.

**Objective 5.4:** Improve the efficiency of the development of Codex commodity standards.

### **PRELIMINARY LIST OF ACTIVITIES**

**Strategic Goal 3:** Raise awareness about the importance of Codex standards to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

**Objective 3.1:** Increase the visibility of the Codex Alimentarius Commission within the governing bodies of FAO and WHO.

**Activity**

3.1.1: *To present a Codex Annual Report with recommendations to the governing bodies of the WHO Executive Board, the World Health Assembly and the FAO Council and Conference.*

**Objective 3.2:** Increase the visibility of the Codex Alimentarius Commission among all relevant stakeholders involved in the food chain.

**Activities**

3.2.1: *Identify a theme and promote Codex activities on World Food Safety Day.*

3.2.2: *Codex Members and Observers implement activities for World Food Safety Day.*

**Objective 3.3:** Encourage the use of Codex standards at the national level.

**Activities**

3.3.1: *Codex Members should adopt, adapt or take into consideration Codex standards during the development of their national legislation.*

3.3.2: *Disseminate Codex standards and related texts to relevant stakeholders and raise awareness about the importance of food safety, nutrition, food quality and ensuring fair practices in the food trade to all actors involved in the food chain from policy decision makers to consumers.*

**Strategic Goal 4:** Ensure the effective participation of all Codex Members, in particular developing countries

**Objective 4.2:** Increase the effective participation of Codex Members, in particular developing countries, in Codex.

**Activities:**

4.2.1: *Organise training workshops for Codex Members, in particular developing countries, to increase their participation in Electronic Working Groups.*

4.2.2: *Provide channels for possible participation in Codex standard-setting work.*

4.2.3: *To the extent possible, promote the use of the official languages of the Commission in Codex Committees and Working Groups.*

4.2.4: *Foster inter-sectoral collaboration among the relevant ministries at the national level including agriculture, health, trade, etc.*

4.2.5: *Foster collaboration on Codex-related issues between the public and private sectors including consumers.*

**Objective 4.3:** Promote capacity development programmes that address challenges for effective participation in Codex work.

**Activities**

4.3.1: *Promote the exchange of information and experiences on Codex-related activities among Codex Members.*

4.3.2: *Encourage communication, collaboration and cooperation on Codex-related activities among the Regions.*