



Workshop report

In collaboration with Tanzania Bureau of Standards

FAO/WHO Workshop on Facilitating increased private sector involvement in preparing national and regional positions on Codex issues within the East African Community (EAC) partner states



Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 5-7 December 2012

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Finally, thanks are given to all course participants for their very active participation throughout the workshop. It is hoped that the workshop will lead to further collaboration at national and regional level, to enhance participation of private sector to develop national positions within the framework of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Increasing private sector involvement in Codex deliberations at national and sub-regional levels is one of the strategic objectives agreed upon by the EAC Partner States at the Codex Trust Fund (CTF)- funded workshop held in Nairobi in September 2011.

In order to achieve this objective, the private sector has to be made aware of the benefits that they can derive from their active participation in the preparing and formulation of national and/or regional positions.

In addition, greater involvement and engagement from the private sector is an important “ingredient” to increased commitment of governments to support Codex work and enriched national perspectives to be brought to Codex. Thus, private sector can contribute to raise public awareness and to sensitize policy makers to the Codex work and its related implications. This will facilitate the development of stronger national and/or regional positions for key Codex committees, which is also a major objective of the EAC with the establishment of the EAC Codex Forum.

In this regard, FAO/WHO organized a workshop on improving private sector active participation in the preparing and formulation of national and/or regional positions. The workshop for EAC partner states was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 5 – 7 December 2012. Support was provided by the FAO/WHO Project and Fund for Enhanced Participation in Codex (Codex Trust Fund). The Government of Tanzania kindly hosted the workshop and the Tanzania Bureau of Standards greatly supported by organising the event.

The workshop was attended by 28 participants from Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi and Kenya and three trainers, two from South Africa and one from Kenya.

The list of participants, trainers and resource persons is attached in Annex 1.

2. OPENING ADDRESS

The workshop for EAC partner states was officially opened by Ms. Diana Tempelman, permanent representative of FAO Tanzania. Ms Tempelman expressed her thanks to the Tanzanian Government for hosting this meeting. She also thanked the Tanzanian Bureau of Standards for all their efforts to contribute to the success of the workshop. She welcomed distinguished delegates from the EAC member states who came to participate to the workshop and also acknowledged the FAO and WHO Codex Trust Fund which had helped the participants to attend this three days technical workshop.

She began by outlining the challenges the EAC countries will face to ensure that they can sustain their participation in Codex, once Codex Trust Fund support ends for most countries by

2014. Hence the political and financial commitment at national level was underlined.

Ms Tempelman talked about the issue of food safety, which is a concern for people everywhere. Ensuring food safety and quality is essential to achieve improvements in human health and nutrition, which is the ultimate goal of food security. This is reflected in the Declaration of the World Food Summit, convened in Rome in November 1996, which reaffirmed the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger.

While the government's main responsibility is to establish and manage an enabling institutional policy and regulatory framework for food safety and to carry out food control activities that protect consumers from risks arising from unsafe food and fraudulent practices, food producers, processors, handlers, manufacturers, traders, retailers and caterers (hereafter referred to as the food industry or the private sector), have the critical responsibility to ensure the production and the delivery of safe food to consumers. This includes the responsibility for delivering and managing systems which ensure that the food supplied and/or served is safe and complies with official food safety requirements.

At the international level, Codex offers a forum and framework to countries, whereby all key stakeholders are involved and their interests catered for and taken into consideration during the development of guidelines. Ms Tempelman stressed the important role played by Codex in the harmonization of standards across countries, which is fundamental to avoid multiplicity of standards, thereby facilitating trade.

While in developed countries the private sector participates in both national and international standard setting activities, she highlighted the challenges the developing countries are facing while getting all stakeholders, and in particular the private sector, involved in national and international standard setting. Organizational and institutional challenges, including lack of capacity and limited resources, have limited their participation both in the national and Codex food related activities and processes.

She concluded her address by highlighting the importance of private sector of developing countries to become engaged in Codex work, to ensure that the outcomes of Codex work reflects the diversity and the interests of all and not only the reality and the interests of the developed world. Hence the workshop will provide the opportunity to discuss and devise strategies, ways and means to allow a qualitative and sustainable participation and the contribution of the private sector in the vital work of Codex.

The Tanzania Bureau of Standards acting Director General Mr Dominic Mwakangale welcomed the Guest of Honour Ms Joyce Mapunjo – Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Trade.

In her address, Ms Mapunjo first began by thanking everyone who took part in making the workshop possible and welcomed participants who come from different countries to Tanzania.

She addressed the aims of sharing knowledge to participants on active involvement to Codex

activities and the benefits of the standards. She also informed that the workshop will cover experiences of private sector from other countries like South Africa on benefits of participation in Codex activities for the fishery sector.

Ms Mapunjo spoke on the issues of international food trade which has existed for thousands of years, with the last century observing the amount of food traded internationally, grown exponentially. She talked about Codex Alimentarius International food standards, guidelines and codes of practice, which contribute to the safety, quality and fairness of this international food trade. Consumers should trust the safety and quality of the food products they buy and importers should trust that the food they ordered will be in accordance with their specifications. She mentioned that Codex Standards/guidelines do not demand any innovations on manufacturing or handling practices of food, but relate to common practices which we commonly apply in our daily life during primary food production or processing, in our food establishment or in our homes.

She acknowledged the efforts being made by National Standards Bodies in Partner States, in ensuring that food traded within the states is safe and of a desired quality, specifically as a result of adopting and implementing the Codex Standards. Therefore, she appealed to participants to participate effectively in all activities of this workshop programme, as all participants have in one way or the other the responsibilities that address food safety and quality issues along the food chain. She concluded by hoping that the shared experiences of success and challenges through discussion and take home knowledge, will stimulate the participants to share with colleagues from respective public and private sectors. Ultimately, this would result in more active participation of private sector to the elaboration of national and regional Codex standards.

3. OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE WORKSHOP ON FACILITATING INCREASED PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT ON CODEX ISSUES

The workshop started off with the presentation of the meeting approach and expected outputs and a round table introduction by all the participants .

The objectives were outlined as follows:

1. Common (public and private sector) understanding of benefits of increased private sector participation in national/sub regional regulatory processes in general and in Codex processes in particular.
2. Identification of elements allowing for improvement of public-private partnerships.
3. Codex Committees and related Codex issues are commonly identified in each EAC country between public and private sector so as to strengthen collaboration, at least in the two selected sectors , should there be an interest
4. Issues are commonly prioritized in each EAC country for at least the two selected sectors, should there be an interest

5. Plans with concrete actions from each side - private and public sector - to engage collaboration in the short and medium term for the issues prioritized at session 4.
6. Additional sectors identified in each EAC country in which further involvement of private sector could be beneficial for both parties, to be investigated.
7. Potential opportunities for EAC Codex forum to support private sector involvement to be identified.

The workshop selected five thematic subject areas, to provide participants with information and a deeper understanding of key issues of relevance to the participating countries. A combination of presentations designed to elicit exchange with participants and WG sessions designed to give "hands-on" experience with information and theory presented, as well as to increase opportunities for exchange among participants in a small group format, was used. All presentations (WG feedbacks, concluding remarks included) given at the workshop were distributed to participants on a flash disk at the end of the workshop. In addition, prior to the workshop beginning, the presentations given by the facilitators were shared with the participants.

The final programme is attached in Annex 2.

4. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

Session 1 Introduction

Theme 1: Benefits of private sector involvement in Codex activities – Private sector perspective

This presentation started by explaining the international reputation gained through trade given to national exported fish species. Many companies have no interest in other companies exports, which can be harmful, because a fish species exported from a given country will have a reputation and can negatively influence the export price of this same fish species.

It further suggested how individual companies in a country should get together and form a committee, in order to support the weakest link in their supply chain. The main purpose of the committee is to act as a lobby with the government and other national and international bodies, which require commercial and political expertise. A secondary function is to have a sub-committee made up of technical people, that handle all technical issues, including Codex.

The presentation also reminded that Codex sets the standards and code of good practices for products traded internationally. Technical committees discuss the details on technical parameters for the traded food commodities. The World Trade Organization (WTO) refers to Codex as the *benchmark standards* for foods traded internationally covering safety and quality aspects and trade can be facilitated where countries harmonise their requirements based on

Codex standards. Where a country puts in place a more stringent requirement than a Codex standard, they need to be prepared to provide the scientific justification for doing so if requested by another country. Hence, all countries that are Codex members are encouraged to follow the standards as a minimum.

It was further explained that the actual requirements for any Codex standard will have to be incorporated into a country's national legislation and consequently the industry will have to produce, according to this standard, as a minimum. The country should accept imports produced to this standard and if imports are of a lower quality than your local production, but still produced according to Codex standards, they can still enter the local market, even if it can risk your local business. The session highlighted that Codex is where you can discuss and eventually revise the technical requirements from importing countries or communities and where any exporting country's voice can be heard. The presentation concluded by highlighting that it is of the utmost importance that government representatives who attend Codex meetings are accompanied by private sector representatives as an advisor and that attendance should ideally be consistent. Consultation with key stakeholders including the private sector prior to a meeting is essential. Having a planned consultation mechanism will enable the consideration of issues before the Codex meeting, and agreement on the national positions and priorities. to ensure that the needs of all are catered for. The mechanism for this consultation should be country-specific, but may include face to face meetings between the national delegation and the private sector, through email/post correspondence, or facilitated by a meeting of the National Codex Committee.

Concerns from the participants included:

- ✓ Perception were unclear whether Codex standards are above the local standards or not

Theme 2 – Benefits of private sector involvement in Codex activities – Public sector perspective

This presentation started by introducing how the private sector was involved in the fishery sector in the standard setting process in South Africa since the 50s by underlining that often it is an industry initiative that requires the harmonization of food safety and quality standards. It gave the example of compulsory specifications in the fish canning industry. It was shown how standards and specifications were not only benefitting consumers, but also industry interest, and thus overall industry acceptance as a result of the fact that they were instrumental in the success of the process where guarantees are provided to protect consumer and market. The South African fish canning industry made a huge contribution with the first standard, to such an extent that the final product was seen to be "their standard". By "owning" the standard the canning industry made it easy for the industry to have come to agreement to officially request government to declare the standard compulsory. Most of the fish canners were also involved in other sectors of the fishing industry and therefore also influenced standards for other commodities. Additional benefits to the industry was also mentioned, which included an opportunity to follow the development process, by making direct or indirect contributions. A plus is that the Codex standard is internationally accepted, contains a lot of information that can be reasonably and easily introduced (and in a short time) in the local process and probably at a reduced price.

Concerns from the participants included:

- ✓ How the private sectors can take part in the process at national and international level
- ✓ How to differentiate between the private standards and Codex standards

Session 2 Experiences, lessons learnt and opportunities of past and current involvement of private sector in Codex activities from selected food sectors

Theme 3 – Experiences from South Africa of the Fishery public sector – History of 30 years of involvement in Codex activities

This presentation gave an overview on the involvement of the private sector to the Codex Committee for Fish and Fishery products (CCFFP) in South Africa since 1968. Explanations on the delegation to CCFFP and its composition over the years was provided. South African delegations were always made up of governmental and industry representatives. The close co-operation that existed in the South African food standardization process between the public regulators, standards coordinators and industry was carried forward into the Codex process. As a consequence of attending Codex sessions, delegations brought back important information they could implement in national standardization processes, while they also established important contacts to obtain further information on a wide variety of topics.

The presentation outlined the various contributions South Africa made to CCFFP, assisting various work groups on specific standards with technical contributions like e.g. standards for canned and frozen fish and the draft standard for quick frozen lobster. By influencing the Codex process for fishery products, South Africa benefitted through its involvement, by benchmarking with the international community and by reviewing their national standards. Its involvement saved cost, effort and time, by obtaining certain technical and regulatory information that is crucial for the national processes.

Concerns from the participants included:

- ✓ Difference between an observer status and a member in Codex; an observer can contribute to the standard setting process, but in the end it is the member countries who take the final decision on the standards through consensus, and in the event of a vote only member countries can vote.
- ✓ Whether Codex involvement can impact the price of a certain product? Directly, no, but Codex involvement will ensure that the quality and safety of the traded food commodity will be according to international risk based agreed standards.

Theme 4 – Experiences from South Africa of the Fishery private sector – History of 30 years of involvement in Codex activities

The session began by advising industries to take a long term view as Codex system can be slow and takes time as different countries with different views discuss product specifications over every 18 months (CCFFP). It is strongly suggested that industry should be committed to always try to send the same person to the technical meetings for continuity, as Codex involvement is about knowing and understanding the system and the people over time.

The session also looked at the Codex meeting dynamics whereby it is essential to understand that on occasion a pattern may emerge, where producing countries may want less stringent requirements, whereas consuming countries may push for higher requirements. Additionally, some producing countries do not want their standards to be too loose as they may risk to lose their competitive advantage.

The session also looked at the process to follow when, setting a new Codex Standard. As not all food products traded internationally have a Codex standard trading with a product that has no Codex standard has pros and cons for the producers. In theory it means that you can produce to whatever technical standard you wish. However in practice, if you are exporting the product you will have to produce it to the standard required by the importing country. Most Codex standards are set to be as wide as possible, in order to encompass as many products as possible within one standard. Each country must provide data and information to ensure that the requirements of their own production are encompassed within the general specifications. Sometimes industry has a reluctance to share industry-specific information with government people, as they are concerned that regulators will use this information to set regulations to which industry has to adhere to. It is crucial that at Codex meetings industry and government works as a team, with the goal of providing an optimum standard for their country and therefore technical information should be shared in an open and transparent manner on a trust basis.

The session ended by looking at the private sector contributions over 30 years to CCFFP, which included at least one industry advisor present at all meetings and approved by the majority of industry players and the government representative. It was underlined that the cost of that person attending has always been paid for by industry.

Concerns from the participants included:

- ✓ Concerns over the slow process of the Codex standards - it was explained that plans have been put in place to making the development process faster.
- ✓ How to develop the private sector capacity? It was advised to add technical people from industry to the national Codex committees.
- ✓ Issues were raised on funding of companies to participate in Codex. It was advised to plan for it through a medium and long term strategy.

- ✓ How to create confidence between private sector and public sector? This relationship needs to be nurtured and needs time to be established on a trust basis.
- ✓ How can information be shared? National procedures need to be in place where the Codex Contact Point shares relevant information and documents with private sector.
- ✓ How it is fundamental to compromise in order to avoid further delays in the standard setting process as there are clear advantages to having an agreed Codex standard to which all producers need to comply to.
- ✓ Challenges encountered in private sector participation in South Africa included too high expenses to pay for two people to attend and to train more participants from private sector in order to ensure a sustainable presence of private industry representation.

Theme 5 – Codex and Fresh Produce Industry In East Africa: Perspectives

The session began by looking at the EAC fresh produce export figures which are growing and at how standards are central to the Fresh Produce Industry. It illustrated the horticultural council (12 countries) in Africa – fresh produce private sector associations which support its members in coordinating mechanisms in standard setting processes and in coordinating implementation of standards.

The session also looked at the Kenya GAP, which is an industry code of practice developed in 1998 which aims at industry self-regulatory controls and strong public sector partnership. It is benchmarked to GLOBALGAP (certificates recognized by supermarkets in the EU and worldwide).

The session looked at the importance of getting involved in Codex, as its standards are considered as international benchmarks on which all food safety standards are set, both official controls as well as market standards. Codex standards represent the reference and are used as a basis for international trade dispute settling under the WTO SPS protocol. Furthermore, it is important to participate, as it gives access to scientific basis for standards setting. The challenges in Codex participation include: ensuring a public-private partnership in developing country positions, as consultations are still rare and a consultative approach that should be achieved, ensuring sufficient competencies at the Codex representation e.g. participation of competent staff and co-participation by industry/private sector.

The private sector role in Codex was outlined as providing a linkage between official control systems and market standards, in order to avoid the risk of separate systems and ensuring the timely conclusion of Codex standard setting processes. Private sector participation allows for the

provision of concrete examples of impacts of proposed standards and to bring out aspects that need consideration.

Industry participating to Codex allows them to be prepared in advance for what is about to come (International standards) and to be prepared for learning about international standards and the associated trends (scientific, policy and political) underpinning international trade, as well as being better prepared for international trade dispute discussions.

The session concluded by recommending that the EAC fresh produce sector build strong links in the region between the Codex technical committees and EAC standards harmonization, to strengthen public – private participation in standard setting process and eventually plan for an EAC wide resonance, in order to overcome budget constraints and to strengthen linkages between official control systems and self-regulatory/market standards.

Session 3 Status of current private sector involvement in Codex activities within the EAC region

Theme 6 Facilitating increased private sector involvement in preparing national and regional positions on Codex within the EAC partner states

The session began by outlining the Codex organizational chart. Key responsibilities of Codex members include contributing to the standard setting process, ensuring multi stakeholder dialogue at national level, establishing a clear national structure – CCP and National Codex Committee or similar structure for dialogue - and ensuring proper use of Codex standards to promote harmonization of global food standards. The session continued by outlining the elements of an effective national Codex structure, which include a Codex contact point office, a National Codex Committee (ideally), advocacy and information dissemination and developing national positions and written comments.

Core functions of a Codex contact point include acting as the linkage between the Codex Secretariat and the member country, coordinating all relevant Codex activities within the country, receiving all Codex final texts and working documents, ensuring that they are timely circulated to those concerned within the country and sending comments on Codex documents or proposals to the Codex Alimentarius Commission or its subsidiary bodies and/or the Codex Secretariat. Furthermore, they act as a channel for the exchange of information and coordination of activities with other Codex members, working in close cooperation with the National Codex Committee and acting as liaison point with all national stakeholders, to consider policy and technical advice upon which to base decisions relating to issues raised in the context of the Codex work.

The session also looked at considerations when establishing national priorities such as national public health priorities, important food industry sectors, difficulties in trade and availability of resources.

The session concluded by looking at the importance of communication through establishing contacts with other government ministries, industry, the scientific community and consumers, thereby securing a mechanism to enhance national collaboration. Steps to develop a national position were also outlined, which include: circulating working documents, requesting input from stakeholders, drafting a position, obtaining a national endorsement of the position where appropriate and submitting written comments.

After this presentation, every representative country explained briefly how they currently attempt to involve the private sector in matters relating to Codex. The following questions were asked, in particular:

- ✓ Is the private sector part of a national codex committee?
- ✓ How is the private sector involved with national codex activities?
- ✓ Is the private sector always represented by the same person in those national committees?
- ✓ Has the private sector joined national delegations to technical Codex committee meetings, and if so, to which ones?

The different EAC countries present at the workshop outlined how they involve the private sector in matters relating to Codex. They all started by looking at their organizational structures of the National Codex Committees. The relevant ministries and institutions which take part were also outlined. They further looked at the different functions and roles each institution played in their respective NCC. Explanations on how information is shared among the structures was also shown and explained.

The presentations also looked at the extent of involvement of the private sectors and related drivers such as market demand, food safety issues, standard approval processes, or any other concern public or private sector might have. To date, no national delegations to technical Codex committee meetings were joined by private sector representatives. The presentations further elaborated on the secretariat of the National Codex Committees and their tasks.

After this session the audience was divided in 3 separate working groups (two public sector WGs and one private sector WG) to identify and discuss the importance of private sector involvement – At the reporting back, the two perspectives – public versus private – were compared. WGs were encouraged to explore responses to the following questions:

- ✓ What are the benefits of involving private sector in the food control activities in general and in Codex activities in particular?
- ✓ What are your needs from the other sector (from private sector, if you are public and vice versa) ?
- ✓ What are the challenges to ensure collaboration? Please list and elaborate the challenges.
- ✓ How can we get over the challenges? Please list for each challenge one or more solutions which contribute to enhance private-public collaboration.
- ✓ Please define incentives for long term collaboration of the two sectors.

In the report back, the participants from private sector stressed the importance of involvement in Codex matters and their benefits included: increasing awareness of what is happening around them, updating with recent trends in the sector, networking among individuals present at Codex meetings, having the possibility to put forward their position/view, building capacity for lobbying & negotiations internationally and enquiring about market access opportunities.

In addition, participants from the public sector confirmed the importance of private sector involvement in Codex matters and their benefits included: to better regulate safety of the products to protect consumers, to tap into the technology and technical expertise existing within the private sector, to assist in data generation for Codex work, accessibility to wider network in order to promote awareness within the industry and negotiation of food safety and fair trade issues that could be undertaken in a joint manner.

The presentations also outlined the needs from private sector in order to increase this public-private collaboration, which included: information & data sharing with the public sector, mobilization of all the stake-holders involved, face-to-face meetings/consultations with the public sector, support/awareness and a national Codex office contact. What the public sector needs from the private sector was also outlined and they included: to provide technical information/data for purposes of setting standards, to provide an input into the process for implementation and collaboration of standards, collaborate in promoting the work of Codex and to participate in negotiation of trade disputes requiring application of Codex standards.

The challenges they faced were also addressed, whereby they talked about communication gaps between the two sectors and the correct attitude to listen to each other, inconsistency in persons participating in different Codex activities, limited competence, limited human resources, limited collaboration, attitude issues from both sectors and a lack of trust and confidence between the private and public sector. Limited technical capacity within the public and private sector (in micro and small enterprises e.g. personnel, equipment, documentation etc) and funding constraints within both the private and public sector were also mentioned.

The session also looked into the solutions of these challenges, which include: increasing information sharing by organizing frequent common meetings and undertaking continuous dialogue and sensitization through informative programmes, designating a coordination office for each sector, ensuring proper communication through sensitization and awareness programmes, capacity building, establishing a transparent system for selecting the participants to attend Codex meetings, ensuring continuity of people attending meetings to boost confidence and competence, to put in place a process of succession planning, selecting the right person who could represent the view of two sectors, sensitization of policy makers to the importance of Codex meetings and allocating funds for Codex activities, strengthening the existing National Codex Committees, more public/private involvement and more capacity building of private sector on a national level and building and maintaining a team of competence and expertise within a given sector.

Session 4 Identification and prioritization of issues under early consideration in relevant Codex committees, with the potential impact on the fishery and fresh produce sector

Theme 7 – Demonstrations of impacts of private sector involvement – Recent ongoing issues in CCFFP

This session looked at specific CCFFP issues for which private sector was involved in South Africa. In particular, it showed how South Africa initiated and led a new Codex standard for Abalone. If no Codex standard for a particular product exists, then the country importing this product can demand whatever it wants and this can result in being very restrictive to trade. In the event that different importing countries have different requirements, this also places a greater onus on the exporting country. To address these issues, it can be very beneficial to initiate a new standard within the Codex system. The session continued by elaborating the different steps instituted at national level: get industry backing, prepare a proposal for consideration at the Codex CCFFP to initiate a standard for abalone. The proposal included data on global trade in abalone and on health risks and other matters in line with the Codex requirements for new work. Meanwhile consultations were held with abalone trading countries at governmental and private sector level in order to secure their support.

Another issue highlighted, was the importance of providing technical data to a general standard which includes references to specific species. The example of a nitrogen factor for fish fingers and the South African hake was shown. If you do not provide a nitrogen factor for your traded species, then the importing country can use whatever factor they wish. South Africa, by persuading their industry and running trials on nitrogen factors for hake fillets and mince, succeeded in having their nitrogen factors included in the table within the general standard for quick frozen fish sticks. Without this inclusion in the Codex standard the South Africa hake sector was at risk of having their fish fingers rejected as being fraudulently depicted.

The presentation continued by providing examples from Codex discussions and decisions on issues relevant for the EAC countries. In particular, concern was raised whether specifications inherent to Nile perch and Tilapia from the EAC area (two main export products from the region) were adequately addressed in the existing General Codex Standards such as e.g the ones for frozen fish fillet blocks. Another example important to the regional market is smoked fish and how its production methodology should be addressed in the current ongoing standard for smoked fish.

In general, it was strongly recommended to become involved in Codex standard development for products traded within the EAC region. If you are trying to build a business and you are not following Codex standards and how they apply to the EAC region, you are taking a risk.

Theme 8 – Private Sector involvement in CCPR – Benefits

The session began by explaining how a maximum residue limit (MRL) for pesticides is developed. This process and all related evaluations (toxicological data, environmental evaluations etc) require a long time (7-10 years) and a lot of resources (financial and human). That is the reason why these evaluations concentrate on main crops grown in large scale.

However, there is a need to interest pesticide companies to develop products for crops grown in the tropics (termed as minor use crops) as most crops traded from the EAC region are minor use crops. In general, pesticides need to be registered for a crop in the country of production and sale.

The issue of lack of actives for intervention (in order to specifically register chemicals for specific crop after full evaluation) which leads to lack of trade was also one of the challenges addressed. Some solutions for the above may include labeling extensions and crop grouping, but pesticide registration is geographical location specific as MRL and pre harvest intervals are influenced by temperature, humidity etc. Hence the need to generate data at different locations was stressed.

This session also looked at the important role of the EAC private sector, which included nomination of relevant minor use crops for inclusion and participation in pesticide trials and participation in crop grouping. Crops where EAC countries have a competitive advantage such as eg. passion fruits and mangos should be included and collaboration between pesticide companies and countries and between different registration bodies is significant.

The session concluded by underlining again the importance of private sector participation to Codex and to CCPR in particular as one gains access to main crops data information and defend minor use crops / geographic specifics, which may lead to negotiating new MRL with markets and/or registrations.

After this session the participants formed 5 WG (1 group per EAC country) to identify and prioritize topics in the different horizontal and vertical Codex committees relevant to the two sectors (and possibly others). While doing so, ongoing food safety issues were taken into account.

In general, criteria applied to prioritise technical Codex committees included food safety concerns, consumer protection and trade needs and market access for the producers in East Africa and their requirements.

The reporting back started by once again discussing the main food safety issues in the region, including environmental contaminants such as PCBs, pesticide residues, mycotoxin contamination, microbial pathogens, viruses and parasites, food additives and packaging issues (use of poor quality package) and the main export food commodities of the region. From the trade perspective, organic production is in development in the region and national Codex committees should get involved in relevant technical Codex committees to make sure their interests are considered. Currently, no vertical standard exists for Nile Perch and Tilapia and neither are the specifications of those two main trade commodities from the region covered by the general standard. The WGs prioritised the technical Codex committees to address various issues in their respective countries. In particular, the following Codex committees and related ongoing work were prioritized:

- CCFFP: standard for smoked fish, list of nitrogen factors updated, CCFFV

- CCPR: all items under work in progress are important for the fresh produce sector and in particular, establishment of the Codex priority list of pesticides,
- CCCF: heavy metal contamination, mycotoxins
- CCFH: code of hygienic practice for fruits and vegetables, Code of Practice for spices and aromatic plants,
- CCCFL: Guidelines on Organically Produced Foods,
- CCFA: Specifications of identity and purity of food additives
- CCFICS.

Session 5 The way forward: Development of plans for EAC partner states to engage within identified Codex Committees relevant to the two selected sectors – Fishery and fresh produce sector

In this session, 5 working groups (1 group per EAC country) were formed to discuss the way forward, to further increase private sector in Codex activities. In each WG, participants discussed and developed a plan to engage within relevant identified Codex committees.

The followings are elements of national plans within the EAC partner states:

- ✓ Preparing proper channels for effective communication within the different sectors
- ✓ A systematic and mutual approach of sending information
- ✓ Awareness programmes which will outline the benefits of involving private sector and define responsibilities for each sector clearly
- ✓ Sensitizing relevant stakeholders on private involvement in Codex activities
- ✓ Energising ways to discuss Codex issues at the national level
- ✓ Generate and/or participate in data generation to support codex work and decision making
- ✓ Identification of technical qualifications in private sector
- ✓ Devising new ways of acquiring funds for active participation of members in Codex meetings
- ✓ Spearhead the formulation of policies that enable the implementation of Codex activities
- ✓ Develop a national Codex strategy

- ✓ Monitoring and evaluation system to be put in place to check the progress and make amends when necessary (potential role for the EAC Codex forum to support the countries)
- ✓ Each partner state to nominate and forward names of private sector representatives to the EAC secretariat for EAC codex forums in order to designate an EAC focal person within the private sector, who will represent the industry at the regional level

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Before the closure of the workshop conclusions and recommendations were presented and endorsed by the audience.

The following concluding remarks were presented:

- ✓ Standardization can be an industry or a public sector initiative, but ultimately is consumer driven
- ✓ Public-private collaboration benefits consumer protection, market protection and market access
- ✓ If public sector collaborates with industry, it will ensure that:
 - local legislation fits commercial practice
 - local standardization process benefits from Codex process to reflect criteria required for “safe and fair” trade
 - Codex standards are in line with commercial practice
 - opportunity to produce a standard for a domestic (or regional) product
 - industry benefits from access to broader scientific basis for standards threshold setting
- ✓ Private sector participating to Codex delegations allows:
 - networking with leading industry bodies to exchange views on areas of mutual concern
 - industry assured that the Codex processes are fair, taking into account science based decisions and do not include unnecessary or unreasonable requirements
 - to provide a linkage between official control systems and private market standards, to better prepare for implementation of standards
- ✓ Public-private partnership in developing country positions for Codex does not yet seem to be current practice in EAC countries

- ✓ In many countries, the collaboration between Competent Authority (CA) and National Codex Contact Point (NCCP) appears to be efficient, as well as collaboration between CA and private sector. However, the link within the Codex process seems to be an area for improvement
- ✓ Some National Codex Contact Points are not always easy to reach
- ✓ Coordination and communication of the office of NCCP are two key functions, but need improvement, in particular with regard to inclusion of private sector
- ✓ Data sharing and information dissemination flow between public and private sector seems deficient

The messages to take home and take forward at national and regional (EAC Codex forum) level included:

- ✓ Formation of industry committees to cover the relevant sectors to enhance communication:
 - Private sector should play a more important role in ensuring that standards for market access are put in place
 - Industry committees should meet with Competent Authority and Codex delegation as appropriate, to ensure that their presented Codex positions reflect national consensus
- ✓ Sending at least one industry representative to priority committee meetings as a technical advisor
- ✓ Ensuring that technically competent officers and industry representatives are selected and are consistently sent to attend technical Codex meetings for continuity and to build trust and competency between (same persons from public & private sector need to be trained and coached
- ✓ A National Codex Contact Point office should be designated (ideally not a single person) to coordinate Codex activities and ensure that back up is provided
- ✓ Reviewing existing communication structure between CA, NCCP and private sector to ensure national Codex positions incorporate input from industry
- ✓ Designing a strategy to build trust along the line of improved communication and collaboration
- ✓ Public sector should build capacity to increase private sector awareness on codex importance

- ✓ Engaging in awareness campaigns (including senior management) to explain the importance of industry participation in food safety standard setting processes
- ✓ In face of financial constraints for the private and public sectors, there is a need to prioritize and fund Codex activities, including participation in priority Codex committees
- ✓ In order to overcome budget constraints, exploring EAC model in which one leading country can represent other countries on a specific Codex committee. – Link with EAC Codex forum for a follow-up can also be considered

6. COURSE EVALUATION

The 28 participants completed the course evaluation form.

The outcome of the evaluation, as well as the discussions that took place in the closing session indicated that the stated objectives for the course were fully met. The evaluation template and detailed course evaluation results can be found in Annex 3.

ANNEX 1 LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

List of participants and training team

Country	Name	Surname	E-mail	Affiliation	Private/public sector	Telephone/address
Rwanda	Straton	Habumungisha	stratonnh@gmail.com	COCOF	Private	
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Kenya	Kennedy	Oyier	kennedyoyier@yahoo.co.uk	Fish processing consultant	Private	
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Uganda	Moses	Tenywa	mosestenywa@yahoo.co.uk	Fish Processors and Exporters Association	Private (UFPEA)	+256715959524 +256414220678 Plot M/245 Ntinda Industrial Area

Country	Name	Surname	E-mail	Affiliation	Private/public sector	Telephone/address
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Country	Name	Surname	E-mail	Affiliation	Private/public sector	Telephone/address
Tanzania	Nicholas	Shayo	nbshayo@yahoo.com	Professor, Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), cereals	Public	+255754314053 Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA)
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Tanzania	Mwanaidi	Mlolwa	mrmlolwa@yahoo.com	Fisheries Development Division	Public	+255222860471 +25578490929 C/O Box 24622
Tanzania	Adah Mdesa	Mwasha	admwasha@yahoo.com	Principal Agricultural Officer (PAO); Horticulturist	Public	+255 767 249758 Ministry for Agriculture Food and Cooperatives P O 9192
Tanzania	Kumar	Mukund	m.kumar@qualityg.com	Quality manger at tanperch limited	Private	00255783547019 Tanperch Limited
Invited speaker	Terry	Bennett	terryben@netactive.co.za	Fish sector consultant	Private	+27215571708 21 Pentz Drive, Table View

Country	Name	Surname	E-mail	Affiliation	Private/public sector	Telephone/address
Invited speaker	Stephen	Mbithi	stephen_mwikya@yahoo.com	Chief Executive Officer at Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya	Private	00254722716956 Rhapta Road, Westlands (Nairobi), New Rehema House PO BOX 40312-00100
Invited speaker	Mike	Young	mikey3495@gmail.com	NRCS-South Africa	Public	13 Settlers Drive Edgemead, 744 +27836324612 +27215263400
Regional FAO Food Safety Officer	Jean	Kamanzi	jean.kamanzi@fao.org	FAO	Public	+2634253655 29 Woodgate - Mount Pleasant
FAO HQ Food Safety Officer	Caroline	Merten	caroline.merten@fao.org	FAO	Public	+39 06570 53308 FAO, viale delle Terme di Caracalla I-Rome 00153

ANNEX 2 PROGRAMME

Workshop agenda

In collaboration with Tanzania Bureau of Standards

FAO/WHO Workshop on Facilitating increased private sector involvement in preparing national and regional positions on Codex issues within the EAC Partner States

Dar Es Salaam, 5-7 December 2012

Registration: 8.15 -8.45.

Day 1 Wednesday, 5 December 2012: start at 09.00

Session 1 Introduction (facilitated by Jean Kamanzi & Caroline Merten)

30 min 09.00 – 09.30 Official opening: Opening remarks by Mr Dominique Mwakangala, Acting Director General of Tanzania Bureau of Standards (5 min), by Ms Joyce Mapunjo, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Industry and Trade (15 min) and by Ms Diane Tempelmann, FAO permanent representative in Tanzania (15 min)

30 min 09.30 – 09.45: Presentation of the meeting approach and expected outputs. Short round table introduction of participants (Caroline Merten)

20 min 09.45 – 10.05: Benefits of private sector involvement in Codex activities– private sector perspective (Terry Bennett)

20 min 10.05 – 10.25: Benefits of private sector involvement in Codex activities– public sector perspective (Mike Young)

10.30 – 10.45 Morning coffee/tea break

Session 2 Experiences, lessons learnt and opportunities of past and current involvement of private sector in Codex activities from selected food sectors (facilitated by Jean Kamanzi & Caroline Merten)

30 min 10.45 – 11.15: Experiences from South Africa of the fishery public sector –history of 30 years of involvement in Codex activities (Mike Young)

30 min 11.15 – 11.45: Experiences from South Africa of the fishery private sector –history of 30 years of involvement in Codex activities (Terry Bennett)

30 min 11.45 – 12.15: Why is the fresh produce private sector in Kenya currently starting to be interested in participating in Codex activities - perspective for the future (Stephen Mbithi)

12.15. – 13.15 Lunch

Session 3 Status of current private sector involvement in Codex activities within the EAC region. (facilitated by Jean Kamanzi & Caroline Merten)

60 min 13.15 – 14.15: Presentation of every country (national regulator in consultation with private sector) to present briefly in 12 min their national situation how they involve currently private sector in general (Codex activities included).

45 min 14.15 – 15.00 The national consultation process in Codex activities (Jean Kamanzi)

15.00 - 15 15 Afternoon coffee/tea break

90 min 15.15 – 16.45: Working group to identify and discuss importance of private sector involvement –comparison of the two perspectives-public versus private (not food sector specific): Two WGs – one public and one private WG

60 min 16.45 – 17.45: Final feedbacks from WGs: 30 min max per /WG and group discussion

End of day 1 at 17.45

Day 2 Thursday, 6 December 2012: start 08.30

30 min 8.30 – 9.00: Summary of main discussion points and conclusions from day 1 (Jean Kamanzi & Caroline Merten)

Session 4 Identification and prioritisation of issues under early consideration in relevant Codex committees with potential impact on the fishery and fresh produce sector (facilitated by Jean Kamanzi & Caroline Merten)

60 minutes 09.00 – 10.00: Demonstration of impacts of private sector involvement – recent ongoing issues in CCFPP (Terry Bennett)

10.00 – 10.30 Morning coffee/tea break

60 min 10.30 – 11.30: Demonstration of impacts of private sector involvement - recent ongoing issues in CCPR. (Stephen Mbithi)

60 min 11.30 – 12.30: Round table to present main food safety issues in each EAC country, in the two selected sectors- 12 min/EAC country

Lunch break from 12.30 - 13.30

90 min 13.30 – 15.00: Working group (5 WG from each EAC country: public and private sector together, but split into two subgroups - fishery sector and fresh produce sector):

- To identify issues in CCFFP and CCFFV (the two food sector committees) and in the CCPR, CCFH, CCCF, CCFL and CCFICS (horizontal committees)
- To prioritise these issues for each country

15.00-15.30 Afternoon coffee/tea break

100 min 15.30 -17.10: Final feedbacks from WGs: 20 min group /10 min per subgroup

End of day 2 at 17.15

Day 3 Friday, 7 December 2012: start 8.45

30 min 8.45 – 9.15: Summary of main discussion points and conclusions from day 2 (**Jean Kamanzi & Caroline Merten**)

Session 5 The way forward: Development of plans for EAC partner states to engage within relevant identified Codex committees relevant to the two selected sectors - fishery and fresh produce sector (facilitated by Jean Kamanzi & Caroline Merten)

60 min 9.15 - 10.15: Working group part 1 (5 WG from each EAC country: public and private sector together, but split into two subgroups - fishery sector and fresh produce sector):

- Draft a plan for the two sectors how to engage in the short term (2 years) and medium term (5 years) the private sector (in the identified and prioritised issues from session 4).

10.15– 11.30 Morning coffee/tea break

90 min 11.30 -13.00: Working group part 2 (5 WG from each EAC country: public and private sector together, but split into two subgroups - fishery sector and fresh produce sector):

- Draft a plan for the two sectors how to engage in the short term (2 years) and medium term (5 years) the private sector (in the identified and prioritised issues from session 4).
- Identify other sectors with potential for future private sector involvement e.g Poultry, processed fruit & vegetable etc.

Lunch break from 13.00 - 14. 00

90 min 14.00 – 15.30: Final feedbacks part 1 (from 3 WGs): 30 min per group summarizing the plans for the two sectors (fishery and fresh produce sector)

15.30 – 16.00 Afternoon coffee/tea break

60 min 16.00 – 17.00: Final feedbacks part 2 (from 2 WGs): 30 min per group summarizing the plans for two sectors (fishery and fresh produce sector)

15 min 17.00 – 17.15: Concluding remarks and closing of the workshop (Jean Kamanzi & Caroline Merten)

End of day 3 at 17.15

ANNEX 3 EVALUATION RESULTS

EVALUATION TEMPLATE

Workshop Title	Facilitating increased private sector involvement in preparing national and regional positions on Codex issues within the EAC partner states
Workshop Objectives	Facilitate the development of stronger national and /or regional position for Codex Committees taking into account private sector which is also a major objective of the EAC with the establishment of the EAC Codex Forum.
Expected workshop outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Common understanding of the benefits of increased private sector participation in National /sub –Regional Codex processes(Benefit to the private sector and benefits to Codex)- Codex issues commonly identified and prioritised in each EAC country for the two selected sectors.- Plans with concrete actions o engage collaboration in the short and medium term in the prioritised issues- Potential opportunities from EAC Codex forum to support private sector involvement identified

YOUR COUNTRY NAME: _____

Dear Participants,

We thank you in advance for completing the Workshop Evaluation. Your comments will be valuable in helping to improve future workshops on this topic and develop other future activities in the region.

The following statements relate to your satisfaction with the course. Please rate them on a scale of 1-5 where 1=I do not agree and 5=I agree completely. If the statement is not relevant for your course, please check N/A

1) Workshop administration and organization

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
1.1 Travel arrangements were satisfactory						
1.2 The training facilities were conducive to learning						
1.3 The accommodation was comfortable						
1.4 Meals and coffee breaks were satisfactory						
1.5 Clear instructions were provided for pre-course preparation						

Add any specific comment for overall improvement?

.....

 ...

2. Objectives of the workshop

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
2.1 The objectives of the course were clearly explained						
To what extent were the objectives of the workshop achieved:						
2.2 Obj. 1- Common (public and private sector) understanding of benefits of increased private sector participation in national/sub regional						

<p>regulatory processes in general, and Codex processes, in particular.</p> <p>-Identification of elements allowing the improvement of public-private partnerships.</p>						
<p>2.3 Obj. 2 – Codex Committees and related Codex issues are commonly identified in each EAC country between public and private sector worthwhile to strengthen collaboration, at least in the two selected sectors and others, if of interest</p> <p>-Issues are commonly prioritised in each EAC country for at least the two selected sectors and others, if of interest.</p>						
<p>2.4 Obj. 3 – Plans with concrete actions from each side - private and public sector-to engage collaboration in the short and medium term in the issues prioritized at session 4.</p> <p>- -Potential opportunities for EAC Codex forum to support private sector involvement identified.</p>						

3. Learning from the workshop

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
3.1 It was clear to me how this course would assist me in Increased private sector involvement in preparing National and Regional positions on Codex issues within the EAC Partner States						
3.2 The course was relevant to my workplace needs						
3.3 The trainers were of high quality						
3.4 The course materials aided my comprehension of the course						
3.5 There was sufficient time for group discussion and questions						
3.6 Course projects and assignments enhanced my understanding of learning content .						

4. Which of the following workshop sessions were most useful to you?

	Very useful	Useful	Neutral	Not very useful	Not useful at all
4.1 Benefits of private sector involvement in Codex activities– private					

sector perspective and public sector perspective					
4.2 Experiences, lessons learnt and opportunities of past and current involvement of private sector in Codex activities from selected food sector					
4.3 Status of current private sector involvement (all sectors) in the national food safety control activities, in general, and in Codex activities, in particular, within the EAC region.					
4.4 Identification and prioritisation of issues under early consideration in relevant Codex committees with potential impact on the fishery and fresh produce sector.					
4.5 The way forward: Development of plans for EAC partner states to engage within relevant identified Codex committees relevant to the two selected sectors - fishery and fresh produce sector.					

5. Please note your three most important take-home messages from this workshop?

1. -----
2. -----
3. -----

6. Enhanced skills from this workshop

I feel confident that I will be able to engage further with private sector in the future to develop a national standard (for public sector representatives)						
I feel confident that I will be able to engage further with public sector in the future to develop a national standard (for private sector representatives)						

7. What additional information would you like to receive to increase your capacity to engage in a fruitful collaborative public-private partnership in national Codex activities?

-
-
-
-
-

8. Please list up to three things you intend to do as a result of your participation in this activity

1. -----
2. -----
3. -----

9. What type of support could help you make the learning from this activity more useful once you return to work?

Forward looking:

10. Please provide suggestions for future FAO/WHO activities (workshops or manuals) related to increased private sector involvement in national Codex activities.

11. Any other comments?

BREAKDOWN OF EVALUATION RESULTS

1) Workshop administration and organization

Question 1.1: 33% of the respondents strongly agreed, 30% agreed, 18% neither agreed nor disagreed and 8% disagreed that travel arrangements were satisfactory while 11% responded as not applicable to them since no travel arrangement was done to them.

Question 1.2: 30% of the respondents strongly agreed, 30% agreed, 30% neither agreed nor disagreed that training facilities were conducive to learning while 1% responded as not applicable.

Question 1.3: 33% of the respondents strongly agreed, 30% agreed, 7% neither agreed nor disagreed, 4% disagreed, 7% strongly disagreed that accommodation was comfortable while 19 % responded as not applicable to them since no accommodation arrangement was done for them.

Question 1.4: 41% of the respondents strongly agreed, 26% agreed, 19% neither agreed nor disagreed, 10% strongly disagreed that meal and coffee breaks were satisfactory while 4 % responded as not applicable.

Question 1.5: 33% of the respondents strongly agreed, 26% agreed, 22% neither agreed nor disagreed, 11% disagreed that clear instructions were provided for pre –course preparation while 8 % responded as not applicable.

Additional comments included the following;

- The objective of the workshop was very relevant to bringing on board the private sector in Codex issues.
- More Codex meetings throughout the EAC region should be organized for people to improve.
- Acoustic in the meeting room was poor and meeting room was small
- Time was sometimes running too short during presentations and working group sessions.
- Better not to organize dinner at the hotel to let spare time to visit around after meeting.
- Information regarding coverage of meals and checking out time be communicated in advance
- Participants should be allowed to stay where they wish as long as they can make it to the meeting.

2) Objectives of the workshop

Question 2.1: 48% of the respondents strongly agreed, 41% agreed, 4% neither agreed nor disagreed and 7% disagreed that the objective of the course were clearly explained.

Question 2.2: 41% of the respondents strongly agreed, 48% agreed, 7% neither agreed nor disagreed and 4% disagreed that the first objective of the workshop was achieved.

Question 2.3: 37% of the respondents strongly agreed, 44% agreed, 11% neither agreed nor disagreed, 4% disagreed and 4% strongly disagreed that the second objective of the workshop was achieved.

Question 2.4: 33% of the respondents strongly agreed, 33% agreed, 19% neither agreed nor disagreed, 7% disagreed and 4% strongly disagreed that the third objective of the workshop was achieved while 4% responded as not applicable.

3) Learning from the workshop

Question 3.1: 52% of the respondents strongly agreed, 19% agreed, 22% neither agreed nor disagreed and 7% strongly disagreed that it was clear how the course would assist in increased private sector involvement in preparing national and regional positions on Codex issues within the EAC Partner States.

Question 3.2: 59% of the respondents strongly agreed, 30% agreed, 7% neither agreed nor disagreed and 1% strongly disagreed that the course was relevant to workplace needs.

Question 3.3: 48% of the respondents strongly agreed, 26% agreed, 19% neither agreed nor disagreed and 7% disagreed that the trainers were of high quality.

Question 3.4: 41% of the respondents strongly agreed, 26% agreed, 26% neither agreed nor disagreed and 7% disagreed that the course materials aided my comprehension of the course.

Question 3.5: 37% of the respondents strongly agreed, 41% agreed, 7% neither agreed nor disagreed, 4% disagreed and 4% strongly disagreed that there was sufficient time for group discussion and questions while 7% responded as not applicable.

Question 3.6: 37% of the respondents strongly agreed, 41% agreed, 7% neither agreed nor disagreed, 4% disagreed and 4% strongly disagreed that Course projects and assignments enhanced my understanding of learning content while 7% responded as not applicable.

4) Which of the following workshop sessions were most useful to you?

Question 4.1: 70% of the participants rate the first workshop session as very useful, 26% responded as useful and 4% responded as neutral.

Question 4.2: 48% of the participants rate the second workshop session as very useful and 52% responded as useful.

Question 4.3: 30% of the participants rate the third workshop session as very useful, 59% responded as useful and 11% responded as neutral.

Question 4.4: 33% of the participants rate the fourth workshop session as very useful, 45% responded as useful and 22% responded as neutral.

Question 4.5: 33% of the participants rate the fifth workshop session as very useful, 56% responded as useful and 11% responded as neutral.

5) Please note your three most important take-home messages from this workshop?

In response to **Question 5** regarding participants take-home messages from the workshop, the following were listed;

- Communication must be effective to ensure all is well.
- Prioritization and participation in Codex meetings and activities (**Cited by 2 participants**).

- To strengthen existing NCC and make it operational.
- Frequent and regular Codex meetings have to be organized.
- The importance of consistency in attending Codex meetings with suitable country's representatives in a given sector.
- To improve fish and fishery and fresh produce sector.
- The best take home message from this workshop: it was very interesting and challengeable.
- Public and private sector collaboration in Codex activities. **(Cited by 6 participants).**
- Review communication strategy.
- Re define national priorities.
- Food safety is the main aspect in formulating codex standards.
- How Codex works and its structure.
- Benefits to private sector of participating in Codex activities (Cited by 2 participants).
- Identification of sector priorities and market access through Codex participation.
- Identification of priority issues.
- Private sector involvement in standard setting is of paramount importance. **(Cited by 9 participants).**
- Collaboration and networking in the EAC could strengthen effective participation.
- Sensitization for both public and private sector on the importance of Codex activities could stimulate effective participation.
- Use of codex standard in safety of fish products.
- Need of data/information sharing.
- Enhance communication between the industry and codex activity.
- Data generation and sharing among stake holders **(Cited by 2 participants).**
- Very beneficial to work with Codex for trade issues.
- Produce quality products when you use Codex standards.
- Collaboration and networking in the EAC could strengthen effective participation.
- Sensitization for both public and private on the importance of codex activities effective participation.
- The private sector needs a lot of sensitization in codex issues within developing countries.
- A closer working together between the Codex activities and the private sector is very mandatory for effective development of standards and economic development through securing export markets.
- Areas to improve to involve private sectors in Codex forum.
- Streamlining codex activities in National Budget process.
- Competent authority to focus on the primary role of involving private sector on codex activities.

6) Enhanced skills from this workshop

In responding to **Question 6** regarding to be able to engage further with private (or vice versa) public sector in the future to develop a national standard all (100%) of the participants agreed to cooperate with each other in spite of being in public or private sector.

7) What additional information would you like to receive to increase your capacity to engage in a fruitful collaborative public-private partnership in national Codex activities?

Question 7 on additional information that the participants would like to receive to increase their capacity to engage in a fruitful collaborative public-private partnership in national Codex activities, participants cited the following;

- To design a strategy to build trust along the line of improved communication and collaboration.
- Further workshop participation and data sharing with EAC partner states and others.
- Need to know on how to design a strategy for this.
- To have more contact and a link of information for the improvement of both private and public sector.
- New information on Codex activities.
- Capacity building opportunities in Codex related meetings engagement and participation, work in progress and Codex committee deliberations in fresh fruits and vegetables sector.
- Provide case studies that can be used at National levels **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- Regular information on standards being discussed on fishery and fishery products.
- Improve communication/information on meetings for discussing different standards
- Need of feedback or/and information related to national Codex activities
- Public-private sectors involvement in Codex activities.
- Current industry activities that are on discussion under Codex.
- Various international technical situations that face our export product.

- Issues that affect industry products in the international market with regard to food safety.
- Private sector to involve public sectors on their meetings too, which are relevant to food safety. This will be a team work for dissemination of information /data.

8) Please list up to three things you intend to do as a result of your participation in this activity

In response to **Question 8** on listing up the things that participant will intend to do as a result of participation in this workshop, the following were listed;

- Request competent authorities to start awareness on Codex importance, request revision of communication concerning Codex issues, and to help in emphasizing the importance of industry participation in food safety setting process.
- Networking with national Codex committee, data sharing, sensitization of Codex standard application and implementation **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- Engage in awareness campaign sensitizing top management about the importance of Codex standards, work hand in hand with public sector in convincing the private sector on the importance of Codex standards, and disseminate information or knowledge about Codex standards.
- Sensitization on the role of private sector participation in the Codex activity. **(Cited by 8 participants)**.
- Sensitizing government/industry and enhance their participation in Codex activities, identification of additional sectors.
- Actively engage the CCP in my country for Codex information, participate if invited in National Codex activities, and sensitize my sector on benefits of their involvement and participation in Codex activities.
- Hold focused group discussions for sectors, improve communication between CCP and stakeholders and re orient lead delegate to Codex meeting.
- Create awareness on Codex among members, actively participate in Codex meetings, and follow up events on Codex websites.
- Create awareness on Codex among members, actively participate in Codex meetings, and follow up events on Codex websites.

- Prepare sector report and disseminate information, follow up and participate in Codex activities and advise management to budget for Codex activities **(Cited by 4 participants)**.
- Promote awareness on the importance of Codex, participate in data generation and sharing of information.
- Implementation of what we agreed.
- Follow up of Codex activities/meeting.
- Cooperation with partner state (participant) on codex issues.
- Look /follow up to be involved more in Codex activities national/Regional/International.
- Understand the structure (organizational) and proposal for strengthening.
- Sensitize use of websites to share codex activities.
- Sensitize policy makers on codex activities and the public environment **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- Keeping our eye on CCPR, contaminants and hygiene.
- Establish a system for effective collection of opinion/views.
- Implement plan for collecting data for supporting standardization process.
- More participation in codex meetings
- Maintain a close contact with the national codex point **(Cited by 2 participants)**.

9) What type of support could help you make the learning from this activity more useful once you return to work?

- In response to **Question 9** on the type of support that could help participant to make the learning from this workshop more useful once they return to work, the following were highlighted;
- Advocacy and support in capacity building.
- Continuous information sharing and regular updates **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- Public sector should support in awareness for Codex issues or standards mainly focusing on relevant sectors.

- To support private sector to take part of the meetings and inviting them.
- Continue communication.
- Routine communication on food safety and trade concerns regarding export, further technical capacity building in Codex activities.
- Info pack or CD for presentation to stakeholders on their role. And this should be sector specific.
- Support to generate relevant data on fishery products that can be useful during standard formulation on fish and fish products.
- Need to be updated as far as Codex activities are concerned.
- More training to build capacity and competency.
- Support awareness program to private sectors in all remained sectors **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- Capacity building (technical).
- Funding to attend codex meeting **(Cited by 3 participants)**.
- National codex office should be more active.
- Data generation.
- Reading materials on codex activities.
- Facilitation to hold material meetings.
- Codex standard incorporation /implementation on work place.
- Capacity building of experts in areas of risk assessment.
- Information sharing

10) Please provide suggestions for future FAO/WHO activities (workshops or manuals) related to increased private sector involvement in national Codex activities

Question 10: Suggestions for future FAO/WHO activities (workshops or manuals) related to increased private sector involvement in national Codex activities includes;

- Success stories in the involvement of private sector involvement in codex activities, challenges and how to overcome them for the country and regional development **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- To provide manuals related to private sector involvement in national Codex activities and organize national workshops relating to the provided manuals.
- Suggestion to discuss only one subsector instead of two or more subsectors in one workshop. This will ensure more time of exchanging ideas for a particular domain subsector.
- Both the private and public sector should collaborate.
- Workshops on standards of specific products and guidelines **(Cited by 3 participants)**.
- Follow-up workshop for this training to monitor progress on the issues agreed upon during this training **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- Transform the workshop materials into a presentation package that can be used at a National level.
- Organize workshops at a lower level like at national level involving the relevant stakeholders **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- Follow up on the national structure and plans at national level to create awareness.
- Focused discussion on funding mechanism to enhance participation.
- Create awareness on codex standards and participation of other private sector (from other codex committees) in Tanzania and within the region e.g. CCFFV
- Provide manual to continue to learn more on private sector involvement
- Prepare guideline for effective participation of the private sector in codex activities.
- Generally the CEOs of the private sector are the most important facilitator of this mission. Therefore FAO/WHO can facilitate workshops that involve them in serious discussion of their responsibilities as CEOs.

- Come up with work plan for and disseminate to NCCP for circulation

11) Any other comments?

Question 11 asked for any other additional comments, the following were highlighted;

- Time is not enough for the workshop ,suggestion to be conducted in 5 days.
- Review participation of people in Codex activity to ensure continuity and consistency.
- Commitment of both private and public sector is required for further generation of mutual development in codex activities development.
- Translate materials/lectures in French.
- Evening meal can be apart from the hotel.
- Participants should be allowed to find their own accommodation around the meeting place.
- I am thankful and privileged to have been selected to participate in this workshop.
- Value for money, thanks FAO/WHO.
- More emphasis should be put on harmonization of private standards with Codex standards.
- The location is not conducive for participant from Tanzania Dar-es-salaam as the location is close to our office and it is at a bad congestion area whereby coming to and from takes a lot of our time **(Cited by 2 participants)**.
- Subsistence allowance to be increased **(Cited by 3 participants)**
- Useful workshop **(Cited by 2 participants)**
- There should be enough time to allow for more prolonged discussion of issues related to the workshop to enable complete understanding.
- FAO/WHO should continue supporting developing countries towards enhancing strong private-public participation in Codex activities.
- Resource persons: This should widely involve countries which are in advance in Codex issues such as Uganda and Kenya to share their views with others.

- EAC Secretariat to be involved in this EAC-CODEX meeting since he is always involved in EAC meetings. The EAC-CODEX to appoint a secretariat for EAC-CODEX forum.
- To back members once home with the report for action
- Follow up facilitation of such workshop at EAC level is very important, especially when done within one year