

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



JOINT OFFICE: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00100 ROME Tel: 39 06 57051 www.codexalimentarius.net Email: codex@fao.org Facsimile: 39 06 5705 4593

**Agenda Item 6**

**CX/AFRICA 00/6-Add.1**

## **JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**

### **CODEX COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA**

#### **Fourteenth Session**

**Kampala, Uganda, 27 – 30 November 2000**

### **CONSUMERS' INVOLVEMENT IN THE WORK OF NATIONAL CODEX COMMITTEES AND NATIONAL CODEX CONTACT POINTS**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Commission considered consumers' involvement in Codex work and agreed to consider the development of a checklist of measurable objectives to assess consumer participation in Codex work at the national and international levels and asked the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP) to review the proposal contained in the document (see Annex).

The Commission also proposed that Regional Coordinating Committees continue to take the opportunity to provide a forum for the exchange of experiences on the ways and means of developing consumer input into National Codex Committees and Contact Points.<sup>1</sup>

The 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCGP considered the recommendations of the Commission concerning *Measurable Objectives to Assess Consumer Participation in Codex*.

The Committee welcomed the progress made in addressing the question of increasing consumer participation in Codex work, both in the Commission and at the national and regional levels. It welcomed the *Proposed Draft Guidance on Measurable Objectives to Assess Consumer Participation in Codex* and focussed its attention on the proposals in Appendix A to the discussion paper, which is annexed to this paper.

The Committee agreed to modify these proposals by providing that the names be included of countries that have established a National Codex Committee (NCC) or Codex Contact Point (CCP) or held open consultations with consumers when developing national positions for Codex meetings. It was also agreed to include information on the action of governments to support the establishment and activities of consumer NGOs. On that basis the Draft Guidance was endorsed by the Committee as being appropriate for the development of a baseline set of data and for consideration by the Regional Coordinating Committees when discussing the standing item on consumer participation in the countries of the various regions. The Committee called upon the Secretariat to begin the development of a set of baseline data as soon as possible. It was recommended that a report should be made to the Commission every two years.<sup>2</sup>

Governments and international organizations attending the 14<sup>th</sup> Session are invited to submit information and/or comments on the “*measurable objectives*” listed below in the Annex.

---

<sup>1</sup> ALINORM 99/37, para. 43

<sup>2</sup> ALINORM 01/33, paras. 109-110

**ANNEX****APPENDIX A:****PROPOSED DRAFT GUIDANCE ON  
MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES TO ASSESS CONSUMER PARTICIPATION IN CODEX**

To assist Codex in assessing the goal of increasing consumer participation in Codex over time, the following measures may be useful to consider:

1. the number or percentage of member countries that have established a National Codex Contact Point
2. the number or percentage of member countries that have established a National Codex Committee
3. the number or percentage of member countries which hold public consultations when developing national positions for Codex meetings
4. the number or percentage of member countries that have identified independent consumer NGOs and invited them to participate in Codex meetings or in submitting written comments
5. the number or percentage of member countries where independent consumer NGOs have participated in developing national positions for Codex meetings.
6. the number of consumer NGOs that participate in the Codex process at the national level.