

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Twentieth Session

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COMMENTS OF BRAZIL

Food Safety and Quality Situation in the Countries of the Region

Trends in Food Safety and Quality Issues in Countries of the LAC region

Working to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a critical and emerging issue for food safety and quality for everyone. Poverty, hunger, good health and well-being, decent work and economic growth, responsible consumption and production are critical and emerging issues related to food safety and quality that should be treated immensely by Codex.

Related to the 2030 Agenda for SDGs 193 countries *recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.*

The United Nations SDGs provide a framework for future developments in Codex regarding food safety and quality, preventing trade restrictions and distortions and ensuring access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round. Codex can contribute enormously to achieve the SDGs since it covers 99% of the world's population and because its discussions are based on the best available science.

“The United Nations family begins to chart a path to the future through the Sustainable Development Goals, food safety and quality, a level playing field for trade, healthy and nutritious diets and consumer information are right at the centre of improving the world we live in.”
(Understanding Codex, 2016).

Codex standards can support countries to compete in sophisticated markets and contribute to the development of national food control systems. This reduces poverty, hunger, the burden of foodborne disease, food loss and waste, protects the consumer health, promotes fair practices in food trade, and increases productivity and employment.

Codex members should work to ensure that no one is left behind in the drive to reach the SDGs. This will represent an important action in critical and emerging issues in food safety and quality that will transform our world to a better place.

Codex should work with all critical and emerging issues (for instance: new technologies, scientific progress, new distribution channels, public attention to food safety, climate change) in food safety and quality, taking into account the premise of its mandate expressed in the procedure manual and following the provisions of this manual.