



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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

Agenda Item 2

CX/NASWP 16/14/2

August 2016

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR NORTH AMERICA AND
THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC**

14th Session

Port Vila, Vanuatu, 19 - 22 September 2016

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS ON THE MULTI-SECTORAL ASPECTS OF CODEX AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR
STRENGTHENING CODEX AS A MEANS TO CONTRIBUTE TO DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMIC,
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NUTRITION SECTORS**

Abstract for Minister Tomscoll's Speech

Codex work cuts across many sectors like agriculture, health, trade and the economy to name a few. H.E. Minister Assik Tommy Tomscoll, Minister for Agriculture and Livestock, Papua New Guinea, was asked to share his views on "*Why Codex is important to the North America and South West Pacific region (CCNASWP)*" and how Members can all work together to strengthen Codex work in the CCNASWP region and make it relevant for CCNASWP Members. The Minister's speech is expected to be in three parts.

In the first part, the Minister will share some views on how Codex can be made more relevant to the CCNASWP region. The second part, will explore opportunities for strengthening Codex work in the CCNASWP region. The third part will offer some options on how CCNASWP Members could collectively address the challenges of strengthening Codex work in the region and in doing so make Codex more relevant to the Member States' development and nation-building aspirations.

All Members of the CCNASWP region have strengths that can be useful in enhancing Codex work regionally and globally. The challenges facing Codex now demand that new and innovative solutions are required at national, regional and global levels if Codex is to build on its past achievements and remain relevant to its Members. Finally, Codex in the CCNASWP region must not adopt the mentality and attitude of business as usual but CCNASWP Members must be prepared to step outside of their comfort zones and venture into new territories.