

codex alimentarius commission

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

JOINT OFFICE: Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00100 ROME Tel.: 57971 Telex: 625852-625853 FAO I Cables: Foodagri Rome Facsimile: (6) 57973152-5782610

ALINORM 93/19

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Twentieth Session

Geneva, Switzerland, 28 June - 7 July 1993

REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION
OF THE CODEX COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE
Stockholm, Sweden, 11-15 May 1992

W/Z 9146

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The summary and conclusions of the Eighteenth Session of the Coordinating Committee for Europe are as follows:

Matters for consideration by the Commission

The Committee

- recommended that the Code of Ethics for International Trade in Food be regularly reexamined to take into account developments concerning conditions of production and international trade (para. 21-23);
- agreed to seek the advice of the Executive Committee as to point (d) of the Terms of Reference of the Committee dealing with the elaboration of regional standards (para.97);
- nominated Dr Stuart Slorach (Sweden) for appointment as Regional Coordinator (para. 102).

Matters of interest to the Commission

- expressed its concern as to the reduction of resources which might affect the regular convening of expert meetings of JECFA and JMPR (para. 12);
- expressed its support of recommendations made by the Commission for written comments to be fully considered at Codex meetings (para. 49);
- agreed to collect updated information on the national authorities responsible for food safety and training of food inspectors (para. 58);
- reviewed the measures taken by governments to improve consumer participation in matters relating to food legislation, taking note of the progress achieved and the need for further action (para. 61-65);
- reviewed existing systems for rapid information exchange and agreed that it was not necessary to develop a new network, so as to avoid duplication (para. 74);
- endorsed the Guidelines for the work of Codex Contact Points, with the reserve that not all its provisions were applicable to European countries (para. 79);
- Suggested that certain aspects of the Proposed Draft Guidelines on Organically/Biologically Produced Foods should be reviewed by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene, the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants, and presented its comments for consideration by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (para. 80 - 89);
- recommended that the measures proposed for control of contamination with salmonella be considered by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (para. 94).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>
OPENING OF THE SESSION	1 - 4
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	5
MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE	
A) Matters arising from FAO, WHO the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other Codex Committees	6 - 12
B) Matters arising from activities of other international organizations	13 - 14
PROGRESS REPORT ON ACCEPTANCES OF CODEX STANDARDS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN FOOD:	
A) Progress Report on Acceptances	15 - 20
B) Implementation of the Code of Ethics for International Trade in Food	21 - 23
REPORT ON STANDARDIZATION WORK OF THE ECONOMIC GROUPS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	24
REPORT ON FOOD SAFETY/FOOD CONTROL ACTIVITIES OF WHO AND FAO COMPLEMENTARY TO THE WORK OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION SINCE THE 17TH COMMITTEE	25
• International Conference on Nutrition	26 - 27
• Food Control including Food Safety	28 - 31
• Veterinary Public Health Activities	32
• Other Activities	33
MONITORING OF FOOD SAFETY ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE, INCLUDING A REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD CONTAMINATION MONITORING PROGRAMME IN EUROPE	34 - 38
SURVEY ON THE USE OF FOOD IRRADIATION IN EUROPE	39 - 43
IMPLEMENTATION AN ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES - WAYS OF USING STANDARDS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS	44 - 49
HARMONIZATION:	50
A) Food legislation	51 - 52
B) Food inspection, laboratory and other services	53 - 60
IMPROVEMENT OF CONSUMER PARTICIPATION IN CODEX WORK	61 - 65
IMPROVEMENT OF RAPID INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON FOOD CONTROL MATTERS	66 - 74
DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR THE WORK OF CODEX CONTACT POINTS IN THE REGION	75 - 79
REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED DRAFT GUIDELINES ON BIOLOGICALLY/ ORGANICALLY PRODUCED FOODS	80 - 89
REPORT ON ACTION TO CONTROL CONTAMINATION OF FOODSTUFFS WITH SALMONELLA	90 - 94
OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE WORK	95 - 98
NOMINATION OF COORDINATOR	99 - 103
DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION	104
APPENDIX I - List of Participants	
	<u>Pages</u> 15 - 20

Opening Of The Session (Agenda Item 1)

1. The Eighteenth Session of the Coordinating Committee for Europe was held in Stockholm from 11 to 15 May 1992, at the kind invitation of the Government of Sweden. The Meeting was chaired by Mrs. Barbro Blomberg, Coordinator for Europe.

2. The Session was attended by delegates from 16 member countries, 2 observer countries and observers from 5 International Organizations. A list of participants, including members of the Secretariat is attached as Appendix I to this report.

3. The Session was opened by Mr. Karl Erik Olsson, Minister of Agriculture. He welcomed all member countries and international organizations represented at the meeting. The Minister emphasized the importance of 1992 in Europe and the role of the European Community single market within the European region particularly in the area of food quality, food safety and trade in foodstuffs. He also pointed out the programme undertaken by Codex, following the Conference on Food Standards, Chemicals in Food and Food Trade, on the horizontal approach for the elaboration of food standards, the increased attention given to issues concerning export and import control and the growing interest for consumer protection and participation. He noted the importance of the forthcoming International Conference on Nutrition, sponsored by FAO and WHO, and its expected contribution to the reduction of the nutritional problems at world wide level. The Minister underlined several changes introduced in Swedish food policy, with major attention being given to the importance of small scale processing, consumer demands and protection against health risks and fraudulent practices. Particular emphasis was given to the fact that, after twenty years of control of production and poultry feed, salmonella was practically eradicated in Swedish broilers. Finally the Minister wished the Committee success for its session and its future work.

4. The Chairman thanked the Minister for his interesting overview and referred to the importance of the harmonization of food quality control, as an essential part of the Agenda of this Committee. She emphasized the fact that harmonization of rules and regulations called for close contacts and exchange of information, and a climate of mutual trust. Finally the Chairman gratefully acknowledged the government support of the Coordinating Committee's activities.

Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda Item 2)

5. The Committee had before it document CX/EURO 92/1, presenting the provisional agenda for the session, which was adopted without any change. The Committee appointed as rapporteurs Mr Charles A. Cockbill for the English version and Mrs Jeannie Vergnettes for the French version of the report.

Matters of Interest to the Committee (Agenda Item 3)

a) Matters Arising from FAO, WHO, the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Other Codex Committees

6. The Committee had before it document CX/EURO 92/2, presenting a summary of matters of interest arising from the 25th FAO Conference, the 44th World Health Assembly, the 19th Session of the Commission and other Codex Committees.

7. The Committee noted that Estonia and Lithuania had become members of FAO during the FAO Conference of November 1991 and had recently joined the Codex Alimentarius Commission, and that total membership was now of 141 countries.

8. The Committee was reminded of the resolution of the 44th World Health Assembly regarding cholera, especially of the recommendation not to apply excessive restrictions to trade; the observer from the EEC presented the procedure applied by the EEC to the import of foodstuffs originating from affected countries.

9. The delegation of Hungary, supported by the delegations of Czechoslovakia and Switzerland, stressed the necessity for Codex Committees to give due consideration to written comments as an effective means of participation to Codex work, following the recommendations of the FAO/WHO Conference as endorsed by the Commission, and the Committee expressed its support for these recommendations.

10. Recalling the decisions of the Commission regarding the conversion of Regional Standards to World-wide standards, the Chairman indicated that it might be useful for the Committee to reconsider its Terms of Reference and the Committee agreed to discuss this matter under Agenda Item 16: Other Business and Future Work.

11. Brief oral reports of the recent sessions of the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (24th Session) and the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (24th Session) were presented. The Committee noted that CCPR had agreed to prepare a separate list of pesticides for which MRLs has been set but the use of which was not allowed, as occurrence of such residues was not due to agricultural use but to presence in the environment. This was designed to avoid any confusion arising from the establishment of Codex MRLs for pesticides which were not actually used.

12. The Committee was informed that the next meeting of JMPR, scheduled for September 1992, might not take place due to insufficient resources, and that extrabudgetary funding would be needed for this meeting as well as for other JECFA and JMPR meetings in the future. The delegations of Austria, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom expressed their concern as to the reduction of resources especially as they affected regular expert meetings which were essential to the work carried out by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants and the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues. It was stressed that this development was in contradiction to the recommendations of the FAO/WHO Conference on Food Standards, Chemicals in Food and Food Trade, as endorsed by the Commission at its 19th Session. The representative from WHO informed the Committee that the 45th World Health Assembly was now in progress and it was suggested that a statement expressing the concern of the Committee in this respect should be sent by fax to the Assembly. The Committee agreed to forward the following message to the Chairman of the 45th World Health Assembly:

"The Codex Coordinating Committee for Europe, currently meeting in Stockholm, wishes to express its strong concern to the World Health Assembly over the proposed postponement of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) due in September 1992.

The 19th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission held in July 1991 and the Joint FAO/WHO Conference on Food Standards, Chemicals in Food and Food Trade held in March 1991, both emphasized the vital importance to World-wide food standards work of the evaluations provided by JMPR and JECFA and urged the parent organizations (FAO and WHO) to ensure proper budgetary provisions for regular meetings of these two bodies. It is therefore of great concern that so soon after that a routine meeting of JMPR should not be held because of the non-availability of funds. The Codex Coordinating Committee for Europe urges the World Health Assembly to ensure that proper budgetary provision is made by WHO for its share in the cost of holding the expert meetings so that they can be properly planned. It further urges, even at this late stage that funding from WHO sources be found to hold the meeting of JMPR scheduled for September 1992".

b) Matters Arising from Activities of Other International Organizations

13. The observer from the EEC informed the Committee that reference to the Codex Standard for Follow-up Formula (CODEX STAN 156-1987) was made in a proposed Directive on follow-up formula to be exported to third countries, which is currently being considered by the Council of the European Communities.

14. The observer from IOCU informed the Committee that the 13th World Congress of IOCU (July 1991) supported the recommendation adopted by the Joint FAO/WHO Conference on Food Standards, Chemicals in Food and Food Trade and welcomed the strong endorsement by the 19th Session of the Commission of consumer participation in Codex work and national fora. The Committee was further informed that IOCU was holding a seminar on Food, International Trade and Quality Standards in The Hague on 14-15 May 1992, with participation of representatives of GATT and the Codex Alimentarius Secretariat. IOCU welcomed the opportunity to work more closely with Codex in the perspective of improving food safety and quality for consumers.

Progress Report on Acceptances of the Codex Standards and implementation of the Code of Ethics for International Trade in Food (Agenda Item 4)

a) Progress Report on Acceptances

15. The Committee had before it document CX/EURO 92/3 containing a review of acceptances of Codex Standards and Codex Maximum Residue Limits for pesticides by countries in the European Region. The Committee was informed that the Commission strongly supported in principle the Conference recommendations to apply modifications to the acceptance procedure of Codex Standards and that the Secretariat would prepare a detailed proposal on revisions of the acceptance procedure for consideration by the Codex Committee on General Principles.

16. The Committee was also informed that a computerized system for Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides in Food had been prepared by the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme and was on distribution, free of charge, to all member countries through the Codex Contact Points or the official channels for countries not yet members of Codex. The data base of the computerized system had been correlated to the data on acceptance of Codex MRLs by member countries, in order to simplify the elaboration and the updating of the report on acceptance, by the Codex Secretariat.

17. The Committee noted that several countries in Europe had some difficulties with reference to the acceptances of Codex standards, particularly concerning Maximum Residue Limits for pesticides. The Codex limits were considered too high by Switzerland which had a programme to reduce the use of pesticides giving priority to the integrated agriculture.

18. The delegation of Hungary informed the Committee that several changes were in progress involving revision of the national regulations on foods. Therefore some notification of acceptance of Codex standards could be expected only in 1993 when this process is completed. The delegation of Czechoslovakia also informed the Committee that several changes in food legislation had been proposed in that country and a revision of the national food standards system had been initiated, taking into consideration Codex standards.

19. The observer of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) welcomed the revision of the acceptance procedure adopted by the Commission, pointing out that the acceptances of the Codex General Standard for Irradiated Food did not reflect the existing use of food irradiation in several countries.

20. The Committee noted the information of the observer from the EEC that a procedure for the acceptance of Codex standards had been elaborated in draft form and was still under discussion.

b) Implementation of the Code of Ethics for International Trade in Food

21. The Committee had before it document CX/EURO 92/3 presenting as Annex II a paper on the implementation of the Code of Ethics prepared for the Codex Coordinating Committee for North America and South West Pacific (CCNASWP). The Committee noted that the Commission at its 19th Session, had supported the general conclusions and recommendations of the CCNASWP and was invited to review the main recommendations listed in Annex II. It was also noted that the Code of Ethics had been incorporated into Volume I of the revised Codex Alimentarius.

22. Several delegations expressed their opinion that it was not really necessary to implement the Code of Ethics as such in the region of Europe, as the region included mostly developed countries where food legislation and inspection had been existing for a long time. They also pointed out that their national legislation made reference to the Code of Ethics, whether explicitly or implicitly by incorporating its basic principles. The delegation of France was of the opinion that the Codex Committee on General Principles, which had been responsible for the elaboration of the Code of Ethics, should consider it again at its next session for possible amendment.

23. The Committee agreed that as food legislation and inspection at the national or international level were subject to changes, the Code of Ethics itself should be regularly reexamined, particularly by the Coordinating Committees, so as to take

into account prevailing conditions; this could contribute to its wider distribution and use. In addition any reconsideration should cover developments regarding minimizing exposure to residues, contaminants and similar substances, and take into account progress in agriculture and industrial production.

Report on Standardization Work of the Economic Groups and International Organizations (Agenda Item 5)

24. The observer from the EEC reported the developments on standardization in the Community, as contained in Conference Room Document 12. The Committee was informed that the Commission's White Paper of 1985 put strong emphasis on the elimination of trade barriers. In this perspective the EEC legislation is to a large extent relying on horizontal regulations which apply to all foodstuffs. In the future, legislation would be concentrated on the following areas: protection of public health, consumer information, fair trade and necessary controls. Provisions relating specifically to commercial quality could be dealt with in Codes or Guidelines, with the exception of commodities subject to regulations in the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy. The observer further indicated that the European Committee on Standardization (CEN) was currently working on the elaboration of Codes on fruit juices and canned vegetables, as well as methods of analysis and sampling. The delegation of Switzerland, supported by the delegation of the Netherlands, pointed out that in order to prevent duplication of work, CEN should be involved only in defining methods of analysis and sampling, but no commodity standards. The Committee was informed of the recent agreement between the EEC and EFTA countries for the creation of an European Economic Area (EEA), which entailed approximation of national regulations in EFTA countries to EEC legislation.

Report on Food Safety/Food Control Activities of FAO and WHO complementary to the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission since the 17th Session of the Committee (Agenda Item 6)

25. The Secretariat introduced document CX/EURO 92/4, pointing out that most of the items in this paper were presented for information only or would be considered specifically under the relevant agenda items.

International Conference on Nutrition

26. The Committee was informed that the International Conference on Nutrition (ICN), sponsored by FAO and WHO would be held in Rome from 5-11 December 1992 to provide the world community with an opportunity to look critically at the existing problems of undernutrition, malnutrition and diet-related non-communicable diseases. The primary purpose of various preliminary ICN regional and sub-regional meetings was to provide a technical forum for assessing the nutrition problems common to each region. The Committee noted that the ICN sub-regional meeting for Eastern and Central Europe was held in Czechoslovakia in April 1992, that a meeting was also organized by the WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen in April 1992 to discuss the ICN, and that a comprehensive world-wide preparatory meeting would take place in Geneva in August 1992.

27. The Committee noted that the ICN was not directly related to the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, but that several of its conclusions might have some influence on future Codex work.

Food Control including Food Safety

28. The Committee was informed about FAO Technical Cooperation Programmes in Central and Eastern European countries: updating of the country's food control system and infrastructure in Bulgaria, review of the food control system in Czechoslovakia with a view to harmonization with other European countries; control of polychlorinated residue contamination in Czechoslovakia; strengthening of food control services in Hungary. A project on revised food control enforcement is currently under discussion in Poland. The delegation of Hungary expressed its appreciation of the technical programme carried out by FAO and of the cooperation offered by certain European countries.

29. The representative of WHO informed the Committee about its main activities on information and education in food safety, including several important publications, reports and leaflets recently issued, such as: a book on Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point evaluations; a guide to identifying hazards and assessing risks

associated with food production and storage; a report by the Task Force on Integrated Approaches to Health Education on different aspects of promotion of food safety through health education; the report on Essential Safety Requirements for Street-vended Foods; and a special leaflet entitled "A guide on Safe Food for Travellers".

30. In order to control the epidemic of cholera in Latin America, Africa and Asia, a Global Task Force on Cholera Control was established to coordinate the work of all the WHO technical programmes involved, and to help affected countries in their efforts to ensure the safety of the food and drinking water supply. Moreover, this task force is giving advice related to restrictions on food imports from countries affected by the cholera epidemic.

31. The representative of EEC informed the Committee of the measures taken by the EEC Member States, including cooperation with affected countries to develop reliable certification of exported foodstuffs and related monitoring systems.

Veterinary public health activities

32. The Committee was informed about the main WHO veterinary public health activities which were of interest to the Committee. The contents and recommendations of the following WHO meetings were presented to the Committee: Consultation on public health issues related to animal and human spongiform encephalopathies; Working Group on Salmonella Immunization; Consultation on "Shiga-like toxin" producing Escherichia coli, with special emphasis on zoonotic aspects; and Consultation on Anthrax Control and Research.

Other activities

33. The Committee was further informed of the conclusions and recommendations of the WHO Study Group on Diet, Nutrition and the Prevention of Non-communicable Diseases; the food and agriculture issues covered by the work of the WHO Commission on Health and the Environment which will be reported to the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro; and the WHO efforts in order to compile and disseminate information on food safety legislation.

Monitoring of Food Safety Activities In Europe, Including a Report on the Activities of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Contamination Monitoring Programme in Europe (Agenda Item 7)

34. The Committee had for its consideration document CX/EURO 92/7 prepared by WHO and presenting the background of the Programme on Monitoring of Food Safety Activities, and the difficulties related to its implementation, as well as the different WHO monitoring and surveillance programmes operating in the WHO European Region.

35. Several delegations (France, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom) expressed their opinions regarding the use of the information available in the existing programmes listed in the document. It was noted they could provide useful information on food safety, but that it should be presented clearly and concisely in one document. It was also stressed that the objectives and scope of this exercise should be clearly defined, as well as the exact type of evaluation that was needed. It was agreed that this information should concentrate on essential aspects of food safety, so that it could be of use at the national and international levels.

36. It was agreed that the Codex Coordinating Committee for Europe was not the appropriate body to discuss the details of this programme, as it met only every other year and its role was strategic rather than operational. Several delegations also expressed their concern about Codex Contact Points being involved in additional work such as the gathering of information for this exercise, as their resources were already limited.

37. The delegation of the United Kingdom suggested that work would best be carried out in a small task force rather than a large group, and offered to take part in such a task force, as well as the delegation of the Netherlands; it was however agreed that the organization of meetings, preparation of papers etc. should be initiated by the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The Committee asked WHO Europe to convene a first meeting of the task force as soon as possible and it was stressed that this work should be part of a global programme led by WHO Regional Office for

Europe, including the proposed WHO European Food Safety Coordinating Committee. Duplication of work should be avoided so as to prevent a waste of scarce resources.

38. The Chairman pointed out the importance for the Committee of the work initiated by WHO and indicated that WHO should take into account the discussions of the Committee regarding food safety issues while proceeding with the implementation of the programme. The Committee asked WHO to report on the progress of this work at the next session of this Committee.

Survey on the Use of Food Irradiation in Europe (Agenda Item 8)

39. The Committee had before it documents CX/EURO 92/4 (Part C) presenting the work of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division and of the International Consultative Group on Food Irradiation (ICGFI) and document CX/EURO 92/5 concerning the survey on the use of food irradiation in Europe.

40. The observer of the FAO/IAEA Joint Division informed the Committee of work done by the Joint Division and ICGFI in the field of food irradiation, eg. transfer of technology to developing countries, training of personnel, information dissemination, coordinated research programmes on various applications of food irradiation and development of identification methods, and ICGFI recommendations aimed at ensuring proper control of the process and of irradiated food moving in international trade. The Committee was also informed of meetings of interest held since the last session of the Committee. While introducing the paper (CX/EURO 92/4 Part C) the observer especially pointed out the complementary nature of the work of ICGFI to the Codex General Standard on Irradiated Foods. He also stressed the need to develop international guidelines for the control of the process and trade, in order to ensure that good practices would always be followed.

41. The observer of FAO/IAEA introduced the second paper (CX/EURO 92/5) and gave a report on the status of regulations on food irradiation, as well as on existing authorizations and applications of the process. From information available to FAO/IAEA it could be seen that approximately 50% of the Members of the Codex Region of Europe had specific regulations on food irradiation, 58% authorized the application of food irradiation for one or more foods and 38.5% applied the technology commercially. Although the total amount of food irradiated was rather small (ca. 700,000 Tonnes/year world-wide), there were signs that trade in these products would increase in the foreseeable future.

42. The delegation of Sweden informed the Committee of work carried out in that country on detection methods for irradiated foods using gas liquid chromatography measurement of lipid-derived hydrocarbons for products such as poultry, and a method based on DNA damage. The delegation of the Netherlands indicated that recent national regulations had been issued on food irradiation. The delegation of France expressed its appreciation of the report on food irradiation.

43. The Committee noted with interest that the work of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division and of ICGFI, in promoting the control of food irradiation and attempts at harmonization of regulations, was complementary to the Codex General Standard on Food Irradiation. The small number of notifications of acceptance received was not in agreement with the number of countries in the Region of Europe which had clearly used the Codex Standard in drafting their regulations.

Implementation and enforcement procedures - ways of using standards and other documents (Agenda Item 9)

44. The Committee had before it documents CX/EURO 92/6, presented by the delegation of Sweden and CX/EURO 92/6 Add.1 Conference Room Document 7 containing comments from the United Kingdom. The delegations were requested to concentrate on national coordination of work on food safety and on in-house control, associated to the concept of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), applied in food industries and catering establishments, since the other points in the document would be considered under agenda items 10, 11 and 13.

45. Most delegations indicated that the responsibility for food safety was shared amongst different ministries and that the coordination was assured at national level by a regular informal exchange of contacts and information or by an institutionalized system of coordination. The delegations of Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland informed the Committee that they had started to introduce several changes into their national systems for food safety, trying to harmonize

the new systems with principles and regulations applied in member countries of the EEC. The delegation of Switzerland pointed out that the new law in preparation in that country would provide for complete independence from economic aspects. The delegation of Norway informed the Committee about recent reorganization of the Norwegian food legislation, whereby all ministries responsible for food control have delegated their responsibilities to a central authority.

46. The representative of the EEC referred to the procedure applied to a proposal for food law, involving drafting by the EC Commission, consideration by the Council of Ministers, and examination by the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Council or Consultative Committee on Foodstuffs. When appropriate, other interests, including industry and consumers, are consulted as well before final agreement by the Council of Ministers.

47. The delegation of Sweden informed the Committee that a new principle had been introduced in Sweden whereby in-house control was obligatory for all establishments producing or handling foodstuffs. There was a general consensus that the main responsibility for the control of food products was at the level of the producer, processing industry and food handling establishments and that the concept of HACCP should be linked to an integrated food quality control system at the level of the food manufacturer, but encouraged by the national authority. The delegation of Norway indicated that a system for in-house control had been initiated in that country, with pilot projects for fish and meat control.

48. The observer of the IAEA stressed the fact that for irradiated food in-house control was essential and should be associated to an external control established on the base of an International Code.

49. The Committee noted that changes had been introduced in most European countries since the second edition of the booklet "Food Safety Services" on national food safety systems had been published in 1988 by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, and agreed that updated information should be collected through a circular letter issued by the Codex Secretariat, in order to have these data available at the next session of the Coordinating Committee.

Harmonization (Agenda Item 10)

50. The Committee had for its consideration comments received from governments and international organizations in reply to a request for information on harmonization, presented in documents CX/EURO 92/8 -CX/EURO 92/13, combined into Conference Room Document 1 (Czechoslovakia, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, UN/ECE), Conference Room Documents 2 (France), 3 (United Kingdom) and 12 (EEC). As this item was divided into two parts, dealing respectively with food legislation and inspection, the Committee agreed to discuss them successively, while noting that they were closely linked.

a) Legislation

51. The delegation of Sweden, while presenting the working documents, informed the Committee of the significant developments taking place under the terms of the EEC-EFTA agreement, and the ongoing process of harmonization between national legislation in the EFTA countries and EEC legislation. The delegation of Finland indicated that bilateral cooperation had been initiated with Estonia in the areas of food law and inspection.

52. The delegation of the United Kingdom noted that, as many vertical regulations existed at the national level, it would not be possible to achieve complete harmonization. Mutual recognition was a realistic solution to trade problems that might arise from differences in national regulations.

b) Food inspection, laboratories and other services

53. The delegation of Sweden informed the Committee of the coordination implemented in the Nordic countries especially regarding food inspection matters, methods of analysis and control of Salmonella in imported foods, and stressed the need for development of quality assurance systems. The delegation of Norway gave additional information about cooperation between Nordic countries, exchange of information at the level of EFTA Expert meetings, Codex Contact Points and FLEP.

54. The observer from the EEC indicated that Council Directive 89/397/EEC

harmonized the principles for official control of foodstuffs, providing for inspection at all stages from the production to the retail stage. She outlined that this inspection system applied equally to products originating from EEC and third countries, that member states could not exclude a product from inspection on the grounds that it was destined for export outside the Community, and that hygiene requirements were defined, as well as specific measures in case of serious danger to consumer health:

55. The Secretariat informed the Committee of the harmonization in progress in Codex regarding laboratories and methods of analysis, including Codex General Guidelines for Sampling and criteria defined to endorse methods used at the international level. It was recalled that 400 Codex methods of analysis would be published in the revised version of Volume XIII of Codex Alimentarius, before the end of 1992. The Committee was further informed of the recent agreement between IUPAC, ISO and AOAC for a Harmonized Protocol for Proficiency Testing on the "Design, Conduct and Interpretation of Collaborative Studies" for laboratories.

56. The delegation of the Netherlands informed the Committee of the creation of FLEP (Food Law Enforcement Practitioners), operating as an informal network for cooperation between inspection agencies of EEC and EFTA countries. At the suggestion of the Chairman, the Committee agreed that, as the work of such an association was of great interest to the questions under consideration, the Committee should be more comprehensively informed about FLEP activities at its next session. The delegations of France and Switzerland pointed out that regional cooperation between neighbouring countries gave very positive and practical results.

57. The delegation of Switzerland stressed the importance of harmonized inspection, as control certificates issued by exporting countries might not always prove equally reliable, and as frontiers would remain in effect within EEA, between EEC and EFTA countries.

58. The delegations of France and Poland suggested that European training centres involved in international cooperation activities could be identified and the Committee agreed that a circular letter should be sent asking for more detailed information in this respect, for consideration by the next session of the Committee.

59. The observer from IOCU was of the opinion that an European Food Law Enforcement Agency was necessary, as a means to ensure the application of common principles for law enforcement and better transparency.

60. The Committee agreed that, as expressed by the delegation of the United Kingdom, consideration of an European Food Law Enforcement Agency was premature.

Improvement of Consumer Participation in Codex Work (Agenda Item 11)

61. The Committee had for its consideration government comments received in reply to a request for information on consumer participation in food legislation matters, presented in documents CX/EURO 92/9 (Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland), Conference Room Documents 4 (France) and 11 (Germany), which were introduced by the Secretariat, and Conference Room Document 13, containing the comments of IOCU. The delegations of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Hungary, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom gave additional information on the measures taken or contemplated to address this concern.

62. The Chairman noted that, as indicated in this survey, participation of consumers, through formal or informal consultation, seemed well established in several countries, but there was still scope for substantial improvement thereof. The observer of the IOCU welcomed the recommendations made by the FAO/WHO Conference and endorsed by the Commission, and expressed his wish that Codex work should help to increase awareness of consumers concerns at government level. He also pointed out that consumer participation was still very uneven from one country to another, that scarcity of resources represented a major obstacle to consumer participation, and further outlined the areas where direct action could be taken in the framework of Codex, such as labelling, food safety and dietary concerns.

63. The delegation of Sweden drew the attention of the Committee to the increasing importance of labelling in the area of food additives, as the horizontal approach might entail a certain liberalization of their usage. The Secretariat indicated that, as a consequence of the proposed extensive review, Codex standards would include only essential provisions and labelling would take care of commercial or quality aspects. The Codex Committee on Food Labelling would therefore be involved in an increasing number of food quality matters, and consumers were invited to follow the work of CCFL with attention. The Committee was further informed that, as recommended by the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (17th Session) and endorsed by the Commission, a working paper on nutrition in the work of Codex was being prepared for consideration by CCNFSU at its next session, and that guidance would be provided on these matters by the forthcoming International Conference on Nutrition.

64. The delegation of Switzerland stressed the need for consumers to rely on scientific bases and to consider the conclusions of health surveys, showing for instance that food-borne diseases were much more detrimental to public health than pesticide or additive uses. The observer of the IOCU agreed that misunderstandings should be avoided in this regard, but that the industry should also allow for more transparency in its dealings with consumers.

65. The Committee took note of the commitment of governments to take appropriate action to improve consumer participation and agreed that this matter would be considered by the next session of the Committee.

Improvement of Rapid Information Exchange on Food Control Matters (Agenda Item 12)

66. The Committee had before it document CX/EURO 92/15, presenting issues related to information exchange; government comments received in reply to a request for information were presented in Appendix II of this document (Czechoslovakia, Poland, Switzerland), CX/EURO 92/15-Add.1 (France) and Conference Room Document 8 (United Kingdom)

67. The Secretariat introduced this document, recalling that following the recommendations of the FAO/WHO Conference, a circular letter (CL 1991/13-GEN) was sent to Codex Contact Points requesting information on import control procedures, responsible agencies and availability of information in case of rejection, and that the resulting survey would be considered by the Codex Committee on Import and Export Food Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) on a World-wide level.

68. On the regional level, it was noted that these matters had been repeatedly discussed by CCEURO during its previous sessions. It was further recalled that the Codex Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific (2nd Session) had agreed to exchange replies to CL 1991/13 at the regional level, before its consideration by CCFICS, as well as to exchange regular information on legislation and regulatory initiatives through Codex Contact Points. These proposals were put forward for the Committee to consider whether similar action might be taken in Europe, and how Codex Contact Points might be involved in exchange of data concerning import/export matters.

69. The representative of WHO indicated that the CARE project, sponsored by WHO/EURO and EEC, was in the process of establishing a comprehensive system of information exchange on food safety, food contamination through telematics; this project was in its preparatory phase and would be completed in 1994-95.

70. The Chairman pointed out that the CARE project would be of great interest to CCFICS. She indicated that the Contact Points should not be given additional tasks, as their resources were already limited, and that networks already existed in the European Region.

71. The observer from the EEC informed the Committee that a system for rapid exchange of information had been working for several years on the basis of Council Decisions, and that the future Directive on product safety would provide the new legal basis for this network.

72. The delegation of Sweden indicated that a system of alert was operating between Nordic countries when serious health hazard was involved, and that other cases were dealt with through informal contacts; new legislation was notified in the framework of GATT.

73. The delegations of Finland, France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom were of the opinion that information should be carefully defined and selected as to its relevance, so as not to create confusion, and that adequate follow-up was also of great importance, and that duplication of networks should be avoided. The delegation of Austria pointed out that FLEP offered good opportunities for exchange of information.

74. The Committee agreed that the type of information exchange implemented by CCNASWAP regarding legislation as well as import/export matters was not necessary in Europe, as conditions were different and networks already existed, on which it would be preferable to build a system.

Draft Guidelines for the work of Codex Contact Points in the Region (Agenda Item 13)

75. The Committee had before it document CX/EURO 92/10 which contained Draft Guidelines on "Strengthening National Codex Committee" and on "Establishing and Maintaining a Codex Contact Point".

76. The Secretariat indicated that neither paper was intended to be prescriptive as to the procedures to be followed in establishing a Codex Contact Point or strengthening the work of a National Codex Committee. They had rather been prepared as "Guidelines" to members offering suggestions which while applying to one particular country, might not be so relevant in another, in recognition of the differing government structures and operating conventions, as well as the variations in the size, nature and organization of food industries in different countries.

77. The delegation of the United Kingdom supported the remarks on the application of the Guidelines to different member countries and stressed the fact that in several countries of Europe, the Codex Contact Point can provide an important means of contact for people who do not know the national system, and a rapid connection with the Codex Secretariat. The delegation of France pointed out that Codex Contact Points were facing some difficulties to answer an increasing number of requests for Codex documents from various economic sectors.

78. Several delegations considered the guidelines useful. However in some cases the scheme proposed did not entirely reflect the system currently used in some European countries. Nevertheless it was possible to identify in the guidelines several methods and procedures adopted as routine methodology in European Codex Contact Points.

79. The Committee agreed to endorse the Draft Guidelines, subject to the reservation that not all the provisions therein were applicable in European countries. Nevertheless it recognized that the guidelines were useful to assist new members as well as current members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission to maximize the benefits of their membership.

Review of the Proposed Draft Guidelines on Biologically/Organically produced foods (Agenda Item 14)

80. The Committee had before it documents CX/EURO 92/11, ALINORM 91/37, CX/EURO 92/11 Add. 1 - Conference Room Documents 10 (comments received from the Joint FAO/IAEA Division) and 14 (comments provided by the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements - IFOAM).

81. In introducing the paper the Secretariat explained that the first draft of "Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organic/Bio-dynamic food", which had been circulated for comments among member countries and interested international organizations, would be discussed at the 22nd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling, responsible for the future development of the guidelines. The Codex Coordinating Committee for Europe was invited to review the proposed Draft Guidelines, as recommended by the 19th Session of the Commission

on the basis of specific European experience in organic agriculture, taking into account that the Codex Guidelines should not necessarily reflect all the conditions and farming practices existing in Europe, but should be the result of a process of harmonization applicable at international level.

82. Several delegations provided updated information on the situation of organic agriculture in their countries and some member countries of EEC referred to the work undertaken to harmonize their national regulations with the Council Regulation of 24 June 1991 on Organic Production of Agricultural Products.

83. The observer of the IFOAM presented a brief outline of its organization in the elaboration of Basic Standards for the production of organic food and commented on the Codex Proposed Draft Guidelines. IFOAM considered that the period of 3 years before harvest, as indicated in Section 4 of the Codex Draft, represented a disadvantage for vegetables producers, and proposed to reduce this period to 2 years or less (not less than 12 months) according to the resolution of the certification organizations. It was also noted that during the conversion process of a farm, the whole farm must be converted and the time taken for this conversion should not exceed one complete rotation of the crops. The IFOAM observer pointed out that the criteria for the inclusion of products in Annex II of the Codex Draft were too restrictive, as well as unrealistic and did not take into consideration issues such as contamination risks, depletion of natural resources and irreversible influence on local eco-systems. The observer also noted that the section on Livestock Production should be expanded because it did not cover all aspects of safeguard for this integrated part of the organic farm unit and that a list of permitted additives and processing aids of non-agricultural origin should be added to the Codex Draft. The Committee was informed that IFOAM had forwarded detailed comments on this matter to the Codex Committee on Food Labelling.

84. The delegation of Austria stated that though labelling certainly was an essential element for organic products, other aspects were considered equally important and required the expertise of other Codex bodies. It was also emphasized that the treatment and processing of organic food should be limited and that particular priority should be given to the control of this food production, not only through private systems but also through the national authority.

85. The observer of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division noted that the basis for defining an "organic" food covered rigorous production methods. Thus an "organic" food may be subjected to conventional processing as indicated in Appendix I to ALINORM 91/37. Considering that treatment using irradiation is a physical process which does not affect the food and considering the technological, health and economic benefits of the process, the observer expressed the view that irradiation treatment should be permitted under the Draft Guidelines.

86. The delegation of Germany, supported by the delegation of Spain, informed the Committee that the EEC Regulation on Organic Production did not permit the denomination and labelling "organic" for food irradiated or containing irradiated ingredients and that irradiation should not be permitted in the Draft Guidelines.

87. The observer of the EEC confirmed that the Council Regulation on Organic Production did not allow the use of irradiation for organic foods and that the regulation covered only vegetal products. The Committee was informed that the elaboration of a regulation for organic animal products had been initiated recently in the Community.

88. The delegation of Sweden supported the position of the observer of the IFOAM to the effect that organic production was not well defined in the Codex Guidelines for products of animal origin, in particular regarding animal welfare, and indicated that specific comments on this subject would be transmitted to the Codex Committee on Food Labelling.

89. The Committee agreed to refer the views of several European countries and international organizations on the Proposed Draft Guidelines to the Codex Committee on Food Labelling. It also considered that other Codex Committees, in particular the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene and the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants, should have the possibility to review several technical questions related to the production, processing and control of organic products.

Report on Action to Control Contamination of Foodstuffs with Salmonella (Agenda Item 15)

90. The delegation of Sweden introduced document CX/EURO 92/14, presenting the strategies applied in Sweden for the control of Salmonella in food producing animals.

91. The programme initiated by the Swedish authorities in 1961 relies on the following strategy:

1. Prevent Salmonella contamination of the production chain
2. Monitor all critical points of the production chain to ensure that no Salmonella contamination occurs
3. Motivate producers economically to participate in the control programme
4. Create a legal framework to ensure cooperation and compliance with the programme

92. The costs of controls for poultry were entirely financed by the state until 1984, when they were shifted on to the producer, with the help of an insurance programme. Prevention is implemented through control of breeders, feed or the environment, and control is achieved by extensive bacteriological monitoring. It was noted that though the cost of such a programme on a long period of time appears high, effective control of Salmonella had been achieved in poultry, as well as in swine and cattle.

93. The representative of FAO/IAEA congratulated the Swedish authorities for having practically eliminated Salmonella in poultry through a rigorous control of production and processing methods. He indicated that the cost of irradiation of poultry ranged from USD 0.017 to 0.07/kg, and was therefore not higher than the cost of the control programme (USD 0.15/kg) as stated in the document. He further enquired whether the programme had also included an examination of poultry production and processing with regard to the human pathogens Campylobacter jejuni and Listeria monocytogenes which were of concern to some countries. The Swedish delegation indicated that, as a result of the control measures, the mean prevalence of Campylobacter contamination in slaughtered flocks had been reduced from 50% to 15%.

94. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the excellent document presented by Sweden, which could be useful to every country faced with the problem of Salmonella contamination. The delegation of Norway informed the Committee about the cooperation between Nordic countries, which had enabled them to propose common regulations on Salmonella in foods, including import regulations for traded foods, harmonized inspection procedures, as well as recommendations for sampling plans and methods of analysis. The delegations of Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom presented the situation prevailing in their countries as to contamination and the measures implemented for its control. The Committee further recommended that the information provided by Sweden be brought to the attention of the Codex Committee of Food Hygiene for consideration at its next session.

Other Business and Future Work (Agenda Item 16)

95. The Chairman referred to the previous proposal (para. 10) to consider under Agenda Item 16 a revision of the Terms of Reference of the Coordinating Committee for Europe, as indicated in the Procedural Manual Seventh Edition, taking into consideration the decision of the Commission to convert Codex Regional Standards to World-wide Standards. The revision might include the deletion of point (d) as to the function of the Committee: "develops regional standards for food products moving exclusively or almost exclusively in intra-regional trade".

96. The delegation of the United Kingdom expressed its reservation about the unilateral modification of terms of reference by the Coordinating Committee for Europe, pointing out that other Coordinating Committees had the same terms of reference and would have the same problem.

97. The Committee agreed to recommend that this issue be considered by the Executive Committee and the Codex Committee on General Principles.

Future work

98. Taking into consideration the comments and proposals of several delegations, the Committee decided to include in its future work the following topics:

- (a) Monitoring of food safety activities in Europe
- (b) Updating of the survey of national authorities and legislation on food control.
- (c) Training of food inspectors
- (d) Consumer participation in Codex work
- (e) Harmonization in the area of food inspection, laboratories and other services
- (f) Biologically/Organically produced foods
- (g) Biotechnology and novel foods
- (h) Exchange of information on food import/export control in Europe
- (i) Effect of expanding economic groups on Codex in Europe

Nomination of Coordinator (Agenda Item 17)

99. The Committee had before it document CX/EURO 92/16 entitled "Nomination of Coordinator". The document set the Rules governing the appointment of the Coordinator as published in the Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rule II.4).

100. The Committee was informed by the Coordinator that she was not available for the next succeeding term. However the Swedish Government was prepared to host the next session of the Committee.

101. The delegation of the United Kingdom, on behalf of all members of the Committee expressed its regret that Mrs. Barbro Blomberg was not in a position to accept a nomination for the next term.

102. The Committee unanimously agreed that Dr. Stuart Slorach of Sweden should be proposed for nomination as Coordinator for the next term.

103. The Committee expressed its warm appreciation to Mrs. Barbro Blomberg and to Dr. Stuart Slorach as well as to the Swedish Government.

Date and Place of the Next Session (Agenda Item 18)

104. The Committee was informed that following the Commission's decision on the appointment of the Coordinator, the 19th Session of the Committee would be held in Stockholm in May or June 1994.

CODEX COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE

Summary Status of Work

Subject Matter	For Action by:	Document Reference
Code of Ethics	CCEXEC/CCGP 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 21-23
Terms of Reference	CCEXEC 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 95-97
Review of Acceptances of Codex Standards and MRLPs by Countries in the Region	Secretariat 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 15-20
Implementation and enforcement procedures	Secretariat Governments 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 44-49
Harmonization	Secretariat-Governments 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 50-60
Improvement of rapid information exchange	Secretariat 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 66-74
Control of contamination with salmonella	Governments 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 90-94
Consumer participation	Secretariat-Governments 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 61-65
Draft Guidelines on Organically/ Biologically Produced Foods	CCFL Governments 19th CCEURO	ALINORM 93/19 paras 80-89

CODEX COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE
Eighteenth Session
Stockholm, Sweden, 11-15 May 1992

List of Participants

Chairman of the session:
Mrs Barbro Blomberg
Coordinator for Europe
Mohultsvägen 8 A
Mullhyttan
S-716 94 Fjugesta, Sweden

MEMBER COUNTRIES
PAYS MEMBRES

AUSTRIA
AUTRICHE

Dipl. Ing. Dr. Arnulf Sattler
Federal Ministry of Health, Sports and
Consumer Protection, Dep. III/B/1,
Radetzkystrasse 2
A-1030 Vienna, Austria
Tel: Int + 01-71158 48 05
Fax: Int + 01-71158-46 81

Dkfm. Dr. H. Redl
Head of Div. III/A/3
Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Stubenring 1
A-1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel: Int + 01-71100 67 66

Univ. Prof. Dr. Herbert Woidich
Lebensmittelversuchsanstalt
Blaasstrasse 29
A-1190 Vienna, Austria
Tel: Int + 01-3622 55 11
Fax: Int + 01-3622 55 20

Komm.Rat. Prof Walther Stuller
Stubenbastei 10
A-1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel: Int + 0222-513 69 58

BELGIUM
BELGIQUE

Dr. M. Cornelis
Institut d'Expertise Vétérinaire
Ministère de la Santé Publique et de
l'Environnement
Rue de la Loi, 56
B-1040 Bruxelles, Belgium
Tel: Int + 02-2870 242
Fax: Int + 02-2870 201

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
TCHECOSLOVAQUIE

Mr. Pavel Dobrovský
Federal Ministry of Economy
Agriculture and Food Division
nábr.kpt.Jarose 1000
170 32 Praha 7, Czechoslovakia
Tel: Int + 02-389 24 74 or 389 26 74
Fax: Int + 02-37 56 41 or 37 11 77

FINLAND
FINLANDE

Mrs. Pirkko Raunemaa
Deputy Director
National Food Administration
P.O.B. 5
SF-00531 Helsinki, Finland
Tel: Int + 0-772 676 18
Fax: Int + 0-772 676 66

FRANCE

Mrs Jeannie Vergnettes
Direction Générale de la Concurrence
de la Consommation et de la Répression des
Fraudes
Carré Diderot
3-5 Boulevard Diderot
F-75012 Paris, France
Tel: Int + 1 4487 29 51
Fax: Int + 1 4487 30 43

Mrs Nathalie Dupre
Direction Générale de l'Alimentation
S.V.H.A.
175 rue du Chevaleret
F-75646 Paris Cedex 13, France
Tel: Int + 1 49 55 49 55

**GERMANY
ALLEMAGNE**

Mr Dr. Reinhard Doerfler
Ministerialdirektor
Bundesministerium für Gesundheit
Deutscherrenstrasse 87
D-5300 Bonn 2, Germany
Tel: Int + 0228- 941 40 00
Fax: Int + 0228-941 49 40

Mr Dr. Wolf Hoelzel
Ministerialrat
Bundesministerium für Gesundheit
Deutscherrenstrasse 87
D-5300 Bonn 2 Germany
Tel: Int + 0228- 941 41 40
Fax: Int + 0228-941 49 40

Mrs Elisabeth Tegge
Ministerialrätin
Bundesministerium für Ernährung
Landwirtschaft und Forsten
Postfach
D-5300 Bonn 1, Germany
Tel: Int + 0228-529 37 14
Fax: Int + 0228-529 42 62

Herr Franz Josef Schüller
Regierungsdirektor
Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft
Postfach
D-5300 Bonn 1 Germany
Tel: Int + 0228-615 42 21
Fax: Int + 0228-615 38 22

**HUNGARY
HONGRIE**

Mr. Aurél Salamon
Head of Dept. for Quality Control
Ministry of Agriculture
Kossuth L. tér 11.
1860 Budapest V, Hungary
Tel: Int + 1-131 53 62

Dr. Ms. Ágnes Szabo
Head of Dept. for International
Legal Affairs, Legal Dept.
Ministry of Agriculture
Tel: Int + 1-112 36 94

Mr. Istvan Oláh
Secretary of Hungarian Codex
Committee
Hungarian Office for Standardization
Üllői u. 25
H-1091 Budapest, Hungary
Tel: Int + 1-118 30 11

**IRELAND
IRLANDE**

Dr. Jerome O'Shea
Head of General Coordination/International
Organisations
Department of Agriculture and Food
Agriculture House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2, Ireland
Tel: Int + 1-789 011 Ext 2079
Fax: 1 - 616263

NETHERLANDS
PAYS-BAS

Mrs. C.G. M. Klitsie
Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management
and Fisheries
Deputy Director, Department for the
Environment, Quality and Nutrition
P.O. Box 20401
2500 EK The Hague, Netherlands
Tel: Int +070-379 21 75
Fax: Int +070-347 75 52

Mr S. Van Hoogstraten
Ministry of Welfare, Health and Cultural
Affairs
Director for Food and Product Safety Affairs
P.O. Box 3008
2280 MK Rijswijk, Netherlands
Tel: Int +070-340 68 84
Fax: Int +070-340 51 77

Mr G.H. Schipper
Commission for the Dutch Food and
Agricultural Industry
Nederlandse Unilever Bedrijven B.V.
P.O. Box 760
3000 DK Rotterdam, Netherlands
Tel: Int +010-464 43 74
Fax: Int +010-464 47 98

NORWAY
NORVEGE

Mrs Berit Wilsher
International Liaison Officer
Norwegian Food Control Authority
P.O.B. 8187 Dep.
N-0034 Oslo, Norway
Tel: Int + 02-67 15 85
Fax: Int + 02-19 95 31

POLAND
POLOGNE

Mrs Joanna Swicka
Deputy Director
Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations
Quality Inspection Office
32/34 Zurawia Street
Warsaw, Poland
Tel: Int +022-628 67 20
Fax: Int + 022-21 48 58

Mrs Anna Skrzynska
Main Specialist
Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations
Quality Inspection Office
32/34 Zurawia Street
Warsaw, Poland
Tel: Int +022-625 20 28

Mrs Barbara Traczyk
Deputy Director of the Department for Food
Processing
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Economy
30 Wspolna Street
Warsaw, Poland
Tel: Int +022-623 17 61
Fax: Int + 39 12 01 01 "Komertel"

Director Jerzy Marcinek
Department for Agriculture and Food
Polish Committee for Standardization,
Measures and Quality
2 Elektoralna Street
Warsaw, Poland
Tel: Int + 022-27 41 15

Włodzimierz Taut
Chief of Licence Division
Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations
Plac 3 Krzyzy 5
Warsaw, Poland
Tel: Int + 022-693 58 14

PORTUGAL

Dra. Maria Hermfina Lopes
Chief of Service
Instituto de Qualidade Alimentar
Rue Alixandre Herculano 6
Lisboa, Portugal
Tel: Int + 1-54 71 96
Fax: Int + 1-54 94 51

SPAIN ESPAGNE

Da. Rosa Sanchidrian Fernández
Jefe del Area de la Subdirección General de
Higiene de los Alimentos
Ministerio de Sanidad y Consumo
Tel: Int + 1-420 21 02
Fax: Int + 1-420 15 49

D. Antonio Carpintero Saiz
Técnico de la Subdirección General de
Planificación Alimentaria y Relaciones con la
CEE
Ministerio de Agricultura
Pesca y Alimentación
Tel: Int + 1-347 50 88
Fax: Int + 1-347 57 28

SWEDEN SUEDE

Dr Stuart Slorach
Head of Department
National Food Administration
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala, Sweden
Tel: Int +018-17 55 94
Fax: Int +018-10 58 48

Mr Per-Erik Nistér
Head of Legal Division
National Food Administration
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala, Sweden
Tel: Int +018-17 55 05
Fax: Int +018-10 58 48

Mrs Gunilla Henrysdotter
Legal Division
National Food Administration
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala, Sweden
Tel: Int +018-17 57 48
Fax: Int +018-10 58 48

Mrs Agneta Gillback
National Board for Consumer Policies
Box 503
S-162 15 Vällingby, Sweden
Tel: Int +08-759 83 00
Fax: Int +08-38 22 15

Mrs Inger Svedinger
National Board for Consumer Policies
Box 503
S-162 15 Vällingby
Tel: Int +08-759 83 00
Fax: Int +08-38 22 15

Mr Mark Collins
National Board of Agriculture
S-551 83 Jönköping, Sweden
Tel: Int + 036-15 50 00
Fax: Int + 036-19 05 46

Mrs Annika Söderberg
International Secretariat
Ministry of Agriculture
S-103 33 Stockholm, Sweden
Tel: Int +08-763 11 28
Fax: Int +08-10 50 61

Mr Nils Färnert
Manager
Färnert Consulting AB
Ljuskärrsvägen 60
S-133 31 SALTSJÖBADEN
Tel: Int +08-717 28 35
Fax: Int +08-762 64 90

SWITZERLAND
SUISSE

Mr. P. Rossier
Head of Section
Federal Office of Public Health
Postfach
CH-3000 Berne 14, Switzerland
Tel: Int + 031-61 95 72
Fax: Int + 031-61 95 74

Mr. Olivier Bindschedler
Nestec SA
Avenue Nestlé 55
CH-1800 Vevey, Switzerland
Tel: Int + 021-924 42 13
Fax: Int + 021-921 18 55

UNITED KINGDOM
ROYAUME-UNI

Mr C. A. Cockbill
Head of Consumer Protection Division
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Ergon House, c/o Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR, United Kingdom
Tel: Int + 071-238 62 78
Fax: Int + 071-238 67 63

Ms Lynda Lockyer
Head of Health Aspects of Environment
and Food Branch
Department of Health
Eileen House
80-94 Newington Causeway
London SE1 6EF, United Kingdom
Tel: Int + 071-972 27 87
Fax: Int + 071-972 29 82

OBSERVER COUNTRY
PAYS OBSERVATEUR

Mrs Jindra Linda L. Demeterio
Agricultural Attaché
Philippine Embassy
85 Rue Washington
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: Int + 02-533 18 18 or 533 18 11
Fax: Int + 02-538 39 17

Khaled Ghareeb
Ministry of Health - Food Administration
Kuwait
Tel: Int + 481 60 43
Fax: Int + 481 60 43

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES

THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
(EEC)

Mme O Demine
Principal Administrator
Commission of the European Community
Directorate General "Internal Market and
Industrial Affairs"
200 rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: Int + 02-235 31 25 or 236 08 98
Fax: Int + 02-235 17 35

Mr Bent Mejborn
Administrator
EC-Council Secretariat
170 rue de la Loi
B-1180 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: Int + 02-234 67 22
Fax: Int + 02-234 66 85

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY
AGENCY (IAEA)

Dr. Leslie G. Ladomery
Food Irradiation Specialist
Joint FAO/IAEA Division
Box 100
A-1400 Vienna, Austria
Tel: Int + 01-2360 Ext 16 38
Fax: Int + 01-23 45 64

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE
MOVEMENTS (IFOAM)**

Mr. Dipl. Ing.- Agr. ETH. Otto Schmid
Coordinator of the IFOAM Standards
Committee
Halden
CH-8615 Wermatswil/Uster, Switzerland
Tel: Int +01-940 12 80
Fax: Int +01-940 12 55

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF
CONSUMER UNIONS (IOCU)**

Dr. John Beishon
Chief Executive
Consumers' Association
2, Marylebone Road
London NW1 4DX, United Kingdom

Mrs Anna Bradley
Deputy Director of Research
Consumers' Association
2, Marylebone Road
London NW1 4DX, United Kingdom

**MARINALG INTERNATIONAL
(WORLD ASSOCIATION OF SEAWEED
PROCESSORS)**

Mr Jean-Jacques Piot
Marinalg International
85, Bd Haussmann
F-75008 Paris, France
Tel: Int + 01-4265 41 58
Fax: Int + 01-4265 02 05

JOINT FAO/WHO SECRETARIAT

Mrs S.H.Doyran
Food Standards Officer
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme
Food Policy and Nutrition Division
FAO
Via delle Terme di Caracalla
I-00100 Rome, Italy
Tel: Int + 06-5797 47 12
Fax: Int + 06-5797 3152

Dr. Enrico Casadei
Food Standards Officer
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme
Food Policy and Nutrition Division
FAO
Via delle Terme di Caracalla
I-00100 Rome, Italy
Tel: Int +06-5794 47 94
Fax: Int +06-5797 31 52 or 578 26 10

WHO PERSONNEL

Dr. Dinko Kello
Head
Toxicology and Food Safety
WHO
Regional Office for Europe
8 ScherfigsveDK-2100 Copenhagen,
Denmark
Tel: Int +39-17 1251

SWEDISH SECRETARIAT

Mrs Eva Lönberg
Swedish Codex Contact Point
National Food Administration
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala, Sweden
Tel: Int + 018-17 55 47
Fax: Int + 018-10 58 48

Mrs Ingegärd Bergman
Food Standards Division
National Food Administration
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala, Sweden
Tel: Int +018-7 56 11
Fax: Int + 018-10 58 48

Mrs Agneta Andersson
Swedish Codex Contact Point
National Food Administration
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala, Sweden
Tel: Int + 018-17 56 02
Fax: Int + 018-10 58 48

Mrs Anneli Lennartsson
National Food Administration
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala, Sweden
Tel: Int + 018-17 57 20

Mrs Agneta Karlsson
International Secretariat
Ministry of Agriculture
S-103 33 STOCKHOLM