



## Agenda item 7

AFRICA/22 CRD2X

### JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

22nd Session

Nairobi, Kenya, 16 - 20 January 2017

#### CCAFRICA STRATEGIC PLAN 2014 - 2019

#### INTRODUCTION

The FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa was established at the ninth session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), held in Rome, Italy, from 6th to 17th November 1972, in accordance to Article IX (b) of the rules of the CAC.

Since its inception, the FAO/WHO CCAFRICA worked to lead, according to current needs and as part of its mandate, activities which relate to the provision of standards for African food that are importance for international and regional trade ,and that may improving the safety of food available to consumers, using efficiently Codex standards.

At the present, FAO/WHO CCAFRICA which has forty eight (48) members of the fifty four states (54) that make up the African continent is vested with the mission-assigned to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The tasks include:

1. Development of regional Codex standards.
2. Promoting the use of Codex standards.
3. Identification and definition of the region's needs in terms of food standards and food control.
4. Harmonizing food regulations to promote trade among member states.
5. Development of procedures and food control infrastructures.

In order to carry out its duties, FAO/WHO CCAFRICA, just like Codex Alimentarius Commission, bases its work on the risk assessment, provision of scientific advice and consensual approach.

The objectives of FAO/WHO CCAFRICA are in line with the objectives of CAC, which aims to improve food safety, quality and fair international trade.

The implementation of the Strategic Plan 2007-2013, developed in order to facilitate the tasks of the FAO/WHO CCAFRICA, allowed the Africa community for Codex to achieve the following:

1. Continuous representation of Africa within the Codex management team;
2. Harmonization of African countries positions;
3. Improved participation of African delegates in various codex meetings;
4. Improved performance of the National Contact Points.

However some of the activities not achieved in the period of the strategic plan were:

1. Implementation of risk based approach by some member countries to food safety.
2. Submission of data to GEMS/FOOD website;
3. Effective involvement of political and administrative authorities in the Codex activities and food safety;
4. Development of regional standards for Africa;

5. Effective use of Codex standards for the improvement of national food safety control systems.

This new strategic plan (2014-2019) has been designed in order to meet these challenges focusing on four goals.

## **FAO/WHO - CCAFRICA VISION**

To be a leading subsidiary body of CAC that plays a role in improving the safety and quality of food for human nutrition and ensure fair practices in food trade.

### **Core Values**

In fulfilling its strategic vision, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA adheres to the following values:

1. Collaboration
2. Inclusiveness
3. Consensus building
4. Transparency

In conducting its work, the **FAO/WHO CCAFRICA** strives to ensure that the concepts of protecting the health of consumers and fair practice in the food trade are consistently followed in the Codex standard-setting process.

## **STRATEGIC GOALS**

**Strategic Goal 1: Ensure effective participation of African countries in the activities of Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies.**

***Objective 1.1. Advocate the African Union to establish and implement an African Trust Fund.***

### **Activities:**

1.1.1 Seek funding from African governments, development partners and regional economic communities for codex and food safety activities.

***Objective 1.2: Sensitize African policy makers to give greater priority to the implementation of the Codex and food safety activities.***

### **Activities:**

1.2.1 Organize, awareness and information campaigns for policymakers on the importance of the implementation of Codex standards, in food safety and the fair trade practices in food.

1.2.2 Advocate through the African Union, that food safety and Codex Alimentarius related issues are reflected in the agenda of meetings of heads of African States and/or Governments.

***Objective 1.3 Encourage member States of FAO/WHOCCAFRICA to create and strengthen Codex Contact Points and National Committees.***

### **Activities:**

1.3.1 Update directory of African Codex Contact Points at the CAC website.

1.3.2 Encourage the use of the FAO/WHOCCAFRICA website.

1.3.3 Develop cooperation with FAO, WHO country representatives and other development partners to strengthen the capacities of Codex Contact Points and National Codex Committees.

***Objective 1.4: Promote the participation of African experts in FAO/WHO Joint Expert Committees.***

### **Activities:**

1.4.1 Strengthen the capacity of African research for the production of scientific data and advice in line with international requirements.

1.4.2 Encourage cooperation among research organizations in Africa.

1.4.3 Encourage African governments and development partners to allocate adequate resources for the generation of relevant scientific data.

1.4.4 Encourage meetings for food safety experts and the establishment of expert committees of various matters of interest to Africa.

**Strategic Goal 2: Develop African regional food standards that address current and emerging food safety challenges.**

***Objective 2.1: Sensitize governments of member countries for FAO/WHO CCAFRICA through their National Codex Committee in the development of regional standards for their food products.***

**Activities:**

2.1.1 Develop and disseminate regionally, a procedure for assembling technical documents related to the development of regional codex, standards

2.1.2 Develop a Technical Cooperation Program with FAO the development of regional standards.

***Objective 2.2: Generate and collect scientific data on the production, processing, composition, storage, commercialization, quality and food safety of interest to Africa.***

**Activities:**

2.2.1 Organize an advocacy to guide research in Africa for the production of scientific data on food.

**Strategic Goal 3: To ensure the sustainability of FAO/WHOCCAFRICA objectives and activities.**

***Objective 3.1: Organize and sensitize African countries to have a common position on all codex work.***

**Activities:**

3.1.1 Organize within the FAO/WHOCCAFRICA and other FAO/WHO Codex coordinating committees, meetings for the development of technical and educational capabilities

***Objective 3.2: Develop a mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of FAO/WHOCCAFRICA activities for continual improvement.***

**Activities:**

3.2.1 Develop and implement a regional process for monitoring – assessment of FAO/WHO CCAFRICA activities in connection with its action plan, under the rules of FAO and WHO.

**Strategic Goal 4: Use of Codex standards and related texts to improve the quality and food safety in FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries.**

***Objective 4.1: Supporting FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries for the appropriation of Codex standards and their implementation.***

**Activities:**

4.1.1 Conduct workshops/seminars to sensitize FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries on the application of codex standards.

***Objective 4.2: To assist and encourage FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries to develop national food safety systems that are based on the Codex standards and related texts.***

**Activities:**

4.2.1 Develop and disseminate a food safety framework for the development of national food safety systems based on Codex standards.

***Objective 4.3: To assist FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries to harmonize their food safety policies and legal framework in line with the Codex standards and related texts.***

**Activities:**

4.3.1 Encourage FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries to share and work together at the regional economic community's level to harmonize national food laws and regulations.

4.3.2 Encourage FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries to transcript Codex standards in national food laws and regulations.

### IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM OF FAO/WHOCCAFRICA STRATEGIC PLAN 2014 - 2019

**Overall objective:** Strengthen the role of FAO/WHOCCAFRICA and enhance the participation and effectiveness of the African region of the CODEX within the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

**Schedule: 2014-2019**

<b>Strategic Goal 1: Ensure effective participation of African countries in the activities of Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies.</b>					
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Indicators/sources of verification</b>
<b>Objective 1.1. Advocate the African Union to establish and implement an African Trust Fund.</b>	1.1.1 - Seek funding from African governments, development partners and regional economic communities for codex and food safety activities.	FAO/WHO CCAFRICA Coordinator,  FAO/WHO,  AU-IBAR.	Continuous	-Existence of funding arrangements for Codex Alimentarius Commission activities and food safety related issues in Africa.  -The need of establishing a trust fund is understood and accepted by African Heads of State.	1. The number of codex projects funded in Africa.  2. Memorandum of understanding (MOU)  3. Report specifying the acceptance.
<b>Objective 1.2: Sensitize African policy makers to give greater priority to the implementation of the Codex and food safety activities.</b>	1.2.1- Organize, awareness and information campaigns for policymakers on the importance of the implementation of Codex standards, in food safety and the fair trade practices in food.	FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator.	2014-2019	Awareness and information campaigns are conducted and aimed at African decision makers.	1. Number of sensitization campaigns/workshops organized.
	1.2.2 - Advocate through the African Union, that food safety and Codex Alimentarius related issues are reflected in the agenda of meetings of heads of African States and/or Governments.	FAO/WHO - CCAFRICA Coordinator.	2014 – 2019	Issues relating to codex, food safety and quality are on the agenda of African union (AU) meetings of African Heads of State and/or governments.	1. Presence of items on codex, food safety and quality on the agenda of meetings of Heads of State and/or governments in AU meetings.
<b>Objective 1.3 Encourage member States of FAO/WHO CCAFRICA to create and</b>	1.3.1 -Update directory of African Codex Contact Points at the CAC website.	FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator.  Codex Secretariat.	Continuous	Updated directorate of Codex Contact Points in Africa.	1. Updated directorate.

<b>strengthen Codex Contact Points and National Committees.</b>	1.3.2 - Encourage the use of the FAO/WHOCCAFRICA website.	FAO/WHO-CCAFRICA Coordinator. National Codex Contact Points.	Continuous	An updated FAO/WHOCCAFRICA website containing data/ scientific reports on food safety related issues.	1. Number of hits/visits the website receives.
	1.3.3 - Develop cooperation with FAO, WHO country representatives and other development partners to strengthen the capacities of Codex Contact Points and National Codex Committees.	FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator, National Codex Contact Points.	2014-2019	The CCP and NCC are well trained in Codex working methods, procedures and operations and food safety systems.	1. Number of training sessions organized. 2. Reports of an increasing number of countries with more efficient CCP and NCC.
<b>Objective 1.4: Promote the participation of African experts in FAO/WHO Joint Expert Committees.</b>	1.4.1 - Strengthen the capacity of African research for the production of scientific data and advice in line with international requirements.	FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator.	2014-2019	Participation of African experts in FAO/WHO joint Expert committees.	1. Number of experts from African countries participated in FAO/WHO Joint Expert Committees.
	1.4.2 - Encourage cooperation among research organizations in Africa.	Governments of the region. FAO/WHO CCAFRICA Coordinator. FAO / WHO.	2014-2019	Establishment of a functional network for African researchers participating in Codex Alimentarius activities, food safety and quality.	1. Existence of a functional network. 2. Number of MOUs established amongst Research organizations.
	1.4.3 - Encourage African governments and development partners to allocate adequate resources for the generation of relevant scientific data.	Governments of the region, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator, FAO / WHO, African Union.	Continuous	Allocation of adequate resources by countries to academic and research organizations for the generation of scientific data in Africa.	1. Amount of the allocated funds to academic and research organizations.

	1.4.4 - Encourage meetings for food safety experts and the establishment of expert committees of various matters of interest to Africa.	Governments of the region, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator, FAO / WHO, African Union (AU).	Continuous	Expert meetings are regularly held and expert committees are established.	<p>1. The number of food safety meetings held.</p> <p>2. The number of expert committees established.</p>
<b>Strategic Goal 2: Develop African regional food standards that address current and emerging food safety challenges.</b>					
<b>Objective 2.1: Sensitize governments of member countries for FAO/WHO CCAFRICA through their National Codex Committee in the development of regional standards for their food products.</b>	2.1.1 - Develop and disseminate regionally, a procedure for assembling technical documents related to the development of regional codex, standards.	African Union, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator  FAO/WHO,	Continuous	Scientific data are collected, stored at the FAO/WHOCCAFRICA website and shared in the region.	1. Number of countries that have submitted scientific data.
	2.1.2 - Develop a Technical Cooperation Program with FAO, for development of regional standards.	Governments of the region, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator, FAO / WHO,  Codex Secretariat.	2014-2019	The procedure for the development of regional food standards is established.  A technical cooperation program is developed and validated.	<p>1. The number of regional codex food standards developed.</p> <p>2. Existence of a validated TCP document.</p>
<b>Objective 2.2: Generate and collect scientific data on the production, processing, composition, storage, commercialization, Quality and food safety of interest to Africa.</b>	2.2.1 - Organize an advocacy to guide research in Africa for the production of scientific data on food.	Governments of the region. FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator FAO / WHO.	2014-2019	Regional scientific data base created, available and usable.	1. Existence of functional database

<b>Strategic Goal 3: To ensure the sustainability of FAO/WHOCCAFRICA objectives and activities.</b>					
<b>Objective 3.1:</b> <b>Organize and sensitize African countries to have a common position on all Codex work.</b>	3.1.1– Organize within the FAO/WHO CCAFRICA and other FAO/WHO coordinating committees, meetings for the development of technical and educational capabilities.	Governments of the region,  African Union  FAO/WHO-CCAFRICA coordinator.  FAO/WHO.	Continuous	Development of technical and educational capabilities.  A strengthened FAO/WHO- CCAFRICA coordinating committee.	<b>1.</b> Number of capacity building workshops conducted.  <b>2.</b> Reports of the workshops.
<b>Objective 3.2:</b> <b>Develop a mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of FAO/WHO CCAFRICA activities for continual improvement.</b>	<b>3.2.1</b> - Develop and implement a regional process for monitoring – assessment of FAO/WHO CCAFRICA activities in connection with its action plan, under the rules of FAO and WHO.	Governments of the region, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator and members.  FAO/WHO,	2014-2019	Existence of a regional mechanism for monitoring / evaluation of FAO/WHO-CCAFRICA activities developed.	<b>1.</b> A report of monitoring and evaluation of activities undertaken by FAO/WHO-CCAFRICA.
<b>Strategic Goal 4: Use of Codex standards and related texts to improve the quality and food safety in FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries.</b>					
<b>Objective 4.1:</b> <b>Supporting CCAFRICA member countries for the appropriation of Codex standards and their implementation.</b>	<b>4.1.1</b> - Conduct workshops/seminars to sensitize FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries on the application of Codex standards.	Governments of the region, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator,  FAO/WHO.	2015-2019	Enhanced capacity built on the application of Codex standards.	<b>1.</b> Number of workshops and seminars held.  <b>2.</b> Reports of the workshops and seminars held.
<b>Objective 4.2:</b> <b>To assist and encourage FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries to develop national food safety systems that are based on the Codex standards and related texts.</b>	<b>4.2.1</b> - Develop and disseminate a food safety framework for the development of national food safety systems based on Codex standards.	FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator,  FAO/WHO.	2015-2019	A template for the elaboration and the development of a national food safety system.	<b>1.</b> The developed template of national food safety systems based on Codex standards.

<b>Objective 4.3:</b> <b>To assist FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries to harmonize their food safety policies and legal framework in line with the Codex standards and related texts.</b>	<b>4.3.1</b> Encourage FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries to share and work together at the regional economic community's level to harmonize national food laws and regulations.	Governments of the region, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator, FAO/WHO.	Continuous	Consultation meetings are conducted within the sub-regions for the harmonization of food laws and regulations.	<b>1.</b> Number of harmonized food laws and regulations meetings.  <b>2.</b> Reports of the sub-region consultation meetings
	<b>4.3.2</b> - Encourage FAO/WHOCCAFRICA member countries to transcribe Codex standards in national food laws and regulations.	Governments of the region, FAO/WHOCCAFRICA Coordinator, FAO/WHO.	2015-2019	The region has the skills able to properly transcribe Codex standards in food legislation and regulations.	<b>1.</b> Number of people trained in the integration of Codex standards in food legislation and regulations.  <b>2.</b> Number of countries that have transcribed Codex standards in their regulations.