

Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

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# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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PROCEDURAL MANUAL

Fourth edition



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



**CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

**PROCEDURAL MANUAL**

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## Introduction

Following recommendations of the Eleventh Session of the FAO Conference, the Twenty-Ninth Session of the WHO Executive Board and a Joint FAO/WHO Conference on Food Standards held in 1962, the Codex Alimentarius Commission was established to implement the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. The purpose of the Programme is to protect the health of consumers and to ensure fair practices in the food trade; to promote coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations; to determine priorities and initiate and guide the preparation of draft standards through and with the aid of appropriate organizations; to finalize standards and after acceptance by governments publish them in a Codex Alimentarius either as regional or world-wide standards.

Membership of the Codex Alimentarius Commission comprises those Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO and WHO which have notified the Director-General of FAO or of WHO of their wish to be considered as Members. At the 15th January 1975, one hundred and nine countries had become Members of the Commission. Other countries which have participated in the work of the Commission or of its subsidiary bodies in an observer capacity are expected to become Members in the near future. A list of the Members of the Commission and of their national Codex Contact Points is contained in this manual.

The Commission has held ten sessions, the most recent being in July 1974. The Commission has twenty-five subsidiary bodies, of which four deal with general policy and coordination, six with subject matters relevant to the work of all commodity committees, and fifteen with specific groups of foods. Among these are two groups created by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe which have also been brought into relationship with the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Reports of the sessions of the Commission and of the sessions of its subsidiary bodies have been published by FAO and WHO. Responsibility for the allocation of preparatory work and the finalization of standards before they are submitted to governments for acceptance is reserved to the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Brief details of the activities of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, their terms of reference and an organizational diagram of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies are contained in this manual.



The Commission has adopted its own Rules of Procedure and has established working procedures for the implementation of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme which include a Procedure for the Elaboration of World-wide or Regional Codex Standards, General Principles for the Codex Alimentarius, a Format for Codex Commodity Standards and Guidelines for the operation of the Commission's subsidiary bodies. These procedures are set out in full in the appropriate sections of this manual.

This manual has been prepared at the request of Members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission to assist their representatives attending Codex sessions. Further information concerning the activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies can be obtained from the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, 00100-Rome, Italy.

## STATUTES OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

### Article 1

The Codex Alimentarius Commission shall, subject to Article 5 below, be responsible for making proposals to, and shall be consulted by, the Directors-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) on all matters pertaining to the implementation of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Program, the purpose of which is:

- (a) protecting the health of the consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade;
- (b) promoting co-ordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and nongovernmental organizations;
- (c) determining priorities and initiating and guiding the preparation of draft standards through and with the aid of appropriate organizations;
- (d) finalizing standards elaborated under (c) above and, after acceptance by governments, publishing them in a Codex Alimentarius either as regional or world-wide standards, together with international standards already finalized by other bodies under (b) above, wherever this is practicable;
- (e) amending published standards, after appropriate survey in the light of developments.

### Article 2

Membership of the Commission is open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO and WHO which are interested in international food standards. Membership shall comprise such of these nations as have notified the Director-General of FAO or of WHO of their desire to be considered as Members.

### Article 3

Any Member Nation or Associate Member of FAO or WHO which is not a Member of the Commission but has a special interest in the work of the Commission, may, upon request

communicated to the Director-General of FAO or WHO, as appropriate, attend sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies and ad hoc meetings as observers.

#### Article 4

Nations which, while not Member Nations or Associate Members of FAO or WHO, are members of the United Nations, may be invited on their request to attend meetings of the Commission as observers in accordance with the provisions of FAO and WHO relating to the grant of observer status to nations.

#### Article 5

The Commission shall report and make recommendations to the Conference of FAO and the appropriate body of WHO through their respective Directors-General. Copies of reports, including any conclusions and recommendations, will be circulated to interested Member Nations and international organizations for their information as soon as they become available.

#### Article 6

The Commission shall establish an Executive Committee whose composition should ensure an adequate representation of the various geographical areas of the world to which the Members of the Commission belong. Between sessions, the Executive Committee shall act as the Executive organ of the Commission.

#### Article 7

The Commission may establish such other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the accomplishment of its task, subject to the availability of the necessary funds.

#### Article 8

The Commission may adopt and amend its own Rules of Procedure which shall come into force upon approval by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, subject to such confirmation as may be prescribed by the procedures of these Organizations.

#### Article 9

The operating expenses of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies, other than those for which a Member has



accepted chairmanship, shall be borne by the budget of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Program which shall be administered by FAO on behalf of the two Organizations in accordance with the financial regulations of FAO. The Directors-General of FAO and WHO shall jointly determine the respective portion of the costs of the Program to be borne by each Organization and prepare the corresponding annual expenditure estimates for inclusion in the Regular Budgets of the two Organizations for approval by the appropriate governing bodies.

#### Article 10

All expenses (including those relating to meetings, documents and interpretation) involved in preparatory work on draft standards undertaken by Members of the Commission, either independently or upon recommendation of the Commission, shall be defrayed by the government concerned. Within the approved budgetary estimates, the Commission may, however, recommend that a specified part of the costs of the preparatory work undertaken by the government on behalf of the Commission be recognized as operating expenses of the Commission.



RULES OF PROCEDURE OF  
THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Rule I - Membership

1. Membership of the Joint FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission, hereinafter referred to as "the Commission", is open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO.
2. Membership shall comprise such eligible nations as have notified the Director-General of FAO or of WHO of their desire to be considered Members of the Commission.
3. Each Member of the Commission shall communicate to the Director-General of FAO or of WHO the names of its representative and where possible other members of its delegation before the opening of each session of the Commission.

Rule II - Officers

1. The Commission shall elect a Chairman and three Vice-Chairmen from among the representatives, alternates and advisers (hereinafter referred to as "delegates") of the Members of the Commission; it being understood that no delegate shall be eligible without the concurrence of the head of his delegation. They shall be elected at each session and shall hold office from the end of the session at which they were elected until the end of the following regular session. The Chairman and Vice-Chairmen shall be eligible for re-election but after having served two consecutive terms shall be ineligible to hold such office for the next succeeding term.
2. The Chairman, or in his absence a Vice-Chairman, shall preside at meetings of the Commission and exercise such other function as may be required to facilitate the work of the Commission. A Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.
3. When neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairmen are able to serve and, on the request of the outgoing Chairman, during elections for the Chairman, the Directors-General of FAO and WHO shall appoint a staff member to act as Chairman, until either a temporary Chairman or a new Chairman has been elected. Any temporary Chairman so elected shall hold office until the Chairman or one of the Vice-Chairmen is able to serve again.



4. (a) The Commission may appoint a Coordinator from among the delegates of the Members of the Commission for any of the geographic locations enumerated in Rule III. 1 (hereinafter referred to as 'regions') or for any group of countries specifically enumerated by the Commission (hereinafter referred to as 'groups of countries'), whenever it may find, on the basis of a proposal of a majority of the Members of the Commission which constitute the region or group, that work for the Codex Alimentarius in the countries concerned so requires.
  - (b) Appointments of Coordinators shall be made exclusively on the proposal of a majority of the Members of the Commission which constitute the region or group of countries concerned. Coordinators shall hold office from the end of the session of the Commission at which they were elected until not later than the end of the third succeeding regular session, the precise term being determined by the Commission in each instance. After having served two consecutive terms, the Coordinators shall be ineligible to hold such office for the next succeeding term.
  - (c) The functions of the Coordinators shall be to assist and coordinate the work of the Codex Committees set up under Rules IX. 1(b)(1) in their region or group of countries, in the preparation of draft standards for submission to the Commission. They shall report to the Chairman of the Commission.
  - (d) Where a Coordinating Committee has been set up under Rule IX. 1(b)(2), the Coordinator of the region involved shall be chairman of the Committee.
5. The Commission may appoint one or more rapporteurs from among the delegates of the Members of the Commission.
  6. The Directors-General of FAO and WHO shall be requested to appoint from the staffs of the organizations a Secretary of the Commission and such other officials, likewise responsible to them, as may be necessary to assist the officers and the Secretary in performing all duties that the work of the Commission may require.

Rule III - Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Commission together with six further members, elected by the Commission at regular sessions from among the Members of the Commission, one each coming from the following geographic locations: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, South-West Pacific; it being understood that not more than one delegate from any one country shall be a member of the Executive Committee. Members elected on a geographic basis shall hold office from the end of the session of the Commission at which they were elected until the end of the second succeeding regular session and shall be eligible for re-election, but after having served two consecutive terms shall be ineligible to hold such office for the next succeeding term.
2. The Executive Committee shall, between sessions of the Commission, act on behalf of the Commission as its executive organ. In particular the Executive Committee may make proposals to the Commission regarding the general orientation and programme of work of the Commission, study special problems and help implement the programme as approved by the Commission. The Executive Committee may also exercise, when it shall deem it to be essential and subject to confirmation by the next session of the Commission, the Commission's powers under Rule IX. 1(b)(1), Rule IX. 5 insofar as it refers to bodies established under Rule IX. 1(b)(1), and Rule IX. 10, insofar as it refers to the designation of the Members who shall be responsible for appointing Chairmen to subsidiary bodies established under Rule IX. 1(b)(1).
3. The Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Commission shall be respectively the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Committee.
4. Sessions of the Executive Committee may be convened as often as necessary by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, in consultation with the Chairman. The Executive Committee shall normally meet immediately prior to each session of the Commission.
5. The Executive Committee shall report to the Commission.



#### Rule IV - Sessions

1. The Commission shall in principle hold one regular session each year at the Headquarters of either FAO or WHO. Additional sessions shall be held as considered necessary by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO after consultation with the Chairman of the Executive Committee.
2. Sessions of the Commission shall be convened and the place of meeting shall be determined by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO after consultation, where appropriate, with the authorities of the host country.
3. Notice of the date and place of each session of the Commission shall be communicated to all Members of the Commission at least two months before the session.
4. Each Member of the Commission shall have one representative, who may be accompanied by one or more alternates and advisers.
5. Meetings of the Commission shall be held in public, unless the Commission decides otherwise.
6. The majority of the Members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of making recommendations for amendments to the Statutes of the Commission and of adopting amendments of, or additions to, the present Rules in accordance with Rule XIII. 1. For all other purposes the majority of the Members of the Commission attending the session shall constitute a quorum, provided that such a majority shall be not less than 20 percent of the total membership of the Commission, nor less than 25 Members. In addition, in the case of amendment or adoption of a proposed standard for a given region or group of countries, the quorum of the Commission shall include one third of the Members belonging to the region or group of countries concerned.

#### Rule V - Agenda

1. The Directors-General of FAO and WHO, after consultation with the Chairman of the Commission or with the Executive Committee, shall prepare a Provisional Agenda for each session of the Commission.
2. The first item on the Provisional Agenda shall be the adoption of the Agenda.



3. Any Member of the Commission may request the Director-General of FAO or WHO to include specific items in the Provisional Agenda.
4. The Provisional Agenda shall be circulated by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO to all Members of the Commission at least two months before the opening of the session.
5. Any Member of the Commission, and the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, may, after the dispatch of the Provisional Agenda, propose the inclusion of specific items in the Agenda with respect to matters of an urgent nature. These items shall be placed on a supplementary list, which, if time permits before the opening of the session, shall be dispatched by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO to all Members of the Commission, failing which the supplementary list shall be communicated to the Chairman for submission to the Commission.
6. No item included in the Agenda by the governing bodies or the Directors-General of FAO and WHO shall be deleted therefrom. After the Agenda has been adopted, the Commission may, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, amend the Agenda by the deletion, addition or modification of any other item.
7. Documents to be submitted to the Commission at any session shall be furnished by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO to all Members of the Commission, to the other eligible Nations attending the session as observers and to the non-member nations and international organizations invited as observers thereto, in principle at least two months prior to the session at which they are to be discussed.

#### Rule VI - Voting and Procedures

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3 of this rule, each Member of the Commission shall have one vote. An alternate or adviser shall not have the right to vote except where substituting for the representative.
2. Except as otherwise provided in these rules, decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast.
3. At the request of a majority of the Members of the Commission constituting a given region or a group of countries that a standard be elaborated, the standard concerned shall be elaborated as a standard primarily intended

for that region or group of countries. When a vote is taken on the elaboration, amendment or adoption of a draft standard primarily intended for a region or group of countries, only Members belonging to that region or group of countries may take part in the voting. The adoption of the standard may, however, take place only after submission of the draft text to all Members of the Commission for comments. The provisions of this paragraph shall not prejudice the elaboration or adoption of a corresponding standard with a different territorial scope.

4. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 5 of this Rule, any Member of the Commission may request a roll-call vote, in which case the vote of each Member shall be recorded.
5. Elections shall be decided by secret ballot, except that, where the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, the Chairman may submit to the Commission that the election be decided by clear general consent. Any other matter shall be decided by secret ballot if the Commission so determines.
6. Formal proposals relating to items of the Agenda and amendments thereto shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Chairman, who shall circulate them to representatives of Members of the Commission.
7. The provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of FAO shall apply mutatis mutandis to all matters which are not specifically dealt with under Rule VI of the present Rules.

#### Rule VII - Observers

1. Any Member Nation and any Associate Member of FAO or WHO which is not a Member of the Commission but has a special interest in the work of the Commission, may, upon request communicated to the Director-General of FAO or WHO, attend sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies as an observer. It may submit memoranda and participate without vote in the discussions.
2. Nations which, while not Member Nations or Associate Members of FAO or WHO, are Members of the United Nations, may, upon their request and subject to the provisions relating to the granting of observer status to nations adopted by the Conference of FAO and the World Health Assembly, be invited to attend in an observer capacity sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies. The status of nations invited to such sessions shall be governed by the relevant provisions adopted by the Conference of FAO.



3. Any Member of the Commission may attend as an observer the sessions of the subsidiary bodies and may submit memoranda and participate without vote in the discussions.

4. Subject to the provisions of Rule VII. 5 the Director-General of FAO or WHO may invite intergovernmental and international nongovernmental organizations to attend as observers sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies.

5. Participation of international organizations in the work of the Commission, and the relations between the Commission and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitutions of FAO or WHO, as well as by the applicable regulations of FAO or WHO on relations with international organizations; such relations shall be handled by the Director-General of FAO or of WHO as appropriate.

#### Rule VIII - Records and Reports

1. At each session the Commission shall approve a report embodying its views, recommendations and conclusions, including when requested a statement of minority views. Such other records for its own use as the Commission may on occasion decide shall also be maintained.

2. The report of the Commission shall be transmitted to the Directors-General of FAO and WHO at the close of each session, who shall circulate it to the Members of the Commission, to other countries and to organizations that were represented at the session, for their information, and upon request to other Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO and WHO.

3. Recommendations of the Commission having policy, program or financial implications for FAO and/or WHO shall be brought by the Directors-General to the attention of the governing bodies of FAO and/or WHO for appropriate action.

4. Subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the Directors General of FAO and WHO may request Members of the Commission to supply the Commission with information on action taken on the basis of recommendations made by the Commission.



Rule IX - Subsidiary Bodies

1. The Commission may establish the following types of subsidiary bodies:

- (a) subsidiary bodies which it deems necessary for the accomplishment of its work in the finalization of draft standards;
- (b) subsidiary bodies in the form of:
  - (1) Codex Committees for the preparation of draft standards for submission to the Commission, whether intended for world-wide use, for a given region or for a group of countries specifically enumerated by the Commission.
  - (2) Co-ordinating Committees for regions or groups of countries which shall exercise general co-ordination in the preparation of standards relating to such regions or groups of countries and such other functions as may be entrusted to them.

2. Subject to paragraph 3 below, membership in these subsidiary bodies shall consist, as may be determined by the Commission, either of such Members of the Commission as have notified the Director-General of FAO or WHO of their desire to be considered as Members thereof, or of selected Members designated by the Commission.

3. Membership of subsidiary bodies established under Rule IX. 1(b)(1) for the preparation of draft standards intended primarily for a region or group of countries, shall be open only to Members of the Commission belonging to such a region or group of countries.

4. Representatives of members of subsidiary bodies shall, insofar as possible, serve in a continuing capacity and shall be specialists active in the fields of the respective subsidiary bodies.

5. Subsidiary bodies may only be established by the Commission except where otherwise provided in these Rules. Their terms of reference and reporting procedures shall be determined by the Commission, except where otherwise provided in these Rules.

6. Sessions of subsidiary bodies shall be convened by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO:

- (a) in the case of bodies established under Rule IX. 1(a), in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission;
- (b) in the case of bodies established under Rule IX. 1(b)(1) (Codex Committees), in consultation with the chairman of the respective Codex Committee and also, in the case of Codex Committees for the preparation of draft standards for a given region or group of countries, with the Co-ordinator, if a Co-ordinator has been appointed for the region or group of countries concerned;
- (c) in the case of bodies established under Rule IX.1(b)(2) (Co-ordinating Committees), in consultation with the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee.

7. The Directors-General of FAO and WHO shall determine the place of meeting of bodies established under Rule IX. 1(a) and Rule IX. 1(b)(2) after consultation, where appropriate, with the host country concerned and, in the case of bodies established under Rule IX. 1(b)(2), after consultation with the Co-ordinator for the region or group of countries concerned, if any, or with the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee.

8. Notice of the date and place of each session of bodies established under Rule IX. 1(a) shall be communicated to all Members of the Commission at least two months before the session.

9. The establishment of subsidiary bodies under Rule IX. 1(a) and Rule IX. 1(b)(2) shall be subject to the availability of the necessary funds, as shall the establishment of subsidiary bodies under Rule IX. 1(b)(1) when any of their expenses are proposed to be recognized as operating expenses within the budget of the Commission in accordance with Article 10 of the Statutes of the Commission. Before taking any decision involving expenditure in connection with the establishment of such subsidiary bodies, the Commission shall have before it a report from the Director-General of FAO and/or WHO, as appropriate, on the administrative and financial implications thereof.

10. The Members who shall be responsible for appointing Chairmen of subsidiary bodies established under Rule IX. 1(b)(1) shall be designated at each session by the Commission, except



where otherwise provided in these Rules, and shall be eligible for re-designation. All other officers of subsidiary bodies shall be elected by the body concerned and shall be eligible for re-election.

11. The Rules of Procedure of the Commission shall apply mutatis mutandis to its subsidiary bodies.

#### Rule X - Elaboration of Standards

1. Subject to the provisions of these Rules of Procedure, the Commission may establish the procedures for the elaboration of world-wide standards and of standards for a given region or group of countries, and, when necessary, amend such procedures.

#### Rule XI - Budget and Expenses

1. The Directors-General of FAO and WHO shall prepare for consideration by the Commission at its regular sessions an estimate of expenditure based on the proposed program of work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, together with information concerning expenditure for the previous financial period. This estimate, with such modifications as may be considered appropriate by the Directors-General in the light of recommendations made by the Commission, shall subsequently be incorporated in the Regular Budgets of the two Organizations for approval by the appropriate governing bodies.

2. The estimate of expenditure shall make provisions for the operating expenses of the Commission and the subsidiary bodies of the Commission established under Rule IX. 1(a) and IX. 1(b)(2) and for the expenses relating to staff assigned to the Program and other expenditures incurred in connection with the servicing of the latter.

3. The operating costs of subsidiary bodies established under Rule IX. 1(b)(1) (Codex Committees) shall be borne by each Member accepting chairmanship of such a body. The estimate of expenditure may include a provision for such costs involved in preparatory work as may be recognized as operating expenses of the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of the Statutes of the Commission.

4. Expenses incurred in connection with attendance at session of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies and travels of delegations of the Members of the Commission and of the observers referred to in Rule VII, shall be borne by the governments or organizations concerned. Should experts be



invited by the Director-General of FAO or WHO to attend sessions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies in their individual capacity, their expenses shall be borne out of the regular budgetary funds available for the work of the Commission.

#### Rule XII - Languages

1. The languages of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies set up under Rule IX. 1(a) shall be not less than three of the working languages, as shall be determined by the Commission, which are working languages both of FAO and of the Health Assembly of WHO.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 above, other languages which are working languages either of FAO or of the Health Assembly of WHO may be added by the Commission if

(a) the Commission has before it a report from the Directors-General of FAO and WHO on the policy, financial and administrative implications of the addition of such languages; and

(b) the addition of such languages has the approval of the Directors-General of FAO and WHO.

3. Where a representative wishes to use a language other than a language of the Commission he shall himself provide the necessary interpretation and/or translation into one of the languages of the Commission.

4. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Rule, the languages of subsidiary bodies set up under Rule IX. 1(b) shall include at least two of the languages of the Commission.

#### Rule XIII - Amendments and Suspension of Rules

1. Amendments of or additions to these Rules may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the amendment or addition has been given. Amendments of or additions to these Rules shall come into force upon approval by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, subject to such confirmation as may be prescribed by the procedures of the two Organizations.

2. The Rules of the Commission, other than Rule I, Rule II. 1, 2, 3 and 6, Rule III, Rule IV. 2 and 6, Rule V. 1, 4 and 6, Rule VI. 1, 2 and 3, Rule VII, Rule VIII. 3 and 4, Rule IX. 5, 7 and 9, Rule XI, Rule XIII and Rule XIV, may be suspended by the Commission by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for suspension has been given. Such notice may be waived if no representative of the Members of the Commission objects.

#### Rule XIV - Entry into force

1. In accordance with Article 8 of the Statutes of the Commission, these Rules of Procedure shall come into force upon approval by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, subject to such confirmation as may be prescribed by the procedures of the two Organizations. Pending the coming into force of these Rules, they shall apply provisionally.

## GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

### Purpose of the Codex Alimentarius

1. The Codex Alimentarius is a collection of internationally adopted food standards presented in a uniform manner. These food standards aim at protecting consumers' health and ensuring fair practices in the food trade. The Codex Alimentarius also includes provisions of an advisory nature in the form of codes of practice, guidelines and other recommended measures intended to assist in achieving the purposes of the Codex Alimentarius. The publication of the Codex Alimentarius is intended to guide and promote the elaboration and establishment of definitions and requirements for foods to assist in their harmonization and in doing so to facilitate international trade.

### Scope of the Codex Alimentarius

2. The Codex Alimentarius includes standards for all the principal foods, whether processed, semi-processed or raw, for distribution to the consumer. Materials for further processing into foods should be included to the extent necessary to achieve the purposes of the Codex Alimentarius as defined. The Codex Alimentarius includes provisions in respect of food hygiene, food additives, pesticide residues, contaminants, labelling and presentation, methods of analysis and sampling. It also includes provisions of an advisory nature in the form of codes of practice, guidelines and other recommended measures.

### Nature of Codex Standards

3. Codex standards contain requirements for food aimed at ensuring for the consumer a sound, wholesome food product free from adulteration, correctly labelled and presented. A Codex standard for any food or foods should be drawn up in accordance with the Format for Codex Commodity Standards and contain, as appropriate, the criteria listed therein.

### Acceptance of Codex Commodity Standards

4.A A Codex standard may be accepted by a country in accordance with its established legal and administrative procedures in respect of distribution of the product concerned, whether imported or home-produced, within



its territorial jurisdiction in the following ways:

(i) Full acceptance

- (a) Full acceptance means that the country concerned will ensure that a product to which the standard applies will be permitted to be distributed freely, in accordance with (c) below, within its territorial jurisdiction under the name and description laid down in the standard, provided that it complies with all the relevant requirements of the standard.
- (b) The country will also ensure that products not complying with the standard will not be permitted to be distributed under the name and description laid down in the standard.
- (c) The distribution of any sound products conforming with the standard will not be hindered by any legal or administrative provisions in the country concerned relating to the health of the consumer or to other food standard matters except for considerations of human, plant or animal health which are not specifically dealt with in the standard.

(ii) Target acceptance

Target acceptance means that the country concerned indicates its intention to accept the standard after a stated number of years and will meanwhile not hinder within its territorial jurisdiction the distribution of any sound products conforming with the standard by any legal or administrative provisions relating to the health of the consumer or to other food standard matters except for considerations of human, plant or animal health which are not specifically dealt with in the standard.

(iii) Acceptance with specified deviations

Acceptance with specified deviations means that the country concerned gives acceptance, as defined in paragraph 4. A (i), to the standard with the exception of such deviations as are specified in detail in its declaration of acceptance; it being understood that a

product complying with the standard as qualified by these deviations will be permitted to be distributed freely within the territorial jurisdiction of the country concerned. The country concerned will further include in its declaration of acceptance a statement of the reasons for these deviations, and also indicate:

- (a) whether products fully conforming to the standard may be distributed freely within its territorial jurisdiction in accordance with paragraph 4. A (i);
- (b) whether it expects to be able to give full acceptance to the standard and, if so, when.

B. A country which considers that it cannot accept the standard in any of the ways mentioned above should indicate:

- (i) whether products conforming to the standard may be distributed freely within its territorial jurisdiction;
- (ii) in what ways its present or proposed requirements differ from the standard, and, if possible the reasons for these differences.

C. (i) A country which accepts a Codex standard according to one of the provisions of 4. A is responsible for the uniform and impartial application of the provisions of the standard as accepted, in respect of all home-produced and imported products distributed within its territorial jurisdiction. In addition, the country should be prepared to offer advice and guidance to exporters and processors of products for export to promote understanding of and compliance with the requirements of importing countries which have accepted a Codex standard according to one of the provisions of 4. A.

- (ii) Where, in an importing country, a product claimed to be in compliance with a Codex standard is found not to be in compliance with that standard, whether in respect of the label accompanying the product or otherwise, the importing country should inform the competent authorities in the exporting country of all the relevant facts and in particular the details of the origin of the product in question (name and address of the exporter), if it is thought that a person in the exporting country is responsible for such non-compliance.



Acceptance of Codex General Standards

5. A A Codex general standard may be accepted by a country in accordance with its established legal and administrative procedures in respect of the distribution of products to which the general standard applies, whether imported or home-produced, within its territorial jurisdiction in the following ways:

(i) Full acceptance

Full acceptance of a general standard means that the country concerned will ensure, within its territorial jurisdiction, that a product to which the general standard applies will comply with all the relevant requirements of the general standard except as otherwise provided in a Codex commodity standard. It also means that the distribution of any sound products conforming with the standard will not be hindered by any legal or administrative provisions in the country concerned, which relate to the health of the consumer or to other food standard matters and which are covered by the requirements of the general standard.

(ii) Target acceptance

Target acceptance means that the country concerned indicates its intention to accept the general standard after a stated number of years.

(iii) Acceptance with specified deviations

Acceptance with specified deviations means that the country concerned gives acceptance, as defined in paragraph 5. A(i), to the general standard with the exception of such deviations as are specified in detail in its declaration of acceptance. The country concerned will further include in its declaration of acceptance a statement of the reasons for these deviations, and also indicate whether it expects to be able to give full acceptance to the general standard and, if so when.

B. A country which considers that it cannot accept the general standard in any of the ways mentioned above should indicate in what ways its present or proposed requirements differ from the general standard, and, if possible, the reasons for these differences.

- C. (i) A country which accepts a general standard according to one of the provisions of paragraph 5. A is responsible for the uniform and impartial application of the provisions of the standard as accepted, in respect of all home-produced and imported products distributed within its territorial jurisdiction. In addition, the country should be prepared to offer advice and guidance to exporters and processors of products for export to promote understanding of and compliance with the requirements of importing countries which have accepted a general standard according to one of the provisions of paragraph 5. A.
- (ii) Where, in an importing country, a product claimed to be in compliance with a general standard is found not to be in compliance with that standard, whether in respect of the label accompanying the product or otherwise, the importing country should inform the competent authorities in the exporting country of all the relevant facts and in particular the details of the origin of the product in question (name and address of the exporter), if it is thought that a person in the exporting country is responsible for such non-compliance.

#### Acceptance of Codex Maximum Limits for Pesticide Residues

6. A. A Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues (Codex Tolerance or Practical Residue Limit) may be accepted by a country in accordance with its established legal and administrative procedures in respect of the distribution within its territorial jurisdiction of (a) home-produced and imported food or (b) imported food only, to which the Codex maximum limit applies, in the ways set forth below. In addition, where a Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues applies to a group of foods not individually named, a country accepting such Codex maximum limit in respect of other than the group of foods, shall specify the foods in respect of which the Codex maximum limit is accepted.
- (i) Full acceptance

Full acceptance of a Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues means that the country concerned will ensure, within its territorial jurisdiction, that a



food, whether home-produced or imported, to which the Codex maximum limit applies, will comply with that limit. It also means that the distribution of a food conforming with the Codex maximum limit will not be hindered by any legal or administrative provisions in the country concerned which relate to matters covered by the Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues.

(ii) Limited acceptance

Limited acceptance of a Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues means that the country concerned undertakes not to hinder the importation of a food which complies with the Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues on that food by any legal or administrative provisions in the country concerned which relate to matters covered by the Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues, it being understood that in so undertaking the country concerned does not impose by the Codex maximum limit a more stringent maximum limit than is applied domestically.

(iii) Target acceptance

Target acceptance means that the country concerned indicates its intention to give Full Acceptance or Limited Acceptance to the Codex maximum limit for a pesticide residue after a stated number of years.

- B. A country which considers that it cannot accept the Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues in any of the ways mentioned above should indicate:
- (i) in what ways its present or proposed requirements differ from the Codex maximum limit for a pesticide residue, and, if possible, the reasons for these differences;
  - (ii) whether products conforming to the Codex maximum limit may be distributed freely, or may be distributed under certain specified conditions, within its territorial jurisdiction insofar as matters covered by the Codex maximum limit are concerned.
- C. A country which accepts a Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues according to one of the provisions of paragraph 6. A should be prepared to offer advice and

guidance to exporters and processors of food for export to promote understanding of and compliance with the requirements of importing countries which have accepted a Codex maximum limit according to one of the provisions of paragraph 6. A.

- D. Where, in an importing country, a food claimed to be in compliance with a Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues, is found not to be in compliance with the Codex maximum limit, the importing country should inform the competent authorities in the exporting country of all the relevant facts and, in particular, the details of the origin of the food in question (name and address of the exporter), if it is thought that a person in the exporting country is responsible for such non-compliance.

#### Withdrawal or Amendment of Acceptance

7. The withdrawal or amendment of acceptance of a Codex standard or a Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues by a country shall be notified in writing to the Codex Alimentarius Commission's Secretariat who will inform all Member States and Associate Members of FAO and WHO of the notification and its date of receipt. The country concerned should provide the information required under paragraphs 4. A(iii), 5. A(iii), 4. B, 5. B or 6. B above, whichever is appropriate. It should also give as long a notice of the withdrawal or amendment as is practicable.



DEFINITIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE  
CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

For the purposes of the Codex Alimentarius:

- 1) 'Food' means any substance, whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended for human consumption, and includes drink, chewing gum and any substance which has been used in the manufacture, preparation or treatment of 'food' but does not include cosmetics or tobacco or substances used only as drugs.
- 2) 'Food hygiene' comprises conditions and measures necessary for the production, processing, storage and distribution of food designed to ensure a safe, sound, wholesome product fit for human consumption.
- 3) 'Food additive' means any substance not normally consumed as a food by itself and not normally used as a typical ingredient of the food, whether or not it has nutritive value, the intentional addition of which to food for a technological (including organoleptic) purpose in the manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food results, or may be reasonably expected to result, (directly or indirectly) in it or its by-products becoming a component of or otherwise affecting the characteristics of such foods. The term does not include "contaminants" or substances added to food for maintaining or improving nutritional qualities.
- 4) 'Contaminant' means any substance not intentionally added to food, which is present in such food as a result of the production (including operations carried out in crop husbandry, animal husbandry and veterinary medicine), manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food or as a result of environmental contamination. The term does not include insect fragments, rodent hairs and other extraneous matter.
- 5) 'Pesticide' means any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing or controlling any pest and includes any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant-growth regulator, defoliant or desiccant. It excludes fertilizers and antibiotics or other chemicals administered to animals for other purposes such as to stimulate their growth or to modify their reproductive behaviour.

- 6) 'Pesticide residue' means any substance or substances in food for man or animals resulting from the use of a 'pesticide'. It also includes any specified derivatives, such as degradation and conversion products, metabolites and reaction products which are considered to be of toxicological significance.
- 7) 'Good agricultural practice in the use of pesticides' is defined as the officially recommended or authorized usage of pesticides under practical conditions at any stage of production, storage, transport, distribution and processing of food and other agricultural commodities, bearing in mind the variations in requirements within and between regions, and which takes into account the minimum quantities necessary to achieve adequate control, applied in a manner so as to leave a residue which is the smallest amount practicable and which is toxicologically acceptable.
- 8) 'Codex maximum limit for pesticide residues' (Codex tolerance or practical residue limit) is the maximum concentration of a pesticide residue that is recommended by the Codex Alimentarius to be legally permitted in or on a food or food commodity. The concentration is expressed in parts by weight of pesticide residue per million parts by weight of the food or food commodity.





PROCEDURE FOR THE ELABORATION OF CODEX  
STANDARDS AND CODES OF PRACTICE, CODEX  
MAXIMUM LIMITS FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUES, CODEX  
SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE IDENTITY AND PURITY  
OF FOOD ADDITIVES

INTRODUCTION

1. The sequence of the Procedure set out in this document is briefly as follows. The Commission decides that a standard should be elaborated and sets up a Codex committee or entrusts the elaboration to some other body. The Codex committee or other body produces a draft which at this stage is a "proposed draft standard". It is circulated to governments for comments and may be considered and further amended, in the case of a regional or group of countries proposal by the appropriate coordinating committee if one exists or otherwise by the Codex committee or other body. It is then presented to the Commission as a "proposed draft standard" and the Commission uses it as the basis for producing a "draft standard". This is sent to governments for comments and in the light of these comments, and after further consideration by the coordinating committee or Codex committee or other body, as the case may be, the Commission reconsiders the draft and adopts it as a "recommended standard". This is sent to governments for acceptance and is published in the Codex Alimentarius as a Codex standard, when the Commission determines that it is appropriate to do so in the light of the acceptances received.

2. Except for provisions relating to acceptance, the provisions set out in Parts 1 and 2 of this document apply, mutatis mutandis, to the elaboration of codes of practice, and, as determined by the Commission, to other texts of a non-mandatory nature.

3. It will be open to the Commission and to the coordinating committee, Codex committees or other bodies dealing with the preparation, amendment or adoption of a standard at Steps 4, 5, 7 and 8 of the Procedure in Parts 1 and 2 of this document to decide that the draft be returned for further work at any appropriate previous Step in the Procedure. It shall also be open to the Commission to authorize the omission of one or more of Steps 6, 7 and 8 of the Procedure in Parts 1 and 2 of this document if it considers, without dissent, that the completion of the standard is a matter of exceptional urgency or if it



notes that the standard is entirely uncontroversial and that the standard has already proved to be generally agreeable to Members of the Commission. It shall further be open to the Commission to authorize, on the basis of a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, the omission of one or more of Steps 6, 7 and 8 of the Procedure in Parts 1 and 2 of this document in respect of maximum limits for pesticide residues elaborated by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues, where such an omission is recommended by the Committee (see Procedure in Part 3).

4. It will be open to the Commission at any stage in the elaboration of a standard to entrust any of the remaining Steps to a Codex committee or other body different from that to which it was previously entrusted.

5. It will be for the Commission itself to keep under review the revision of "recommended standards". The procedure for revision should, mutatis mutandis, be that laid down for the elaboration of Codex standards, except that, in the case of amendments to standards proposed by Codex committees, Step 2 of the Procedure in Parts 1 and 2 of this document may be omitted.

6. The provisions set out in Part 2 of this document apply, mutatis mutandis, to the elaboration of Codex standards for groups of countries specifically enumerated by the Commission.

7. The provisions set out in Part 3 of this document apply to the elaboration of Codex maximum limits for pesticide residues in accordance with paragraph 3 above.

8. The provisions set out in Part 4 of this document apply to the elaboration of Codex specifications for the identity and purity of food additives.

PART 1

PROCEDURE FOR THE ELABORATION OF  
WORLDWIDE CODEX STANDARDS

STEP 1:

The Commission decides on the elaboration of a world-wide Codex standard and decides which subsidiary body or other body should undertake the work.

STEP 2:

The subsidiary body or other body so designated prepares a proposed draft standard, taking into account the work accomplished by the appropriate international organizations. The draft is sent to the Commission's Secretariat by the Chairman of the subsidiary body or other body.

STEP 3:

The proposed draft standard is sent by the Commission's Secretariat to Member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO and to the international organizations concerned in order to obtain their comments.

STEP 4:

The Commission's Secretariat sends the comments received from governments and from the international organizations concerned to the subsidiary body or other body concerned, which has the power to consider such comments and to amend the proposed draft standard, if appropriate.

STEP 5:

The proposed draft standard is submitted through the Secretariat to the Commission with a view to its adoption as a draft standard. The Commission may, however, refer it to a special subsidiary body, set up under Rule IX. 1(a) of the Rules of Procedure, before adopting it as a draft standard or may entrust the special subsidiary body with the responsibility for undertaking steps 5, 7 and 8 of this Procedure or any part thereof.

STEP 6:

The draft standard is sent by the Commission's Secretariat for comment to all Member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO and to the international organizations concerned.



STEP 7:

The comments received from governments and from the international organizations concerned are sent by the Secretariat to the subsidiary body or other body concerned, which has the power to consider such comments and amend the draft standard, if appropriate.

STEP 8:

The draft standard is submitted through the Secretariat to the Commission with a view to adoption as a recommended standard.

STEP 9:

The recommended standard is sent to all Member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO and to the international organizations concerned. Members of the Commission notify the Secretariat of their acceptance of the recommended standard in accordance with the acceptance procedure laid down in paragraph 4, paragraph 5 or in paragraph 6 of the General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius, whichever is appropriate. Member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO that are not Members of the Commission are invited to notify the Secretariat if they wish to accept the recommended standard.

STEP 10: <sup>1/</sup>

The Secretariat publishes periodically the notifications received from governments with respect to each recommended standard.

STEP 11:

The recommended standard will be published in the Codex Alimentarius as a world-wide Codex standard when the Commission determines that it is appropriate to do so in the light of the acceptances received. The Codex Alimentarius will also contain an appendix for each Codex standard (a) listing the countries in which products conforming with such standard may be freely distributed, and (b) where applicable, stating in detail all specified deviations which may have been declared by any accepting country.

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<sup>1/</sup> The Secretariat will examine deviations notified by governments and will report periodically to the Codex Alimentarius Commission concerning possible amendments to standards which might be considered by the Commission in accordance with the Procedure for the Revision and Amendment of Recommended Codex Standards.

PART 2

PROCEDURE FOR THE ELABORATION OF  
REGIONAL CODEX STANDARDS

STEP 1:

On the proposal of the majority of Members belonging to a given region submitted at a session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Commission decides on the elaboration of a Codex standard for the region concerned and decides which subsidiary body or other body should undertake the work.

STEP 2:

The subsidiary body or other body so designated prepares a proposed draft standard, taking into account the work accomplished by the appropriate international organizations. The draft is sent to the Commission's Secretariat by the coordinator for the region concerned if a coordinator has been appointed; if no coordinator has been appointed, the draft is sent by the chairman of the subsidiary body or other body.

STEP 3:

The proposed draft standard is sent by the Commission's Secretariat to Member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO and to the international organizations concerned in order to obtain their comments.

STEP 4:

If the Commission has appointed a coordinating committee for the region concerned, the comments received from governments and from the international organizations concerned are sent by the Secretariat to that committee, which has the power to consider such comments and amend the proposed draft standard, if appropriate <sup>1/</sup>. If a coordinating committee has not been appointed, the Secretariat sends the comments received from governments and from the international organizations concerned to the subsidiary body or other body concerned, which has the power to consider such comments and to amend the proposed draft standard, if appropriate.

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<sup>1/</sup> The meeting of the coordinating committee could take place immediately before or during the session of the Commission.



STEP 5:

The proposed draft standard is submitted through the Secretariat to the Commission with a view to adoption as a draft standard for the region concerned. At the appropriate session of the Commission, all Members may present their comments, take part in the debate and propose amendments but only the majority of the Members of the region concerned can decide to amend and adopt the draft.

STEP 6:

The draft standard for the region concerned is sent by the Commission's Secretariat for comment to all Member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO and to the international organizations concerned.

STEP 7:

If the Commission has appointed a Coordinating Committee for the region concerned, the comments received from governments and from the international organizations concerned are sent by the Secretariat to that Committee which has the power to consider such comments and amend the draft standard, if appropriate <sup>1/</sup>. If a Coordinating Committee has not been appointed, the Secretariat sends the comments received from governments and from the international organizations concerned to the subsidiary body or other body concerned which has the power to consider such comments and to amend the draft standard, if appropriate.

STEP 8:

The draft standard is submitted through the Secretariat to the Commission with a view to adoption as a recommended standard for the region concerned. At the appropriate session of the Commission, all Members may present their comments, take part in the debate and propose amendments but only the majority of Members of the region concerned can decide to amend and adopt the draft.

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<sup>1/</sup> The meeting of the coordinating committee could take place immediately before or during the session of the Commission.

STEP 9:

The recommended standard is sent to all Member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO and to the international organizations concerned. The Members of the region concerned notify the Secretariat of their acceptance of the recommended standard in accordance with the acceptance procedure laid down in paragraph 4, paragraph 5 or in paragraph 6 of the General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius, whichever is appropriate. Other Members of the Commission may likewise notify the Secretariat of their acceptance of the recommended standard or of any other measures they propose to adopt with respect thereto, and also submit any observations as to its application. Member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO that are not Members of the Commission are invited to notify the Secretariat if they wish to accept the recommended standard.

STEP 10: <sup>1/</sup>

The Secretariat publishes periodically the notifications received from governments of the region concerned, and, as appropriate, from other governments with respect to each recommended standard.

STEP 11:

The recommended standard will be published in the Codex Alimentarius as a Codex standard for the region concerned when the Commission determines it appropriate to do so in the light of acceptances received from within the region. The Codex Alimentarius will also contain an appendix for each Codex standard for the region concerned (a) listing the countries in which products conforming with such standard may be freely distributed, and (b) where applicable, stating in detail all specified deviations which may have been declared by any accepting country.

<sup>1/</sup> The Secretariat will examine deviations notified by governments and will report periodically to the Codex Alimentarius Commission concerning possible amendments to standards which might be considered by the Commission in accordance with the Procedure for the Revision and Amendment of Recommended Codex Standards.



STEP 12:

The Codex standard will be published in the Codex Alimentarius as a world-wide Codex standard when the Commission determines that it is appropriate to do so in the light of all acceptances received. The Codex Alimentarius Commission will also contain an appendix for each Codex standard (a) listing the countries in which products conforming with such standard may be freely distributed, and (b) where applicable, stating in detail all specified deviations which may have been declared by any accepting country.

PART 3

PROCEDURE FOR THE ELABORATION OF CODEX  
MAXIMUM LIMITS FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUES

STEPS 1, 2 and 3:

The Secretariat distributes the recommendations for maximum limits for pesticide residues, when available from the Joint FAO Working Party of Experts and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues and requests comments from governments and interested international organizations.

STEP 4:

The Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues examines the recommendations for maximum limits for residues in the light of comments. The Codex Committee, when formulating its recommendations for proposed draft Codex maximum limits, takes all appropriate matters into consideration including the need for urgency, the government comments at Step 3 and the likelihood of new evidence becoming available in the immediate future and, on the basis of such considerations, indicates to the Commission those proposed draft maximum limits which, in its view, need to be passed through the full Procedure and those for which there might be an omission of Steps 6, 7 and 8, it being understood that any maximum limit at Step 5, for which it has been recommended that Steps 6, 7 and 8 could be omitted or any maximum limit at Step 8 shall be dealt with by the Commission in accordance with the Guide to the Consideration of Standards at Step 8 of the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards.

STEPS 5-11:

As for the Procedure for the Elaboration of World-wide Codex Standards (pages 31 and 32).



PART 4

PROCEDURE FOR THE ELABORATION OF  
CODEX SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE IDENTITY AND PURITY OF  
FOOD ADDITIVES

STEPS 1 and 2:

The Secretariat distributes the specifications, when available from the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives, and requests comments from governments and interested international organizations.

STEPS 3 and 4:

The Codex Committee on Food Additives examines the specifications in the light of comments. The comments are also made available by the Secretariat to the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives. The Expert Committee's opinion is also placed before the Codex Committee on Food Additives.

STEP 5:

Only those specifications which, in the opinion of the Codex Committee on Food Additives, are suitable for publication as recommended international specifications for food additives and for which Steps 6, 7 and 8 could be omitted, should be submitted to the Codex Alimentarius Commission at Step 5 for final adoption.

GUIDE TO THE CONSIDERATION OF STANDARDS AT  
STEP 8 OF THE PROCEDURE FOR THE  
ELABORATION OF CODEX STANDARDS

1. In order:

- (a) to ensure that the work of the Codex committee concerned is not made less valuable by the passage of an insufficiently considered amendment in the Commission;
- (b) at the same time to provide scope for significant amendments to be raised and considered in the Commission;
- (c) to prevent, as far as practicable, lengthy discussion in the Commission on points that have been thoroughly argued in the Codex committee concerned;
- (d) to ensure, as far as practicable, that delegations are given sufficient warning of amendments so that they may brief themselves adequately,

Step 8 Standards

amendments to Codex standards at Step 8 should, as far as practicable, be submitted in writing, although amendments proposed in the Commission would not be excluded entirely, and the following procedure should be employed:

2. When Codex standards are distributed to Member Countries prior to their consideration by the Commission at Step 8, the Secretariat will indicate the date by which proposed amendments must be received; this date will be fixed so as to allow sufficient time for such amendments to be in the hands of governments not less than one month before the session of the Commission.

3. Governments should submit amendments in writing by the date indicated and should state that they had been previously submitted to the appropriate Codex committee with details of the submission of the amendment or should give the reason why the amendment had not been proposed earlier, as the case may be.

4. When amendments are proposed during a session of the Commission, without prior notice, to a standard which is at Step 8, the Chairman of the Commission, after consultation with the chairman of the appropriate committee, or, if the Chairman is not present, with the delegate of the chairing country, or, in the case of subsidiary bodies which do not have a chairing country, with other appropriate persons, shall rule whether such amendments are substantive.



5. If an amendment ruled as substantive is agreed to by the Commission, it shall be referred to the appropriate Codex committee for its comments and, until such comments have been received and considered by the Commission, the standard shall not be advanced beyond Step 8 of the Procedure.

GUIDE TO THE PROCEDURE FOR THE REVISION AND  
AMENDMENT OF RECOMMENDED CODEX STANDARDS

1. Proposals for the amendment or revision of recommended Codex standards should be submitted to the Commission's Secretariat in good time (not less than three months) before the session of the Commission at which they are to be considered. The proposer of an amendment should indicate the reasons for the proposed amendment and should also state whether the proposed amendment had been previously submitted to and considered by the Codex committee concerned and/or the Commission. If the proposed amendment has already been considered by the Codex committee and/or the Commission, the outcome of the consideration of the proposed amendment should be stated.

2. Taking into account such information regarding the proposed amendment as may be supplied in accordance with paragraph 1 above, the Commission will decide whether the amendment or revision of a standard is necessary. If the Commission decides in the affirmative, and the proposer of the amendment is other than a Codex Committee, the proposed amendment will be referred for consideration to the appropriate Codex committee, if such committee is still in existence. If such committee is not in existence, the Commission will determine how best to deal with the proposed amendment. If the proposer of the amendment is a Codex committee, it would be open to the Commission to decide that the proposed amendment be circulated to governments for comments prior to further consideration by the sponsoring Codex committee.

3. The procedure for amending or revising a Codex standard would be as laid down in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Introduction to the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards.

4. When the Commission has decided to amend or revise a standard, the unrevised standard will remain the applicable Codex standard until the revised standard has been adopted by the Commission.





PROCEDURE FOR THE ELABORATION OF  
MILK AND MILK PRODUCT STANDARDS

STEP 1:

The Joint FAO/WHO Committee of Government Experts on the Code of Principles concerning Milk and Milk Products decides on the elaboration of an international standard, collects information from the governments concerned on their national standards and other relative data and forwards copies of this information to the International Dairy Federation for the development of the first draft of an international standard.

STEP 2:

The IDF prepares a draft standard taking into account any information supplied by Member Governments or otherwise available. A report, accompanied by the draft standard, is sent to the Committee's Secretariat by IDF for distribution to Member States of FAO and WHO as a working paper for the next session of the Committee.

STEP 3:

The Committee's conclusions on the draft standard together with the draft standard as may be amended by the Committee, are published in the report of the session and are sent by the Secretariat to Member States of FAO and WHO for comment.

STEP 4:

The Committee considers the draft standard in the light of government comments and amends or revises the draft standard, if appropriate.

STEP 5: <sup>1/</sup>

The draft standard as amended is sent out to governments for further comments.

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<sup>1/</sup> It shall be open to the Committee to authorize the omission of steps 5 and 6 of the Procedure if it considers, without dissent, that the completion of the standard is entirely uncontroversial and that the standard has already proved to be generally agreeable to the Committee.



STEP 6: <sup>1/</sup>

The Committee further considers the draft standard in the light of government comments and adopts the final text as a recommended standard.

STEP 7:

The recommended standard is submitted by the Secretariat to governments for acceptance.

STEP 8:

The Secretariat publishes periodically the notifications received from governments with respect to each recommended standard.

STEP 9:

The recommended standard is published as a standard in the Code of Principles concerning Milk and Milk Products when the Committee determines that it is appropriate to do so in the light of the acceptances received.

STEP 10:

The recommended standard is published as a standard in the Codex Alimentarius when the Codex Alimentarius Commission determines that it is appropriate to do so in the light of the acceptances received. The Codex Alimentarius will also contain an appendix for each standard (a) listing the countries in which products conforming with such standard may be freely distributed, and (b) where applicable, stating in detail all specified deviations which may have been declared by an accepting country.

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<sup>1/</sup> It shall be open to the Committee to authorize the omission of Steps 5 and 6 of the Procedure if it considers, without dissent, that the completion of the standard is entirely uncontroversial and that the standard has already proved to be generally agreeable to the Committee.

PROCEDURE FOR THE ELABORATION OF  
INTERNATIONAL INDIVIDUAL CHEESE STANDARDS

STEP 1:

Governments submit to the Secretariat their applications with complete supporting documentation. Upon receipt of an application, the Secretariat informs all Governments and sends to the International Dairy Federation full documentation about the variety with an indication of priority to be assigned to the application by IDF.

STEP 2:

The Secretariat places before the Committee those applications upon which IDF has reported, together with the draft standards and the IDF report.

STEP 3:

The Committee's conclusions on the draft standard together with the draft standard as may be amended by the Committee, are published in the report of the session and are sent by the Secretariat to Member States of FAO and WHO for comment.

STEP 4:

The Committee considers the draft standard in the light of government comments and amends or revises the draft standard, if appropriate.

STEP 5: 1/

The Draft standard as amended is sent to governments for further comments.

STEP 6: 1/

The Committee further considers the draft standard in the light of government comments and adopts the final text as a recommended standard.

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1/ It shall be open to the Committee to authorize the omission of Steps 5 and 6 of the Procedure if it considers, without dissent, that the completion of the standard is entirely uncontroversial and that the standard has already proved to be generally agreeable to the Committee.

STEP 7:

The recommended standard is submitted by the Secretariat to governments for acceptance.

STEP 8:

The Secretariat publishes periodically the notifications received from governments with respect to each recommended standard.

STEP 9:

The recommended standard is published as a standard in the Code of Principles concerning Milk and Milk Products when the Committee determines that it is appropriate to do so in the light of the acceptances received.

STEP 10:

The recommended standard is published as a standard in the Codex Alimentarius when the Codex Alimentarius Commission determines that it is appropriate to do so in the light of the acceptances received. The Codex Alimentarius will also contain an appendix for each standard (a) listing the countries in which products conforming with such standard may be freely distributed, and (b) where applicable, stating in detail all specified deviations which may have been declared by an accepting country.



FORMAT FOR CODEX COMMODITY STANDARDS INCLUDING  
STANDARDS ELABORATED UNDER THE CODE OF PRINCIPLES  
CONCERNING MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

Introduction

The Format also intended for use as a guide by the subsidiary bodies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in presenting their standards, with the object of achieving, as far as possible, a uniform presentation of commodity standards. The Format also indicates the statements which should be included in standards as appropriate under the relevant headings of the standard. The sections of the Format require to be completed in a standard only insofar as such provisions are appropriate to an international standard for the food in question.

NAME OF THE STANDARD

SCOPE

DESCRIPTION

ESSENTIAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY FACTORS

FOOD ADDITIVES

CONTAMINANTS

HYGIENE

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

LABELLING

METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

Format of  
Codex Standards

## Notes on the Headings

### NAME OF THE STANDARD

The name of the standard should be clear and as concise as possible. It should usually be the common name by which the food covered by the standard is known or, if more than one food is dealt with in the standard, by a generic name covering them all. If a fully informative title should be inordinately long, a subtitle could be added.

### SCOPE

This section should contain a clear, concise statement as to the food or foods to which the standard is applicable unless this is self-explanatory in the name of the standard. In the case of a general standard covering more than one specific product, it should be made clear as to which specific products the standard applies.

### DESCRIPTION

This section should contain a definition of the product or products with an indication, where appropriate, of the raw materials from which it is derived and any necessary references to processes of manufacture. It may also include references to types and styles of product and to type of pack. There may also be additional definitions when these are required to clarify the meaning of the standard.

### ESSENTIAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY FACTORS

This section should contain all quantitative and other requirements as to composition including, where necessary, identity characteristics, provisions on packing media and requirements as to compulsory and optional ingredients. It should also include quality factors which are essential for the designation, definition or composition of the product concerned. Such factors could include the quality of the raw material, with the object of protecting the health of the consumer, provisions on taste, odor, color and texture which may be apprehended by the senses, and basic quality criteria for the finished products, with the object of preventing fraud. Such factors do not, at this stage, include grades or quality classes. This section may also include tolerances for defects, such as blemishes or imperfect material.

### FOOD ADDITIVES

This section should contain the names of the additives permitted and, where appropriate, the maximum amount permitted in the food. It should be prepared in accordance with paragraph 13(b) of the Guidelines for Codex Committees and may take the following form:

"The following provisions in respect of food additives and their specifications as contained in section . . . . . of the Codex Alimentarius are subject to endorsement  have been endorsed  by the Codex Committee on Food Additives."

Then should follow a tabulation, viz. :

"Name of additive, maximum level (in percentage or mg/kg)."

### CONTAMINANTS

- (a) Pesticide Residues: This section should include, by reference, any levels for pesticide residues that have been laid down by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues for the product concerned.
- (b) Other Contaminants: In addition, this section should contain the names of other contaminants and where appropriate the maximum level permitted in the food, and the text to appear in the standard may take the following form:

"The following provisions in respect of contaminants, other than pesticide residues, are subject to endorsement  have been endorsed  by the Codex Committee on Food Additives."

Then should follow a tabulation, viz. :

"Name of contaminant, maximum level (in percentage or mg/kg)."



### HYGIENE

Any specific mandatory hygiene provisions considered necessary should be included in this section. They should be prepared in accordance with paragraph 13(d) of the Guidelines for Codex Committees. Reference should also be made to applicable codes of hygienic practice. Any parts of such codes, including in particular any end-product specifications, should be set out in the standard, if it is considered necessary that they should be made mandatory. The following statement should also appear:

"The following provisions in respect of the food hygiene of this product are subject to endorsement  have been endorsed  by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene."

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

This section should include all provisions, other than labelling provisions, relating to weights and measures, e.g., where appropriate, fill of container, weight, measure or count of units determined by an appropriate method of sampling and analysis. Weights and measures should be expressed in S.I. units. In the case of standards which include provisions for the sale of products in standardized amounts, e.g., multiples of 100 grams, S.I. units should be used, but this would not preclude additional statements in the standards of these standardized amounts in approximately similar amounts in other systems of weights and measures.

### LABELLING

This section should include all the labelling provisions contained in the standard and should be prepared in accordance with paragraph 13(a) of the Guidelines for Codex Committees. Provisions should be included either specifically or by reference to the appropriate paragraphs of the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods. The section may also contain provisions which are exemptions from, additions to, or which are necessary for the interpretation of the General Standard in respect of the product concerned. The following statement should also appear:

"The following provisions in respect of the labelling of this product are subject to endorsement  have been endorsed  by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling."

### METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

This section should include, either specifically or by reference, all methods of analysis and sampling considered necessary and should be prepared in accordance with paragraph 13(c) of the Guidelines for Codex Committees. If two or more methods have been proved to be equivalent by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling, these could be regarded as alternative and be included in this section either specifically or by reference. The following statement should also appear:

"The methods of analysis and sampling described hereunder are international referee methods which are to be endorsed /have been endorsed/ by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and sampling."

CRITERIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WORK PRIORITIES  
AND FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF  
THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

New Work to be Undertaken by Existing Subsidiary Bodies

1. When a Codex committee proposes to elaborate standards or codes of practice or other texts in respect of commodities or general subjects within its terms of reference, it should satisfy itself by reference to the criteria set out in paragraph 4 below that the commodities or general subjects concerned merit being made the subject of Codex standards or codes of practice or other texts, as the case may be.

2. When a Codex committee wishes to elaborate standards or codes of practice or other texts in respect of commodities or general subjects outside its terms of reference and proposes to the Commission an amendment to its terms of reference in order to undertake such elaboration, it should accompany its proposal with a written statement to the Commission containing, as far as practicable, the information required by the appropriate section of paragraph 4 below.

New Work which would Require the Establishment of a New Subsidiary Body

3. When a Member State wishes to propose to the Commission the elaboration of a standard or code of practice or other text which does not fall within the terms of reference of any existing subsidiary body of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, it should accompany its proposal with a written statement to the Commission containing, as far as practicable, the information required by the appropriate section of paragraph 4 below.

4. Criteria

A. Criteria applicable to commodities

- (i) Consumer protection from the point of view of health and fraudulent practices.
- (ii) Volume of production and consumption in individual countries and volume and pattern of trade between countries.
- (iii) Diversification of national legislations and apparent resultant impediments to international trade.
- (iv) Amenability of the commodity to standardization.
- (v) Number of commodities which would need separate standards indicating whether raw, semi-processed or processed.

Work priorities  
criteria



- (vi) Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field.
- (vii) The type of subsidiary body envisaged to undertake the work.

B. Criteria applicable to general subjects

- (i) Consumer protection from the point of view of health and fraudulent practices.
- (ii) Diversification of national legislations and apparent resultant impediments to international trade.
- (iii) Scope of work and establishment of priorities between the various sections of the work.
- (iv) Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field.
- (v) Type of subsidiary body envisaged to undertake the work.

## GUIDELINES FOR CODEX COMMITTEES

### INTRODUCTION

1. By virtue of Article 6 of the Statutes of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Rule IX. 1(b)(1) of its Rules of Procedure, the Commission has established a number of Codex Committees to prepare standards in accordance with the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards. The Commission has specified for each Codex Committee whether the standards are to be world-wide or for a given region. The Rules of Procedure of the Commission shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to Codex Committees.

### COMPOSITION OF CODEX COMMITTEES

#### Membership

2. Membership of Codex Committees elaborating world-wide standards is open to Members of the Commission who have notified the Director-General of FAO or WHO of their desire to be considered as members thereof or to selected members designated by the Commission. Membership of Codex Committees established to elaborate regional or group of countries standards is open only to Members of the Commission belonging to the region or group of countries concerned.

#### Observers

3. Any other Member of the Commission or any Member or Associate Member of FAO or WHO which has not become a Member of the Commission may participate as an observer at any Codex Committee if it has notified the Director-General of FAO or WHO of its wish to do so. Such countries may participate fully in the discussions of the Committee and shall be provided with the same opportunities as other Members to express their point of view (including the submission of memoranda), but without the right to vote or to move motions either of substance or of procedure. International organizations which have formal relations with either FAO or WHO should also be invited to attend in an observer capacity sessions of those Codex Committees which are of interest to them.

## ORGANIZATION AND DUTIES

### Chairmanship

4. The Codex Alimentarius Commission will designate a member country of the Commission, which has indicated its willingness to accept financial and all other responsibility, as having responsibility for appointing a chairman of the Committee. The member country concerned is responsible for appointing the chairman of the Committee from among its own nationals. Should this person for any reason be unable to take the chair, the member country concerned shall designate another person to perform the functions of the chairman for as long as the chairman is unable to do so. A Committee may appoint at any session one or more rapporteurs from among the delegates present.

### Secretariat

5. A member country to which a Codex Committee has been assigned is responsible for providing all conference services including the secretariat. The secretariat should have adequate stenographic and typing staff able to work easily in the languages used at the session and should have at its disposal adequate typing and document reproducing equipment. Interpretation, preferably simultaneous, should be provided from and into all languages used at the session, and if the report of the session is to be adopted in more than one of the working languages of the Committee, then the services of a translator should be available. The Committee secretariat is charged with the preparation of the draft report in consultation with the rapporteurs, if any. Where necessary, assistance will be given by the representatives of FAO and WHO attending the meeting in the drafting of the report.

### Duties and Terms of Reference

6. The duties of a Codex Committee shall include:
- (a) the drawing up of a list of priorities, as appropriate, among the subjects and products within its terms of reference,
  - (b) consideration of the types of product to be covered by standards, e. g. , whether materials for further processing into food should be covered,



- (c) preparation of draft Codex standards within its terms of reference,
- (d) reporting to each session of the Commission on the progress of its work and, where necessary, on any difficulties caused by its terms of reference, together with suggestions for their amendment.

### SESSIONS

#### Invitations and Provisional Agenda

7. (a) Sessions of Codex Committees will be convened by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO in consultation with the chairman of the respective Codex Committee. The chairman concerned should send drafts of the letter of invitation and provisional agenda to the Chief, FAO/WHO Food Standards Program, FAO, Rome, for issue by the Directors-General to all Members and Associate Members of FAO and WHO, Codex Contact Points and interested international organizations in accordance with the official mailing lists of FAO and WHO. Draft invitations and Provisional Agenda should be sent to FAO at least three months before the date of the meeting. Chairmen should, before submitting the drafts, inform and consult with the national Codex Contact Point where one has been established, and, if necessary, obtain clearance from the national authorities concerned (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, or as the case may be). If the Directors-General wish to propose amendments, the chairman of the Committee concerned should be consulted before these are made. The draft invitation and Provisional Agenda submitted by the chairman will be translated by FAO/WHO into the working languages of the Commission.

(b) Invitations will be issued in the working languages of the Commission and drafts should include the following:

- (i) title of the Codex Committee,
- (ii) time and date of opening and date of the closing of the session,
- (iii) place of the session,
- (iv) languages to be used and arrangements for interpretation, i. e., whether simultaneous or not,
- (v) if appropriate, information on hotel accommodation,
- (vi) request for the names of the chief delegate and other members of the delegation, and for information on whether the chief delegate of a government will be attending as a representative or in the capacity of an observer.

Replies to invitations will normally be requested to be sent to reach the chairman as early as possible and in any case not less than 30 days before the session. A copy should also be sent to the Chief, FAO/WHO Food Standards Program, FAO, Rome. It is of the utmost importance that by the date requested a reply to invitations should be sent by all those governments and international organizations which intend to participate. The reply should specify the number of copies and the language of the documents required.

(c) The Provisional Agenda should state the time, date and place of meeting and should include the following items:

- (i) adoption of the agenda,
- (ii) if considered necessary, election of rapporteurs,
- (iii) items relating to subject matter to be discussed, including, where appropriate, the step in the Commission's Procedure for the Elaboration of Standards at which the item is being dealt with at the session. There should also be reference to the Committee papers relevant to the item,
- (iv) any other business,
- (v) consideration of date and place of next session,
- (vi) adoption of draft report.

The work of the Committee and the length of the meeting should be so arranged as to leave sufficient time at the end of the session for a report of the Committee's transactions to be agreed.

#### Organization of work

8. A Codex Committee may assign specific tasks to countries, groups of countries or to international organizations represented at meetings of the Committee and may ask member countries and international organizations for views on specific points. A Codex Committee may not set up formal sub-committees, whether open to all Members of the Commission or not, without the specific approval of the Commission.

#### Preparation and distribution of papers

9. (a) Papers for a session should be sent by the chairman of the Codex Committee concerned at least two months before the opening of the session to the following: (i) all Codex Contact Points, (ii) chief delegates of member countries, of observer countries and of international organizations, and (iii) other participants on



the basis of replies received. Twenty copies of all papers in each of the languages used in the Committee concerned should be sent to the Chief, FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Rome.

(b) Papers for a session prepared by participants must be drafted in one of the working languages of the Commission, which should, if possible, be one of the languages used in the Codex Committee concerned. These papers should be sent to the chairman of the Committee, with a copy to the Chief, FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Rome, in good time (see paragraph 9(a)) to be included in the distribution of papers for the session.

(c) Documents circulated at a session of a Codex Committee, other than draft documents prepared at the session and ultimately issued in a final form, should subsequently receive the same distribution as other papers prepared for the Committee.

(d) Codex Contact Points will be responsible for ensuring that papers are circulated to those concerned within their own country and for ensuring that all necessary action is taken by the date specified.

(e) Committee chairmen should assign consecutive reference numbers in suitable series to all documents of Codex Committees. The reference number should appear at the top right-hand corner of the first page together with a statement of the language in which the document was prepared and the date of its preparation. A clear statement should be made of the provenance (origin or author country) of the paper immediately under the title. The text should be divided into numbered paragraphs. At the end of these guidelines is a series of references for Codex documents adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for its own sessions and those of its subsidiary bodies.

(f) Members of Codex Committees should advise the Committee chairman through their Codex Contact Point of the number of copies of documents normally required.

(g) Working papers of Codex Committees may be circulated freely to all those assisting a delegation in preparing for the business of the Committee; they should not, however, be published. There is, however, no objection to the publication of reports of the meetings of committees or of completed draft standards.



### Conduct of meetings

10. (a) Meetings of Codex Committees, apart from formal opening proceedings, should be open only to accredited delegates and observers and to members of the secretariat and its ancillary staff unless the Committee decides otherwise. Member countries responsible for Codex Committees shall decide who should open meetings on their behalf. The chairman should invite observations from members of the Committee concerning the Provisional Agenda and in the light of such observations formally request the Committee to adopt the Provisional Agenda or the amended agenda. Meetings should be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Attention is particularly drawn to Rule VI. 7 which reads: "The provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of FAO shall apply mutatis mutandis to all matters which are not specifically dealt with under Rule VI of the present Rules." Rule XII of the General Rules of FAO, a copy of which will be supplied to all chairmen of Codex Committees, gives full instructions on the procedures to be followed in dealing with voting, points of order, adjournment and suspension of meetings, adjournment and closure of discussions on a particular item, reconsideration of a subject already decided and the order in which amendments should be dealt with.

(b) Chairmen of Codex Committees should ensure that all questions are fully discussed. Chairmen should also ensure that the written comments of members not present at the session are considered by the Committee; that all issues are put clearly to the Committee. This can usually best be done by stating what appears to be the generally acceptable view and asking delegates whether they have any objection to its being adopted. The chairmen should always try to arrive at a consensus and should not ask the Committee to proceed to voting if agreement on the Committee's decision can be secured by consensus.

(c) Delegations and delegations from observer countries who wish their opposition to a decision of the Committee to be recorded may do so, whether the decision has been taken by a vote or not, by asking for a statement of their position to be contained in the report of the Committee. This statement should not merely use a phrase such as: "The delegation of X reserved its position" but should make clear the extent of the delegation's opposition to a particular decision of the Committee and state whether they were simply opposed to the decision or wished for a further opportunity to consider the question.

(d) Only the chief delegates of member countries, or of observer countries or of international organizations have the right to speak unless they authorize other members of their delegations to do so.

### Reports

11. (a) In preparing reports, the following points shall be borne in mind:

- (i) decisions should be clearly stated; all decisions on draft standards should be accompanied by an indication of the step in the Procedure that the standards have reached;
- (ii) if action has to be taken before the next meeting of the committee, the nature of the action, who is to take it and when the action must be completed should be clearly stated;
- (iii) where matters require attention by other Codex committees, this should be clearly stated;
- (iv) if the report is of any length, summaries of points agreed and the action to be taken should be included at the end of the report and, in any case, a section should be included at the end of the report showing clearly in summary form:

- (1) standards considered at the session and the steps they have reached;
- (2) standards at any step of the Procedure, the consideration of which has been postponed or which are held in abeyance and the steps which they have reached;
- (3) new standards proposed for consideration, the probable time of their consideration at Step 2 and the responsibility for drawing up the first draft.

(b) The following appendices should be attached to the report:

- (i) list of participants with full postal addresses,
- (ii) draft standards with an indication of the step in the Procedure which has been reached.

(c) The secretariat of a Codex committee should ensure that, as soon as possible and in any event not later than one month after the end of the session, copies of the final report, as adopted, are sent to all participants, all Codex Contact Points and to the Chief, FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Rome, who should receive 20 copies in each language used at the session.

### DRAWING UP OF CODEX STANDARDS

12. A Codex committee, in drawing up standards, should bear in mind the following:

- (a) the guidance given in the General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius;



- (b) that all standards should have a preface containing the following information:
  - (i) the description of the standard,
  - (ii) references including the step which the standard has reached in the Commission's Procedures for the Elaboration of Standards, together with the date on which the draft was approved,
  - (iii) matters in the draft standard requiring endorsement or action by other Codex Committees;
- (c) that for standards for a product which includes a number of sub-categories, e.g., cheese, the Committee may either draft a general standard and then draft standards for sub-categories, with different composition requirements, e.g., "full fat cheese," "skimmed milk cheese" within the general standard or draft standards for a series of sub-categories without any general standard. In either case, such standards should contain clear designations for the sub-categories;
- (d) that, in general, it should not be necessary to change the name of a food solely because of the presence of a permitted food additive. However, in some instances, where the additive results in a significant change in the product, appropriate labelling may be required in addition to the listing of the additive among the declaration of ingredients.

#### RELATIONS BETWEEN COMMODITY COMMITTEES AND GENERAL COMMITTEES

13. Codex Committees may ask the advice and guidance of the Committees on Food Labelling, Food Additives, Methods of Analysis and Sampling, and Food Hygiene, on any points coming within their province.

#### Food Labelling

(a) Codex Commodity Committees should prepare a section on labelling in each draft commodity standard and this section should contain all the labelling provisions of the standard. Provisions should be included either specifically or by reference to the appropriate paragraphs of the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods. All Codex commodity standards should be



referred to the Codex Committee on Food Labelling at the most suitable time during Steps 3, 4 and 5 of the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards, though such reference should not be allowed to delay the progress of the standard to the subsequent steps of the Procedure. All labelling provisions will require to be endorsed by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling. When commodity standards are sent to governments for comment at Step 3, they should contain a statement that the labelling provisions are subject to endorsement by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling.

#### Food Additives

(b) Codex commodity committees should prepare a section on food additives in each draft commodity standard and this section should contain all the provisions in the standard relating to food additives. The section should include the names of those additives which are considered to be technologically necessary or which are widely permitted for use in the food within limits, where appropriate. All provisions in respect of food additives contained in Codex commodity standards should be referred to the Codex Committee on Food Additives at the most suitable time during Steps 3, 4 and 5 of the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards, though such reference should not be allowed to delay the progress of the standard to the subsequent steps of the Procedure. All provisions in respect of food additives will require to be endorsed by the Codex Committee on Food Additives, on the basis of technological justification submitted by the commodity committees and of the recommendations of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives concerning the safety-in-use (acceptable daily intake (ADI) and other restrictions) and an estimate of the potential and, where possible, the actual intake of the food additives, ensuring conformity with the General Principles for the Use of Food Additives (see page 71). When commodity standards are sent to governments for comment at Step 3, they should contain a statement that the provisions in respect of food additives are subject to endorsement by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and to any general list of food additives drawn up by that Committee.

#### Methods of Analysis and Sampling

##### (c) (i) Normal Practice

Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (v) below, when Codex committees have included provisions on methods of analysis or sampling in a Codex commodity standard, these should be referred to the Codex

Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling at the most suitable time during Steps 3, 4 and 5 of the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards, which will ensure that government comments on the methods of analysis and sampling are available to the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling. Such reference should not, however, be allowed to delay the progress of the standard to the subsequent steps of the Procedure. All provisions in respect of analysis and sampling will require to be endorsed by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling except as specified in sub-paragraphs (iii), (iv) and (v) below. When commodity standards containing provisions on methods of analysis and sampling are sent to governments for comments at Step 3, they should contain a statement that these provisions are subject to endorsement by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling. When methods have been considered by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling, they should be returned by it to the originating committee with amendments, where appropriate. The Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling should not circulate such methods to governments for further comments. The originating committee is responsible for carrying out the steps of the Procedure. The same procedure will apply to methods of analysis for the determination of additives in food when such methods are included by the Codex Committee on Food Additives in lists or standards being elaborated by it.

(ii) Methods of analysis and sampling of general application to foods

When the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling itself elaborates methods of analysis and sampling which are of general application to foods, it is responsible for carrying out the steps of the Procedure.

(iii) Methods of analysis of food additives as such

Methods of analysis included in Codex Food Additives Standards, for the purpose of verifying the criteria of purity and identity of the food additive, need not be referred to the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling for endorsement. The Codex Committee on Food Additives is responsible for carrying out the steps of the Procedure.



(iv) Methods of analysis of pesticide residues in food

The methods for determining the levels of pesticide residues in food need not be referred to the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling for endorsement. The Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues is responsible for carrying out the steps of the Procedure.

(v) Microbiological methods of analysis and sampling

Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-paragraph (i) above, when Codex committees have included provisions on microbiological methods of analysis and sampling for the purpose of verifying hygiene provisions, they should be referred to the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene at the most suitable time during steps 3, 4 and 5 of the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards, which will ensure that government comments on the methods of analysis and sampling are available to the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene. The procedure to be followed will be as in sub-paragraph (i) above, substituting the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene for the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling. Microbiological methods of analysis and sampling elaborated by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene for inclusion in Codex commodity standards for the purpose of verifying hygiene provisions need not be referred to the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling for endorsement.

Food Hygiene

(d) When Codex committees have included provisions relating to hygiene in a Codex commodity standard, these should be referred to the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene at the most suitable time during steps 3, 4 and 5 of the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards, though such reference should not be allowed to delay the progress of the standard to the subsequent steps of the Procedure. All provisions in respect of hygiene will require to be endorsed by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene. When commodity standards containing provisions on hygiene are sent to governments for comments at Step 3, they should contain a statement that these provisions are subject to endorsement by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene.



Quick Frozen Foods

(e) When Codex committees have elaborated Codex commodity standards for quick frozen food products, these should be referred to the Joint ECE/Codex Alimentarius Group of Experts on Standardization of Quick-Frozen Foods at the most suitable time during steps 3, 4 and 5 of the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards for comment by the group of experts.

UNIFORM SYSTEM OF REFERENCES FOR  
CODEX DOCUMENTS

It will be seen from the following that, in referencing Codex documents, CX, which stands for Codex, should appear first, followed by the subject code reference, followed by the year in which the session will be held (i. e. not necessarily the year in which the document is prepared), and finally followed by the consecutive number of the document.

Codex Alimentarius Commission  
(working documents and reports) - CX/ALINORM 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Executive Committee  
(identified also by session  
number following the year) - CX/EXEC 76/22/1, 2, 3, etc.

Committee of Government Experts  
on the Code of Principles concern-  
ing Milk and Milk Products - CX/MDS 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Regional Coordinating Committees

Coordinating Committee for  
Africa - CX/AFRO 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Coordinating Committee for  
Europe - CX/EURO 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Coordinating Committee for  
Latin America - CX/LA 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Codex General Subject Committees

Food Additives - CX/FA 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Food Hygiene - CX/FH 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Food Labelling - CX/FL 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

General Principles - CX/GP 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Methods of Analysis and Sampling - CX/MAS 76/1, 2, 3, etc.

Pesticide Residues - CX/PR 76/1, 2, 3, etc.



Codex Commodity Committees

- |                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Cocoa Products and Chocolate    | - CX/CPC 76/1, 2, 3, etc.  |
| Edible Ices                     | - CX/EI 76/1, 2, 3, etc.   |
| Fats and Oils                   | - CX/FO 76/1, 2, 3, etc.   |
| Fish and Fishery Products       | - CX/FFP 76/1, 2, 3, etc.  |
| Foods for Special Dietary Uses  | - CX/FSDU 76/1, 2, 3, etc. |
| Meat                            | - CX/M 76/1, 2, 3, etc.    |
| Meat Hygiene                    | - CX/MH 76/1, 2, 3, etc.   |
| Natural Mineral Waters          | - CX/MIN 76/1, 2, 3, etc.  |
| Processed Fruits and Vegetables | - CX/PFV 76/1, 2, 3, etc.  |
| Processed Meat Products         | - CX/PMP 76/1, 2, 3, etc.  |
| Soups and Broths                | - CX/SB 76/1, 2, 3, etc.   |
| Sugars                          | - CX/S 76/1, 2, 3, etc.    |

ECE/Codex Alimentarius Groups of Experts

- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Fruit Juices       | - CX/FJ 76/1, 2, 3, etc.  |
| Quick Frozen Foods | - CX/QFF 76/1, 2, 3, etc. |

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
CODEX METHODS OF ANALYSIS

1. Definition of Codex Methods of Analysis and Sampling

The methods of analysis and sampling contained in the Codex Alimentarius are international referee methods intended for use in case of disputes. These methods will not preclude the use of existing methods for routine inspection or other control purposes.

Where criteria in Codex standards are related to certain methods of analysis, these methods will be the referee methods.

If further methods have been proven as being equivalent to these methods, they may be adopted as alternative methods.

2. CRITERIA for the selection of methods of analysis

- (a) Official methods of analysis elaborated by international organizations occupying themselves with a food or group of foods should be preferred.
- (b) Preference should be given to methods of analysis the reliability of which (accuracy, precision inter- and intra-laboratory variation) has been statistically established in comparative or collaborative studies in several laboratories. Where available, reference should be made to such studies. Speed and simplicity should be of secondary importance in considering methods of analysis for adoption as Codex methods.
- (c) Methods of analysis should be selected with a degree of accuracy and precision commensurate with the limits implied in the actual figure given for the analytical criterion in the standard. Priority should be given to methods involving criteria affecting the health of the consumer and also those for which there is a numerical criterion in the standard.
- (d) All proposed methods of analysis must have direct pertinence to the Codex standard to which they are directed.
- (e) Methods of analysis must measure the criterion they are claimed to measure. If methods which truly measure the criterion are not available, the need for the criterion should be reconsidered.

- (f) Only such methods of analysis should be selected which can be carried out in laboratories equipped with usual modern apparatus.
- (g) Methods of analysis which are applicable uniformly to various groups of commodities should be given preference over methods which apply only to individual commodities.

3. General considerations

- (a) The Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling should maintain closest possible relations with all interested organizations working on methods of analysis and sampling.
- (b) The Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling should organize its work in such a manner as to keep under constant review all methods of analysis and sampling published in the Codex Alimentarius.
- (c) In the Codex methods of analysis, provision should be made for variations in reagent concentrations and specifications from country to country.
- (d) Codex methods of analysis which have been derived from scientific journals, theses, or publications, either not readily available or available in languages other than the official languages of FAO and WHO, or which for other reasons should be printed in the Codex Alimentarius *in extenso*, should follow the standard layout for methods of analysis as adopted by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling.
- (e) Methods of analysis which have already been printed as official methods of analysis in other available publications and which are adopted as Codex methods need only be quoted by reference in the Codex Alimentarius.



GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF  
FOOD ADDITIVES

1. All food additives, whether actually in use or being proposed for use, should have been or should be subjected to appropriate toxicological testing and evaluation. This evaluation should take into account among other things, any cumulative, synergistic or potentiating effects of their use.

2. Only those food additives should be endorsed, which so far as can be judged on the evidence presently available, present no hazard to the health of the consumer at the levels of use proposed.

3. All food additives should be kept under continuous observation and should be re-evaluated whenever necessary in the light of changing conditions of use and new scientific information.

4. Food additives should at all times conform with an approved specification, e. g. the Specifications of Identity and Purity recommended by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

5. The use of food additives is justified only where they serve one or more of the purposes set out from (a) to (d) and only where these purposes cannot be achieved by other means which are economically and technologically practicable and do not present a hazard to the health of the consumer:

- (a) to preserve the nutritional quality of the food; an intentional reduction in the nutritional quality of a food would be justified in the circumstances dealt with in sub-paragraph (b) and also in other circumstances where the food does not constitute a significant item in a normal diet;
- (b) to provide necessary ingredients or constituents for foods manufactured for groups of consumers having special dietary needs;
- (c) to enhance the keeping quality or stability of a food or to improve its organoleptic properties, provided that this does not so change the nature, substance or quality of the food as to deceive the consumer;
- (d) to provide aids in manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, transport or storage of food; provided that the additive is not used to disguise the effects of the use of faulty raw materials or of undesirable (including

unhygienic) practices or techniques during the course of any of these activities.

6. Approval or temporary approval for the inclusion of a food additive in an advisory list or in a food standard should:
- (a) as far as possible be limited to specific foods for specific purposes and under specific conditions;
  - (b) be at the lowest level of use necessary to achieve the desired effect;
  - (c) as far as possible take into account any Acceptable Daily Intake, or equivalent assessment, established for the food additive and the probable daily intake of it from all sources. Where the food additive is to be used in foods eaten by special groups of consumers, account should be taken of the probable daily intake of the food additive by consumers in those groups.

LIST OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE  
CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

A. SUBSIDIARY BODY UNDER RULE IX. 1(a)

1. Joint FAO/WHO Committee of Government Experts on the  
Code of Principles concerning Milk and Milk Products

This Committee met for the first time in September 1958. It has been convened regularly each year since 1958 and held its latest session, the Sixteenth, in September 1973.

Responsibility:

The Codex Alimentarius Commission decided that the FAC/WHO Committee of Government Experts on the Code of Principles concerning Milk and Milk Products would be considered as a Committee under Rule IX. 1(a) of the Rules of Procedure. The Committee would be competent to consider and elaborate all codes and standards concerning milk and milk products, and pass them, as appropriate, through all the steps of the Procedure for the Elaboration of International Standards for Milk Products. It would cause them to be submitted to governments for acceptance, except that decisions of the Committee, whether on standards or not, would be subject to review by the Commission at the request of a Member of the Commission. The Committee will consider the acceptances received in the light of the General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius and will report on these acceptances to the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The Commission will decide in the light of these acceptances whether the standard shall be published in the Codex Alimentarius as a world-wide standard. Those provisions of standards formulated by the Committee of Government Experts which relate to additives, labelling and hygiene would be subject to the procedure for endorsement by the appropriate Codex General Subject Committees as laid down in paragraph 13 of the Guidelines for Codex Committees (pages 62, 63 and 65 of this Manual). Methods of analysis and sampling formulated by the Committee of Government Experts would not, however, be subject to endorsement by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling.



B. SUBSIDIARY BODIES UNDER RULE IX. 1(b)(1)

I. World-wide Codex General Subject Committees

1. Codex Committee on Food Additives

Host Government: Netherlands

Sessions:

- 1st, The Hague, 19-22 May 1964
- 2nd, The Hague, 10-14 May 1965
- 3rd, The Hague, 9-13 May 1966
- 4th, The Hague, 11-15 September 1967
- 5th, Arnhem, 18-22 March 1968
- 6th, Arnhem, 15-22 October 1969
- 7th, The Hague, 12-16 October 1970
- 8th, Wageningen, 29 May - 2 June 1972
- 9th, Wageningen, 10-14 December 1973

Responsibility:

To endorse or establish permitted maximum levels for individual food additives and for contaminants in specific food items. To ensure that food additive provisions in Codex standards are in conformity with the General Principles for the Use of Food Additives. The preparation of lists of food additives for toxicological evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives.

2. Codex Committee on Food Hygiene

Host Government: U. S. A.

Sessions:

- 1st, Washington D. C. , 27-28 May 1964
- 2nd, Rome, 14-16 June 1965
- 3rd, Rome, 31 May - 3 June 1966
- 4th, Washington D. C. , 12-16 June 1967
- 5th, Washington D. C. , 6-10 May 1968
- 6th, Washington D. C. , 5-9 May 1969
- 7th, Washington D. C. , 25-29 May 1970
- 8th, Washington D. C. , 14-18 June 1971
- 9th, Washington D. C. , 19-23 June 1972
- 10th, Washington D. C. , 14-18 May 1973
- 11th, Washington D. C. , 10-14 June 1974

Terms of reference:

- (a) to draft basic provisions on food hygiene applicable to all food;
- (b) (i) to consider, amend if necessary, and endorse provisions on hygiene prepared by Codex commodity committees and contained in Codex commodity standards, or  
(ii) to draft provisions on hygiene in respect of a particular food coming within the terms of reference of a Codex commodity committee at the request of that committee;
- (c) to draft, where necessary, provisions on hygiene in respect of any food not assigned to any Codex commodity committee;
- (d) to consider specific hygiene problems assigned to it by the Commission.

3. Codex Committee on Food Labelling

Host Government: Canada

Sessions:

- 1st, Ottawa, 21-25 June 1965
- 2nd, Ottawa, 25-29 July 1966
- 3rd, Ottawa, 26-30 June 1967
- 4th, Ottawa, 23-28 September 1968
- 5th, Rome, 6 April 1970
- 6th, Geneva 28-29 June 1971
- 7th, Ottawa, 5-10 June 1972
- 8th, Ottawa, 28 May - 1 June 1973
- 9th, Rome, 26-27 June 1974

Terms of reference:

- (a) to draft provisions on labelling applicable to all foods;
- (b) to consider, amend if necessary, and endorse draft specific provisions on labelling prepared by the Codex commodity committees drafting commodity standards;
- (c) to study specific labelling problems assigned to it by the Commission;
- (d) to study problems associated with the advertisement of food with particular reference to claims and misleading descriptions.

4. Codex Committee on General Principles

Host Government: France

Sessions:

1st, Paris, 4-8 October 1965

2nd, Paris, 16-19 October 1967

3rd, Paris, 9-13 December 1968

4th, Paris, 4-8 March 1974

Responsibility:

To deal with such procedural and general matters as are referred to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. At its last three sessions the Committee established the General Principles which define the purpose and scope of the Codex Alimentarius, the nature of Codex standards and the forms of acceptance by countries of Codex standards.

5. Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling

Host Government: Federal Republic of Germany  
(1st to 6th sessions)  
Hungary

Sessions:

1st, Berlin, 23-24 September 1965

2nd, Berlin, 20-23 September 1966

3rd, Berlin, 24-27 October 1967

4th, Berlin, 11-15 November 1968

5th, Cologne, 1-6 December 1969

6th, Bonn-Bad Godesberg, 25-28 January 1971

7th, Budapest, 12-18 September 1972

8th, Budapest, 3-7 September 1973

Terms of reference:

- (a) to specify standard methods which are generally applicable to a number of foods;
- (b) (i) to consider, amend if necessary, and endorse draft methods proposed by Codex committees in the drafting of Codex standards, or  
(ii) to develop at the request of and in collaboration with such committees such methods for subsequent endorsement by it;
- (c) to revise as necessary such methods; and
- (d) to consider specific sampling and analysis problems assigned to it by the Commission.



6. Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues

Host Government: Netherlands

Sessions:

- 1st, The Hague, 17-21 January 1966
- 2nd, The Hague, 18-22 September 1967
- 3rd, Arnhem, 30 September - 4 October 1968
- 4th, Arnhem, 6-14 October 1969
- 5th, The Hague, 28 September - 6 October 1970
- 6th, The Hague, 16-23 October 1972
- 7th, The Hague, 4- 9 February 1974

Responsibility:

To propose international tolerances for pesticide residues in specific foods. A further responsibility is the preparation of a list of priorities of those pesticide residues found in food commodities entering international trade for toxicological evaluation by the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues and examination by the FAO Working Party on Pesticides.

II. World-wide Codex Commodity Committees

1. Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate

Host Government: Switzerland

Sessions:

- 1st, Neuchâtel, 5-6 November 1963
- 2nd, Montreux, 22-24 April 1964
- 3rd, Zürich, 10-12 March 1965
- 4th, Berne, 15-17 March 1966
- 5th, Lugano, 9-12 May 1967
- 6th, Montreux, 2-5 July 1968
- 7th, Horgen (Zürich), 23-27 June 1969
- 8th, Lucerne, 29 June - 3 July 1970
- 9th, Neuchâtel, 27 September - 1 October 1971
- 10th, Lausanne, 7-11 May 1973
- 11th, Zürich, 2-6 December 1974

Responsibility:

To elaborate world-wide standards for cocoa products and chocolate.

2. Codex Committee on Sugars

Host Government: United Kingdom

Sessions:

- 1st, London, 3-5 March 1964
- 2nd, London, 2-4 March 1965
- 3rd, London, 1-3 March 1966
- 4th, London, 18-21 April 1967
- 5th, London, 10-12 September 1968
- 6th, London, 19-22 March 1974

Responsibility:

To elaborate world-wide standards for all types of sugars and sugar products.

3. Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables

Host Government: United States of America

Sessions:

- 1st, Washington D. C. , 29- 30 May 1964
- 2nd, Rome, 8-11 June 1965
- 3rd, Rome, 6-10 June 1966
- 4th, Washington D. C. , 19-23 June 1967
- 5th, Washington D. C. , 13-17 May 1968
- 6th, Washington D. C. , 12-16 May 1969
- 7th, Washington D. C. , 1-5 June 1970
- 8th, Washington D. C. , 7-11 June 1971
- 9th, Washington D. C. , 12-16 June 1972
- 10th, Washington D. C. , 21-25 May 1973
- 11th, Washington D. C. , 3-7 June 1974

Terms of reference:

To elaborate world-wide standards for all types of processed fruits and vegetables including dried products, canned dried peas and beans, jams and jellies, but not dried prunes, or fruit and vegetable juices.

4. Codex Committee on Fats and Oils

Host Government: United Kingdom

Sessions:

- 1st, London, 25-27 February 1964
- 2nd, London, 6-8 April 1965
- 3rd, London, 29 March - 1 April 1966

4th, London, 24- 28 April 1967  
5th, London, 16-20 September 1968  
6th, Madrid, 17-20 November 1969  
7th, London, 25-29 March 1974

Responsibility:

To elaborate world-wide standards for fats and oils of animal, vegetable and marine origin including margarine and olive oil.

5. Codex Committee on Meat

Host Government: Federal Republic of Germany

Sessions:

1st, Kulmbach, 28-30 October 1965  
2nd, Kulmbach, 5-8 July 1966  
3rd, Kulmbach, 15-17 November 1967  
4th, Kulmbach, 18-20 June 1969  
5th, Bonn, 16-20 November 1970  
6th, Kulmbach, 1-5 November 1971  
7th, Kulmbach, 25-29 June 1973

Terms of reference:

To elaborate world-wide standards and/or descriptive texts and/or codes of practice as may seem appropriate for the classification, description and grading of carcasses and cuts of beef, veal, mutton, lamb and pork.

6. Codex Committee on Meat Hygiene

Host Government: New Zealand

Sessions:

1st, London, 10-15 April 1972  
2nd, London, 18-22 June 1973  
3rd, London, 25-29 November 1974

Terms of reference:

To elaborate world-wide standards and/or codes of practice as may seem appropriate for meat hygiene, excluding poultry meat.



7. Codex Committee on Processed Meat Products

Host Government: Denmark

Sessions:

- 1st, Kulmbach, 4-5 July 1966
- 2nd, Copenhagen, 2-6 October 1967
- 3rd, Copenhagen, 24-28 June 1968
- 4th, Copenhagen, 9-13 June 1969
- 5th, Copenhagen, 23-27 November 1970
- 6th, Copenhagen, 17-21 April 1972
- 7th, Copenhagen, 3-7 December 1973

Terms of reference:

To elaborate world-wide standards for processed meat products, including consumer packaged meat, but not including poultry products.

8. Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products

Host Government: Norway

Sessions:

- 1st, Bergen, 29 August - 2 September 1966
- 2nd, Bergen, 9-13 October 1967
- 3rd, Bergen, 7-11 October 1968
- 4th, Bergen, 29 September - 8 October 1969
- 5th, Bergen, 5-10 October 1970
- 6th, Bergen, 4-8 October 1971
- 7th, Bergen, 2-7 October 1972
- 8th, Bergen, 1-6 October 1973
- 9th, Bergen, 30 September - 5 October 1974

Terms of reference:

To elaborate world-wide standards for fresh, frozen (including quick frozen) or otherwise processed fish, crustaceans and molluscs.

9. Codex Committee on Foods for Special Dietary Uses

Host Government: Federal Republic of Germany

Sessions:

- 1st, Freiburg in Breisgau, 2-5 May 1966
- 2nd, Freiburg in Breisgau, 6-10 November 1967
- 3rd, Cologne, 14-18 October 1968
- 4th, Cologne, 3-7 November 1969

5th, Bonn, 30 November - 4 December 1970  
6th, Bonn, 6-10 December 1971  
7th, Cologne, 10-14 October 1972  
8th, Bonn-Bad Godesberg, 9-14 September 1974

**Responsibility:**

To elaborate world-wide standards and general principles for foods for special dietary uses. Where it is not possible for the Committee to reach agreement on a world-wide standard, the Committee has authority to proceed with the elaboration of regional standards.

10. Codex Committee on Edible Ices

Host Government: Sweden

Sessions:

1st, Stockholm, 18-22 February 1974

Terms of reference:

To elaborate world-wide standards as appropriate for all types of edible ices, including mixes and powders used for their manufacture.

11. Codex Committee on Soups and Broths

Host Government: Switzerland

Sessions:

The first session is scheduled to be held in November 1975

Terms of reference:

To elaborate world-wide standards for soups, broths, bouillons and consommés.

III. Regional Codex Committee (Europe)

1. Codex Committee on Natural Mineral Waters

Host Government: Switzerland

Sessions:

1st, Baden/Aarzan, 24-25 February 1966

2nd, Montreux, 6-7 July 1967

3rd, Bad Ragaz, 7-9 May 1968

4th, Vienna, 12-13 June 1972

**Responsibility:**

To elaborate regional standards for natural mineral waters.

**C. SUBSIDIARY BODIES UNDER RULE IX.1(b)(2)**

**1. FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe**

**Membership:**

This Committee is open to all Member Governments of FAO and/or WHO within the geographic area of Europe, including Israel, Turkey and the U. S. S. R. , and its Chairman is, ex officio, the Coordinator for Europe.

**Functions:**

The Committee exercises general coordination in the preparation of standards relating to the region of Europe and exercises such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

**Sessions:**

- 1st, Berne, 1-2 July 1965
- 2nd, Rome, 20 October 1965
- 3rd, Vienna, 24-27 May 1966
- 4th, Rome, 8 November 1966
- 5th, Vienna, 6-8 September 1967
- 6th, Vienna, 4-8 November 1968
- 7th, Vienna, 7-10 October 1969
- 8th, Vienna, 27-29 October 1971
- 9th Vienna, 14-16 June 1972

**2. FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa**

**Membership:**

Membership of the Committee is open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO which are members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, within the geographic location of Africa.

**Functions:**

The Committee exercises general coordination in the preparation of standards relating to the region of Africa and exercises such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.



Sessions:

1st, Rome, 24-27 June 1974

3. FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America

Membership:

Membership of the Committee is open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO which are members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, within the geographic location of Latin America.

Functions:

The Committee exercises general coordination in the preparation of standards relating to the region of Latin America and exercises such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Sessions:

The first session is scheduled to be held in 1976.

D. JOINT ECE/CODEX ALIMENTARIUS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON STANDARDIZATION OF QUICK FROZEN FOODS 1/

Sessions:

- 1st, Geneva, 6-10 September 1965
- 2nd, Geneva, 5-9 September 1966
- 3rd, Rome, 18-22 September 1967
- 4th, Geneva, 2-6 September 1968
- 5th, Rome, 22-26 September 1969
- 6th, Rome, 27-31 July 1970
- 7th, Geneva, 6-10 December 1971
- 8th, Geneva, 30 April - 4 May 1973
- 9th, Rome, 7-11 October 1974

Terms of reference:

The Joint ECE/Codex Alimentarius Group of Experts on the Standardization of Quick Frozen Foods will be responsible for the development of standards for quick frozen foods in accordance with the General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius. The Joint Group will be responsible for general considerations, definitions, a framework of individual standards for quick frozen food products and for the actual elaboration of standards for quick frozen

food products not specifically allotted by the Commission to another Codex Committee, such as Fish and Fishery Products, Meat, Processed Meat Products, and Poultry and Poultry Meat Products. Standards drawn up by Codex commodity committees for quick frozen foods should be in accordance with the general standard laid down by the Joint ECE/Codex Alimentarius Group of Experts on the Standardization of Quick Frozen Foods and should, at an appropriate stage, be referred to it for coordination purposes.

E. JOINT ECE/CODEX ALIMENTARIUS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON STANDARDIZATION OF FRUIT JUICES 1/

Sessions:

- 1st, Geneva, 6-10 April 1964
- 2nd, Geneva, 29 March - 2 April 1965
- 3rd, Geneva, 21-25 February 1966
- 4th, Geneva, 10-14 April 1967
- 5th, Rome, 25-29 March 1968
- 6th, Geneva, 27-31 October 1969
- 7th, Rome, 20-24 July 1970
- 8th, Geneva, 8-12 March 1971
- 9th, Rome, 20-24 March 1972
- 10th, Geneva, 16-20 July 1973
- 11th, Rome, 14-18 October 1974

Responsibility:

To elaborate world-wide standards for fruit juices

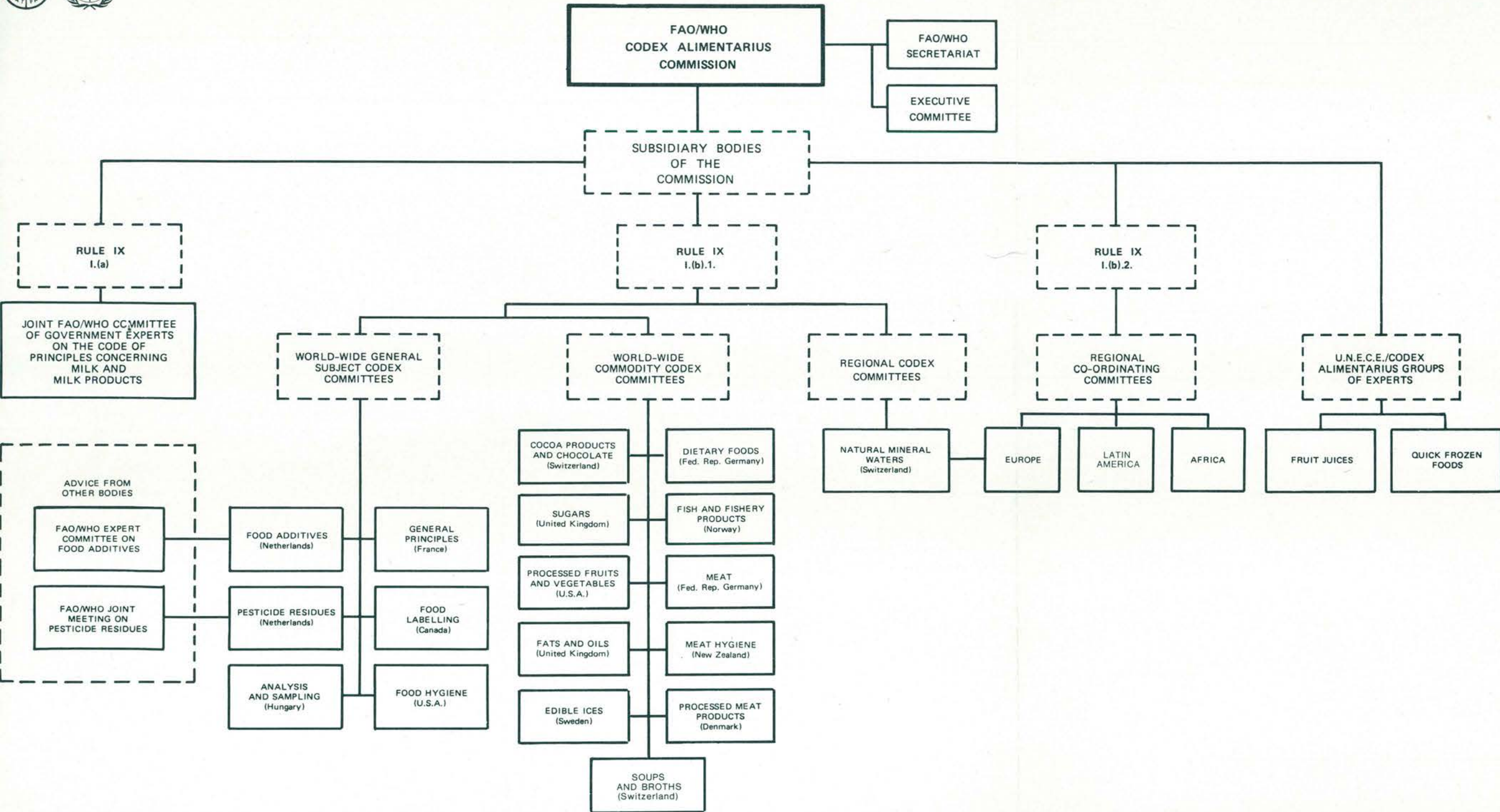
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1/ These Committees are not subsidiary bodies under any specific rule of the Codex Alimentarius Commission but follow the same procedure as Codex Commodity Committees for the elaboration of Codex standards.





# JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME





MEMBERS OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION  
AS AT 15th JANUARY 1975  
(by region)

Europe

Austria	Italy
Belgium	Luxembourg
Bulgaria	Malta
Cyprus	Netherlands
Czechoslovakia	Norway
Denmark	Poland
Finland	Portugal
France	Romania
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	Spain
Greece	Sweden
Hungary	Switzerland
Iceland	Turkey
Ireland	United Kingdom
Israel	Yugoslavia

Latin America

Argentina	Guyana
Barbados	Jamaica
Bolivia	Mexico
Brazil	Nicaragua
Chile	Panama
Colombia	Paraguay
Costa Rica	Peru
Cuba	Trinidad and Tobago
Dominican Republic	Uruguay
Ecuador	Venezuela
Guatemala	

North America

Canada  
United States of America

South-West Pacific

Australia  
Fiji  
New Zealand  
Western Samoa

Africa

Algeria  
Burundi  
Cameroon  
Central African Republic  
Congo, People's Republic of  
Egypt, Arab Republic of  
Ethiopia  
Gabon  
Gambia  
Ghana  
Guinea Bissau  
Ivory Coast  
Kenya  
Liberia  
Libyan Arab Republic

Madagascar  
Malawi  
Mauritius  
Morocco  
Nigeria  
Senegal  
Sudan  
Swaziland  
Tanzania, United Rep. of  
Togo  
Tunisia  
Uganda  
Upper Volta  
Zaire, Republic of  
Zambia

Asia

Burma  
India  
Indonesia  
Iran  
Iraq  
Japan  
Jordan  
Khmer Republic  
Korea, Republic of  
Kuwait  
Lebanon  
Malaysia  
Oman, Sultanate of

Pakistan  
Philippines  
Qatar  
Saudi Arabia  
Singapore  
Sri Lanka  
Syrian Arab Republic  
Thailand  
United Arab Emirates  
Viet-Nam, Republic of  
Yemen, People's Democratic  
Republic of

LIST OF CODEX CONTACT POINTS AND MEMBERS OF  
THE COMMISSION

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>Codex Contact Point</u>
ALGERIA	Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Réforme Agraire Sous-Direction de la Répression des fraudes 12 Bld. Colonel Amirouche Alger
ARGENTINA	Coordinador del Codex Alimentarius Ing. Jorge Piazzì Secretaria de Estado de Relaciones Económicas y Comerciales Internacionales Avenida Julio A. Roca 651, 5 <sup>o</sup> Piso, Sector 1 Buenos Aires
AUSTRALIA	Mr. W. C. K. Hammer Assistant Secretary Department of Agriculture Barton, Canberra A. C. T.
AUSTRIA	Austrian National FAO Committee Bundesministerium für Land und Forstwirtschaft Stubenring 1 A-1010 Wien
BARBADOS	Chief Agricultural Officer Ministry of Agriculture, Science and Technology Crumpton Street St. Michael
BELGIUM	Comité belge du Codex Alimentarius Services des Organisations multilatérales (B/OM) Ministère des affaires étrangères et commerce extérieur 2, rue Quatre-Bras Bruxelles I
BOLIVIA	Director, División Nutrición Ministerio de Previsión Social y Salud Pública La Paz



<u>MEMBERS (cont'd)</u>	<u>Codex Contact Point</u>
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BULGARIA	Monsieur le Ministre-adjoint Chef de la Section de la Commission du Codex Alimentarius Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Industrie alimentaire Bvd. Potev, 55 Sofia
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GABON	M. L. Lapeby Comité national du Codex Alimentarius Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et du Développement rural B. P. 551 Libreville
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GERMANY Fed. Rep. of	Frau Helga Elstner Abteilungsleiterin Bundesministerium für Jugend, Familie und Gesundheit Deutschherrenstrasse 87 D53 Bonn-Bad Godesberg



<u>MEMBERS (cont'd)</u>	<u>Codex Contact Point</u>
GHANA	The Director National Standards Board P.O. Box M. 245 Accra
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GUINEE-BISSAU	Sous- Commissariat d'Etat à l'Agriculture et à l'Elevage de la République de Guinée-Bissau s/c Boîte Postale 298 Conakry
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<u>MEMBERS (cont'd)</u>	<u>Codex Contact Point</u>
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Addendum  
28 February 1975

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION  
PROCEDURAL MANUAL

Since 15 January 1975, the following two countries have become Members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, bringing the total membership of the Commission up to 111 countries:

El Salvador  
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

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The Codex Contact Point for the U. S. S. R. is given on page 102.





