

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



JOINT OFFICE: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 ROME Tel: 39 06 57051 www.codexalimentarius.net Email: codex@fao.org Facsimile: 39 06 5705 4593

Agenda Item 2.1

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE

Twenty-sixth Session,
Warsaw, Poland, 7-10 October 2008

IMPLEMENTATION OF CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2008-2013 (REPLIES TO CL 2008/4-EURO, PART C (I) AND (II))

***(I) MECHANISMS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA AT COUNTRY LEVEL TO IMPROVE
HORIZONTAL COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION AMONG NATIONAL DELEGATES TO
VARIOUS FOOD-STANDARDS-RELATED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (SEE ACTIVITY
4.5 OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN)***

ARMENIA

Can be done in case of establishment of National Codex Committee (see part A, 2(ii)).

DENMARK

As a member of the EC Denmark participates actively in the ec coordination on international standard setting. Denmark is also involved in nordic food safety activities and is very open to contacts from other countries.

ESTONIA

taking into account the limited number of experts in Estonia, who are related to the work of various international organizations setting food standards, there is no need to establish special mechanisms and evaluation criteria for horizontal coordination and communication. According to the general procedures of preparing Estonian positions, the consultation and cooperation among related experts and interested parties (industry, consumers, etc) is always obligatory.

FRANCE

The organisation in place meets the expectations.

GEORGIA

There is not any mechanisms and evaluation criteria to improve horizontal coordination and communication among national delegates to various food-standards-related international organizations.

HUNGARY

The main principles and national standpoint to be represented during the expert meetings are prepared and circulated for comments before the meetings.

IRELAND

Exchanges via Irish National Codex Committee (ICAC) & on-going contacts between concerned Ministries & Agencies.

LATVIA

Taking into account procedures of preparing Latvian positions, cooperation among related experts and interested parties from the industry and governmental authorities is obligatory. We consider that improvement of horizontal coordination and communication is needed.

POLAND

There is no need to set the additional mechanisms and evaluation criteria for horizontal co-ordination and communication between national delegates and food-standards-related organisations. The rules of co-operation and preparation of national positions on particular Codex issues are covered by the national internal procedure.

SERBIA

The first task of the National Codex Committee, after its establishment, will be to consider the Strategic plan.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

For improving of horizontal coordination and communication among national delegates to various food-standards-related international organizations MA created 25 national experts working groups (part A/2/ii). members of this groups are also national delegates in various international organization (WHO, OIE, OIV, OECD, WTO, etc.). all documents from codex alimentarius, ek, efsa and from international organisation are sent for comments and for informations to all member of the specific expert working group. besides electronic communication there is ad-hoc meeting and workshop of experts organised by ma. the mentioned mechanism within the sr has entered into practise last year. the structure of the wgs guarantees that all national delegates to the european and international organizations keep actual information from all organizations. the mechanism seems to be well established from time-efficiency and expert representation point of views. however, communication among experts (working at voluntary and no financially funded base) to formulate proposals and final positions will need to be more active.

UNITED KINGDOM

Two meetings a year are held for all delegates to the codex subsidiary bodies and to eu coordination meetings. the aim is to ensure consistency of behaviour and embed knowledge of horizontal developments within codex.

(II) ESTABLISHMENT OF SOUND STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES FOR CONSULTATION ON CODEX MATTERS TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, WITH A VIEW TO IN PARTICULAR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN CODEX WORK AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS (SEE ACTIVITY 5.5 OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN).

ARMENIA

Can be done in case of establishment of National Codex Committee (see part A, 2(ii)).

DENMARK

As described above NGO's are actively involved as members of the Codex National Committee and they are usually participating in the various Codex Committees as part of the Danish delegation.

FRANCE

See 2(i) above.

HUNGARY

The comments of hungary on various issues are prepared by the national codex working groups composed of specialists of relevant areas.

IRELAND

Ireland operates, via the Irish CCP, the afore-mentioned active National Codex Committee (ICAC) comprising a broad range of interested official, industry & consumer interests.

POLAND

The Codex Contact Point for Poland is well structured, mobile body which through the 45 years of its existing has created effective network of communication with all interested bodies. The involvement of co-operating bodies in Codex work is still being improved. It has been realized among other things by up-dating *the Internal Procedure of Proceeding within the Codex Works at the National Level* and making the surveys among all co-operating bodies (on defining issues of special concern for Poland covered by Codex, on usefulness of National Codex Contact Point website and on difficulties encountered in the use or application of Codex Standards and related texts at the national level and in the opinion making process).

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

The NCCP website (and the link to codex alimentarius) gives the possibility to become familiar and communicate with the nccp all who are interested in codex issues. As it was given in other parts of the questionnaire, various non-governmental organizations participate in the development as well as comment drafting standards and legislation.

SERBIA

The first task of the National Codex Committee, after its establishment, will be to consider the Strategic plan.

UNITED KINGDOM

As mentioned earlier, UK FSA facilitates the National Codex Consultative Committee (NCCC), the aim of which is to ensure that a wide range of stakeholders continue to be engaged with the Codex process throughout.