

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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INFORMAL REGIONAL MEETINGS ON THE REVISED DRAFT CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025

14th March 2019

Hôtel Pullman, Bordeaux, France.

On behalf of the Codex Regional Coordinators, the Codex Secretariat is pleased to inform you that there will be an opportunity for Delegates to meet in their Regional Groupings to discuss the revised draft Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 in the margins of the [31st Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles](#), which takes place in Bordeaux, France on 11-15 March 2019. The discussions will take place, in parallel, on Thursday 14th March 2019 from 8.00am to 12.30.

The discussions will be chaired by the Regional Coordinators. The Chair-person of the sub-committee of the CCEXEC on the revision of the draft Strategic Plan as well as the Chair-person and remaining vice-chairpersons of the Commission will be in attendance to provide information and address any questions that may arise. To facilitate coverage of all regional discussions, the Chair/vice-chairpersons will be available to participate in three of the regional meetings between 08.00am and 10.00am and the other three between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Further details on the meeting venue, timings etc. will be made available on the [CCGP website](#) as it becomes available.

Interpretation will not be available for these meetings.

In the event that the CCGP31 completes its agenda by lunchtime on 13th March 2019 meeting facilities for the regional groups will also be available on that afternoon.

Background Information

[CCEXEC76](#) agreed on its ambition to submit the draft strategic plan for endorsement by CAC42 and established a timeline for the work to be undertaken to achieve that goal. In line with that timeline (see Appendix 2 of the report of CCEXEC76) the following provides an overview of the progress to date and highlights the next steps.

1. A Circular Letter (CL 2018/67-OCS-CAC) requesting comments was issued together with the revised Strategic Plan in August 2018. Within the deadline of 30 November 2018 52 sets of [comments](#) had been received
2. Between September and November 2018 Regional Coordinators led face to discussions in many regions to facilitate engagement in the development of the strategic plan as follows:
 - Codex Alimentarius Colloquium, 12 – 14 September, 2018, Accra, Ghana
 - Regional Technical Workshop for National Codex Contact Points, Port Villa, Vanuatu. 29 - 31 October 2018
 - Regional Technical Meeting for National Codex Contact Points and Delegations to the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia, Beijing, China, 1 - 2 November 2018
 - Regional Technical Workshop for National Codex Contact Points, Kazakhstan, 7 – 9 November 2018

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- Regional discussion on the draft Codex Strategic Plan, 11 November 2018, Panama City, Panama
3. A meeting of the sub-committee of the CCEXEC met on 19-20 December 2018 to consider the comments and feedback from the regional discussions and initiate revision of the Strategic Plan. A message of the chair-person of the sub-committee was shared with all Codex contacts and a chairpersons summary of the meeting is available [here](#).
 4. The next version of the strategic plan is being finalized and will be circulated for comments as CL 2019/21/OCS-CAC within the end of February 2019. The comment period will be open until 30 April 2019.

In line with the report of CCEXEC76 which indicates that “Regional coordinators are encouraged to seek regional input to inform regional positions through electronic means or face-to-face discussions (e.g. in the margins of CCGP)”, the aforementioned informal discussions in the margins of CCGP are being organized. Such discussions provide an opportunity to further reflect on the Strategic Plan, get direct feedback on the key revisions that have been made by the sub-committee and facilitate preparation of a response. However, Members and Observers are reminded that all comments will need to be submitted directly on the Online commenting system.