

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 11

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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

#### Forty-second Session

CICG, Geneva, Switzerland, 8 - 12 July 2019

#### CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2020 – 2025

#### *Comments of India and Dominican Republic*

### INDIA

**General Comment:** India welcomes the revised draft and appreciates the enormous efforts done by subcommittee of CCEXEC to come up with a simple and easily understandable draft that largely meets the expectations of the Codex membership. In general, India supports the revised draft codex strategic plan 2020-2025 and its adoption by CAC42 (2019).

We have following submissions with respect to text put in the square brackets and other issues as well:

**1. Title: CODEX [STRATEGIC PLAN 2020 – 2025] [STRATEGY 2020-2025]**

**Comment:** India proposes to retain the original title “Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025”.

**2. Codex Vision Statement:** [Where the world comes together]/[Space for global collaboration] to create [harmonised] [globally recognized] food [safety, quality and nutritional] standards to protect [the health of] [everyone]/[consumers] [and trade] everywhere.

**Comment:** India suggests the wording of codex vision statement as follow:

*“Where the world comes together to create globally recognised food safety, quality and nutritional standards to protect the health of everyone, everywhere”*

**3. Codex Mission Statement:** “Protect consumer health and [promote]/[ensure] fair practices in the food trade by setting [global]/[international], [science-based]/[scientifically validated] [food safety, quality and nutritional] [reference] standards.”

**Comment:** India suggests the wording of codex mission statement as follow:

*“Protect consumer health and ensure fair practices in the food trade by setting global science based reference standards”*

**4. Para 4.1: The Codex Alimentarius Commission re-commits itself to the following core values, which will guide its work to fulfil its strategic vision[5];**

**Comment:** Footnote 5 states that “The Codex Alimentarius Commission will review these core values during the period of this Strategic Plan”. We are not sure of the intent and purpose of this review of the core values. In this context, India feels that it would be appropriate if more clarity on the intent of this review is provided and suitably included in the footnote.

**5. Codex Core Values [and Principles] –Consensus Building**

**Comment:** Although the current Codex Strategic Plan (2014-2019) includes “**Consensus building**” as one of the 4 core values of the Codex, there could be some merit in considering “**Consensus**” as the core value which is no doubt invariably achieved in the development process of a majority of the Codex standards. Nevertheless, the merits and limitations of such a change need to be fully evaluated and discussed in order not to create an impediment (perceived or real) in the normally smooth progression of Codex work.

**Goal 1: Address [,proactively and in a timely manner,] current, emerging and critical issues [identified by Codex members]/[in food safety and quality]**

**Comment:** India suggests the following text as Goal 1:

*“Address proactively and in a timely manner, current, emerging and critical issues identified by Codex members”*

## 6. Goal 2: Develop standards based on [science and]/[Codex] risk-analysis principles

**Comment:**

a) India suggests the following text as Goal 2:

*“Develop standards based on science and Codex risk-analysis principles”*

b) **Last sentence** under Paragraph 5.5, Goal 2 states *“This will require, among other things, capacity building in developing countries that is specific to robust data generation, scientific analysis, and overall increased capacity to conduct such work”*.

Although the 3 objectives stated under this goal do not appear to be explicitly addressing the need for capacity building in developing countries as highlighted in the above-mentioned sentence of paragraph 5.5, India believes that objective 2.2- **“Promote the submission and use of globally representative data in developing and reviewing Codex standards”** would address the above mentioned statement with appropriate activities being identified under this objective for capacity building of developing countries with respect to robust data generation and scientific analysis. However, this may need to be clarified further.

## 7. Goal 4, Objective 4.3: [Identify barriers to active participation by developing countries and means of addressing them]

**Comment:** Recognizing the critical importance of this objective for developing countries, India strongly supports the inclusion of this objective under the Goal 4. It may be appreciated that promoting and ensuring active participation of developing country at various stage of standard setting process is crucial in order to have a globally representative and recognised science based standards. Such activity will help in addressing the barriers to active participation by developing countries and thus enhance the acceptance of the standards at national levels as well.

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

**República Dominicana** apoya las siguientes disposiciones:

- A. -El título del documento sea “Plan estratégico del Codex para 2020-25.”
- B. -En el párrafo 2.3, se apoya la eliminación del texto dentro de los corchetes y el párrafo quede de la siguiente forma:
 

2.3. El entorno en el que actúa el Codex continúa evolucionando. Los alimentos e ingredientes de alimentos se hallan entre los productos más comercializados a escala internacional. Los cambios en el sistema de las cadenas de suministro mundiales de alimentos y piensos, los esfuerzos por optimizar los recursos, la preocupación por la inocuidad y seguridad de los alimentos, las innovaciones en el ámbito de la ciencia y la tecnología alimentarias, constituyen algunos de los factores de cambio que pueden plantear nuevos retos y oportunidades. La Comisión debe mantener una constante atención a su mandato. Debe ser suficientemente capaz de actuar de manera proactiva y flexible y de responder en el momento oportuno a los nuevos problemas que repercutan en la inocuidad y calidad de los alimentos, con la finalidad de proteger la salud de los consumidores y de asegurar prácticas equitativas en el comercio de alimentos.
- C. –**República Dominicana** sugiere que en la “Declaración de visión del Codex”, en el párrafo 3.1, se adopte el siguiente enunciado:
 

“3.1 Ser el órgano mundial principal para el establecimiento de normas alimentarias basadas en evidencias científicas para proteger la salud de los consumidores y promover la aplicación de prácticas equitativas en el comercio de alimentos. ”
- D. - **República Dominicana** sugiere que en la “Declaración de misión del Codex”, en el párrafo 3.2, se adopte el siguiente enunciado:
 

3.2. “Proteger la salud de los consumidores y promover prácticas equitativas en el comercio mediante el establecimiento de normas alimentarias internacionales basadas en evidencia científica”.

- E. -En el título del párrafo 4, **República Dominicana** sugiere se elimine la palabra "y Principios" y el título que como se indica a continuación:
4. VALORES FUNDAMENTALES DEL CODEX
- F. -En el párrafo 4.1, **República Dominicana** apoya se elimine el llamado [5] y con él, el pie de página y el texto quede como se indica a continuación:
- "4.1. La Comisión del Codex Alimentarius reitera su compromiso con los valores fundamentales siguientes, que guiarán su labor para cumplir su visión estratégica:
- Colaboración.
  - Carácter inclusivo.
  - Creación de consenso<sup>6</sup>.
  - Transparencia "
- G. -En el actual llamado [6], en el pie de página, **República Dominicana**, sugiere que se coloque entre comillas el texto siguiente "Medidas para facilitar el consenso"
- H. -**República Dominicana** no apoya los párrafos 4.2 y siguiente y solicita que se eliminen ambos párrafos propuestos del artículo 4 y solo se mantenga el párrafo 4.1 y sus viñetas.
- I. -En el artículo 5 Metas y Objetivos, en el párrafo 2, **República Dominicana** sugiere se sustituya "fundadas" por "fundamentadas" y se aceptan se mantengan los textos dentro de los corchetes y el texto quede de la siguiente forma:
- "2. Elaborar normas fundamentadas en la ciencia y en los principios de análisis de riesgos del Codex".