

# CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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CRD

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEx COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

15th Session

Virtual

9-13 and 24 May 2022

#### **Impact on Multilateral Relations in Codex in light of the Current Situation in Ukraine**

(prepared by the United Kingdom)

- 1.1. The UK has been a Member of the Codex Alimentarius Commission since it was founded in 1963 and has a long-established track record of supporting and championing Codex's core values and objectives throughout its membership. The UK would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm its commitment and continued support for the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.
- 1.2. We highly value the multilateral consensus-based and collaborative approach to developing international food standards in the Commission. Further, the relationships, trust and mutual respect that has been built between countries in the Codex family.
- 1.3. Russia's assault on Ukraine is an unprovoked, premeditated attack against a sovereign democratic state. The UK and our international partners stand united in condemning the Russian government's reprehensible actions, which are an egregious violation of international law and the UN Charter.
- 1.4. As a Permanent Member of the UN Security Council, Russia has a particular responsibility to uphold international peace and security. Instead, it is violating the borders of another country and its actions are causing widespread suffering.
- 1.5. The Russian Government has shown that it was never serious about engaging in diplomacy – it has deliberately worked to mislead the world, in order to mask its carefully planned aggression.
- 1.6. As the UN Secretary-General has said, such unilateral measures conflict directly with the United Nations Charter - the use of force by one country against another is the repudiation of the principles that every country has committed to uphold.
- 1.7. Russia must urgently de-escalate and withdraw its troops. It must be held accountable and stop undermining democracy, global stability, and international law.
- 1.8. The UK delegation will take no account of interventions made by the Russian Federation at this Codex Committee and we disassociate ourselves from any interventions or contributions made by the Russian Federation at this and future Codex meetings or working groups in which the UK participates.
- 1.9. The UK will continue to work collaboratively with other international partners to deliver robust, science-based food standards that protect everyone everywhere, whilst also facilitating global trade.