

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



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
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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE
Thirty-second Session
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**IMPACT ON MULTILATERAL RELATIONS IN THE CODEx EUROPEAN REGION IN LIGHT OF THE CURRENT
AND ONGOING SITUATION IN UKRAINE**

(Prepared by the United Kingdom)

1.1. The UK has been a Member of the Codex Alimentarius Commission since it was founded in 1963 and has a long-established track record of supporting and championing Codex's core values and objectives throughout its membership. The UK would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm its commitment and continued support for the work of the Commission, its subsidiary bodies and the WHO/FAO Regional Coordinating Committees.

1.2. We highly value the multilateral consensus-based and collaborative approach used to develop international food standards in the Commission. Further, the relationships, trust and mutual respect that has been built between countries in the Codex European Region facilitated by CCEURO.

1.3. Russia's assault on Ukraine is an unprovoked, premeditated attack against a sovereign democratic state. The UK and our international partners stand united in condemning the Russian government's reprehensible actions, which are an egregious violation of international law and the UN Charter.

1.4. As a Permanent Member of the UN Security Council, Russia has a particular responsibility to uphold international peace and security. Instead, it is violating the borders of another country and its actions are causing widespread suffering. Russia must urgently de-escalate and withdraw its troops. It must be held accountable and stop undermining democracy, global stability, and international law.

1.5 CCEURO has helped foster close working relations across Codex's largest and most diverse region, a region built on our shared history, values and culture. Successive Regional Coordinators have relished their role in bringing European nations closer together, none more so than the current co-ordinator Kazakhstan whom we applaud wholeheartedly.

1.6 We urge CCEURO to unite against those that seek to divide us and call on members who support the rule of law to put pressure on the Russian Federation, through all available channels and means, to immediately cease their senseless and illegal war on Ukraine so that peace can be restored to the European continent.

1.7 The UK delegation will take no account of interventions made by the Russian Federation at this WHO/FAO Regional Coordinating Committee and we disassociate ourselves from any and all interventions or contributions made by the Russian Federation at this and future Codex meetings or working groups in which the UK participates, as long as the aggression against Ukraine continues.

1.8 The UK will continue to work collaboratively with other international partners including likeminded members of the CCEURO region who share our values to deliver robust, science-based food standards that protect everyone everywhere, whilst also facilitating global trade.