

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 5

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

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NATIONAL FOOD CONTROL SYSTEMS AND CONSUMER PARTICIPATION IN FOOD STANDARDS SETTING

COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO CL 2008/30-AFRICA, PART A FROM
ETHIOPIA, GHANA, MALI, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE

1. STATUS OF THE NATIONAL FOOD CONTROL SYSTEM

- (i) **Structure and organization of official services responsible for food control (update information since the 17th CCAFRICA)**

Ethiopia

Responsibilities concerning food safety issues are shared among the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Quality and Standards Authority of Ethiopia at the federal level and regional health bureaus are as well responsible in their respective regions.

Ghana

Food and Drugs Board (FDB)	Ministry of Health
Environmental Health Department	Ministry of Local Government & Rural Development
Customs Excise and Preventive	Ministry of Finance and Preventive Service
Medical Officer of Public Government	Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Environment
Ghana Tourist Board	Ministry of Tourism
Ghana Police Service	Ministry of Interior
Ghana Atomic Energy Commission	Ministry of Environment, Science and Sports
Department of Port Health	Ministry of Health
Ghana Standards Board (GSB)	Ministry of Trade, Industry, PSI & PSD
Plant Protection and Regulatory	Ministry of Food and Agriculture Services Directorate (PPRSD)
Veterinary Services Directorate	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
Fisheries Directorate	Ministry of Fisheries
Environmental Protection Agency	Ministry of Environment, Science & Sports

Kenya

The National Food Safety Coordinating Committee was formed in 2006 and launched in 2007. It is chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and the focal point and secretariat is the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation. The composition of members is as listed below;

- Ministry of Agriculture - Chair
- Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation-Secretary
- Kenya Bureau of Standards

- Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services (KEPHIS)
- Pest Control Produce Board
- Kenya Tea Board
- Coffee Board of Kenya
- Department of Veterinary Services
- Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI)
- National Public Health Laboratory Services (NPHLS)
- University of Nairobi
- Government Chemist
- Department of Fisheries
- Department of Livestock Production
- Kenya Medical Research Institute
- Kenya Dairy Board
- City Council of Nairobi
- FAO – Kenya Representative
- WHO – Kenya Representative

Mali

The main objectives of the national food control system are:

- protection of public health against food-borne diseases;
- protection of consumers against falsified, unfit or mislabelled food products;
- promotion of trade through quality assurance and adherence to national and international legislative and regulatory requirements.

Responsibility for food control is shared between several ministries. Although these have very different roles and responsibilities, their regulatory activities sometimes overlap and their control duties are sometimes dispersed. There is also considerable disparity in competence and resource allocation between the structures. However, the establishment of the National Food Safety Agency (ANSSA), responsible for coordinating food safety activities in Mali, has helped to harmonize and integrate actions.

1.1 Official services responsible for food control:

- National Health Directorate (DNS)

The DNS was established by Ordinance N° 00-20/PRM of 20 March 2001 subsequently ratified by Law N° 01-058 of 3 July 2001.

Through its Public Hygiene and Sanitation Division, the DNS controls the hygiene of infrastructure, supplies and equipment, transportation, personnel, water and food.

- National Veterinary Services Directorate (DNSV)

The DNSV was established by Law N° 05-010/PRM of 11 February 2005. It is the authority responsible for veterinary health measures and is charged with controlling animal-derived foods, including from hunting, fishing and beekeeping.

- National Agricultural Directorate (DNA)

The DNA was established by Law N° 05-012/PRM of 11 February 2005. It is the national authority responsible for the phytosanitary control of plant products through its Phytosanitary Legislation and Control Division.

1.1 Testing and control laboratories

Assessment of food safety and nutritional quality is carried out by the following laboratories:

- National Health Laboratory (LNS)

In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance N° 00-40/PRM of 20 September 2000, the LNS is responsible for controlling the quality of medications, foods, beverages and all other substances imported into or produced in Mali and used for therapeutic, dietary or nutritional purposes, in order to safeguard human and animal health.

- **Veterinary Central Laboratory (LCV)**

Its responsibilities laid down in the provisions of Law N° 94-027/PRM of 1 July 1994 include, on the public health level, the detection of animal diseases, microbiological analyses and investigation of contaminants in foods.

- **Animal Nutritional Laboratory (LNA)**

This is one of the central laboratories of the Rural Economy Institute (IER), with responsibilities that include determining the nutritional value of feed and checking for the presence of mycotoxins and pesticides.

- **National Water Laboratory (LNE)**

Established by Ordinance N° 90-51/PRM of 31 October 1990, the Water Quality Laboratory was converted in 2008 to the National Water Laboratory. Its responsibilities include the physical, chemical and bacteriological analysis of water.

1.2 National agency for the coordination of food safety actions

In 2002 Mali adopted a national food safety policy and institutional framework. The National Food Safety Agency was established in 2003 and the National Food Safety Council in 2005.

National Food Safety Agency (ANSSA)

Established by Law N° 03-043 of 30 December 2003, the ANSSA is a public scientific and technological establishment mandated to ensure food safety. It is responsible for:

- Coordinating all actions relating to food safety;
- Supplying technical and scientific support to the control structures;
- Ensuring the technical and scientific support needed for the drafting of food safety regulations;
- Assessing potential health hazards from food;
- Supporting activities of the surveillance systems and epidemiological networks;
- Communicating risk.

The ANSSA has carried out the following actions to strengthen Mali's national food safety system:

- a workshop to review regulations of the control services;
- a workshop to elaborate and adopt national plans for the control and surveillance of the food control structures;
- support for the validation of a general inspection guide and establishment of a framework of coordination of actors involved in food safety management;
- a workshop to critically assess Mali's food standards in relation to Codex standards;
- support for the review of Mali's standards;
- support for the HACCP training of control officers and agrifood practitioners;
- support for the training in sampling techniques of food safety risk assessment officers;
- organization of joint food control activities in the District of Bamako;
- support for the functioning of the national commission responsible for authorizing the sale of food;
- support for the establishment of the consumer network;
- organization of the National Food Safety Week;
- organization of the National Food Safety Prize;
- adoption of the order banning the import of food products with a shelf life of under three months.

1.4. Organization of food control in Mali

Mali's official food control services are represented at the central level by the Public Hygiene and Sanitation Division, the Phytosanitary Legislation and Control Division and the Veterinary Inspection and Public Health Division.

At the level of the eight administrative regions and the District of Bamako, they are represented by food control units placed under a division attached to the corresponding regional directorate.

The services are represented at subregional level by control branches and at municipal level by control posts.

The zoosanitary and phytosanitary control of imports and exports is effected at border control points (airports, railway stations, bus terminals) by veterinary inspectors and phytosanitary inspectors.

In its present state, food control in Mali is not based on the HACCP approach. The many inadequacies that exist on the legislative, technical and organizational level prevent the implementation of an effective control programme.

Senegal

In Senegal, several public and university structures have been identified as exercising the control of food quality, primarily to protect consumer health. These include:

The National Commission on Consumption;

The phytosanitary control laboratory of the Directorate of Plant Protection (DPV) with the National Committee of Intrinsic Quality (entomology, plant pathology, weed science and nematology);

The Laboratory Locustox;

The control laboratory of the Directorate of Internal Trade;

The laboratory of the Directorate of Oceanography and Marine Fisheries;

The laboratories of the Institute of Food Technology (ITA) of Dakar;

The laboratory of the Inter-State School of Veterinary Science and Medicine (EIESMV) of Dakar;

The analytical laboratory of the Directorate of Hygiene;

The nuclear physics laboratory of the Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar;

The Food and Nutrition Division of the Ministry of Health – central unit for the coordination of activities for the protection of consumers and the promotion of food quality;

The chemical and bromatological analytical laboratory of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Dakar;

The medications analytical and control laboratory of the Ministry of Health.

While some of these are effective, there is a total absence of complementarity, consultation or coordination between the different links of the chain.

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone Standards Bureau is responsible for food safety, quality control and designating national standards in the country. It collaborates with the Ministries such as agriculture, health, fishery and marine resources and consumer organizations.

Zambia

MINISTRY OF HEALTH, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, ZAMBIA BUREAU OF STANDARDS AND FOOD AND DRUGS LABORATORY CONTROL LABORATORY

- Ministry of Health – responsible for Food Safety and national Codex Contact Point & ZABS is secretariat
- Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperatives –enquiry point for SPS; IPPC and OIE
- Ministry of Local Government & Housing – responsible for enforcement of Public Health Act
- Zambia Bureau of Standards –responsible for development & implementation of Standards and is the enquiry point for TBTs
- Ministry of Science and Technology

- Environmental Council of Zambia
- Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources
- Ministry of Commerce Trade & Industry National Focal Point/Notification Point – WTO SPS
- Zambia National Farmers Union – Beef Association, Poultry Association, Dairy Association, Kapenta Association
- NGOs – MATEP, Land O Lakes, PAM
- Associations – OPPAZ, ASNAP, ZACA, CBTA
- SPS National committee – MACO secretariat
- Committee comprises representatives from the government and private sector
- The mandate of the committee is to safeguard the country from the introduction of plant pests and animal diseases and to ensure food safety while facilitating safe trade in food/agro products.
- It also provides advice on SPS issues to the government
- Certification of imports/exports of livestock, livestock products,
- OIE Contact point
- National structures in place for disease surveillance
- Disease free zones not yet declared as required by OIE but national control measures are in place
- Emergency preparedness plan in place but emergency fund not adequately supported
- The Public Health Act, Food & Drugs Act & the Standards Act
- Certification of imports/exports of processed foods; formulation of food regulations, standards and policies
- Regular inspection & sampling
- Codex Contact Point – MoH
- A national Coordinating committee exists
- Committee comprise representatives from the government and private sector

Zimbabwe

The Ministry of Health and Child Welfare is largely responsible for food safety activities while other government agencies such as Ministry of Agriculture and Municipal authorities also play a part. In the Ministry of Health are four departments that are directly involved which are the Government Analyst Laboratory, The Food Standards Advisory Board, Environmental Health and Nutrition.

(ii) Legislation and regulations on food safety and quality - including import/export matters (update information since the 17th CCAFRICA)

Ethiopia

In Ethiopia there is no single comprehensive food law so far. However, there are various provisions in different laws which are being imposed by relevant institutions. For example:

- Public Health Proclamation No. 200/2000 (Ministry of Health)
- Plant Quarantine Regulation No. 4/1992 (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)
- Plant Protection Decree No. 56/1971 (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)
- Ethiopian Standards Regulation No. 12/1990 (QSAE)

Ghana

- Breast Feeding Promotion Regulations, 2000 (L.I. 1667)
- General Labelling Rules (Food, Drugs and other goods), 1992 (LI 154)
- Ghana Standards (Certification Mark) Rules, 1970 (L.I. 662)
- Ghana Standards (Certification Mark) Amendment Rules, 1970 (L.I. 664)
- Standards Decree, 1973 (N.R.C.D. 173)
- Standards (Amendment) Decree, 1979
- Ghana Tourist Board Decree, 1973
- Ghana Tourist Control Board Decree, 1977
- Diseases of Animal Act, 1961
- Animals (Control of importation Ordinance (Cap 247)
- Draft Meat Inspection Law, 1992
- Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1994
- Food and Drugs Law, (PNDCL 305B) 1992 and Food and Drugs (Amendment) Act 1996, Act 523

- Local Government (Accra Metropolitan Assembly Establishment), Instrument, 1995
- Local Government Act, 1992
- Pesticides Management and Control Act, 1996
- Sale of Goods Act, 1962
- The Criminal Code

Plant Protection and Regulatory Directorate (PPRSD) of Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA)

PPRSD controls and regulates the importation and use of agriculture inputs such as seeds, agricultural pesticides and fertilizers and also handles SPS matters.

Veterinary Services Directorate (VSD) of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA)

VSD is responsible for the control of meat hygiene, meat inspection, animal health (ante-mortem & post-mortem) and management at abattoirs.

Ghana Standards Board (GSB)

GSB was established in 1967 under the Standards Decree, 1967 that was superseded by the Standards Decree of 1973 (NRCD 173:1973). GSB has responsibility for providing standardization of all goods in industry and commerce. Its functions basically involve setting standards for industry and ensuring that the standards are complied with, through its standardization process.

Food and Drugs Board (FDB)

With the coming into force of the Food and Drugs Law, 1992, the Food and Drugs Board (FDB) was established. The FDB is responsible for the regulation of the manufacture, import, export, distribution, storage, sale and advertisement of food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices and household chemical substances.

Ghana Atomic Energy Commission

The Biotechnology and Nuclear Agriculture Research Institute and the Radiation Technology Centre of the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission is responsible for providing radiation services. The Ghana Standard GS 210:2007 – Food Technology – Specification for Irradiated Food is used in regulating irradiated foods in Ghana.

Kenya

National Food Safety Coordinating Committee was formed to be the reference point in National Food Safety issues. It is therefore involved in preparation of cabinet memo on coordination of food safety activities , proposes an operational legal framework and identifies legislative needs for effective national food control systems.

Mali

In Mali, the control of food products is governed by basic laws, general decrees and implementing orders for the legislative and regulatory texts.

However, some of these texts are obsolete and no longer correspond to national or international reality, thus undermining their effect..

In view of the new challenges of globalization and the requirements of the SPS measures and the WTO agreements, Mali needs to equip itself with a legislative and regulatory arsenal that corresponds to international requirements.

2.1. Phytosanitary legislation

Phytosanitary control is governed by Law N° 02-013 of 3 June 2002 which institutes phytosanitary control in the Republic of Mali, together with Decree N° 02-304/PRM of 3 June 2002 which provides the implementing modalities for Law N° 02-013.

The law gives the definitions and general principles of quarantine; determines the areas of competence of the control officers, deals with infringements and procedures for their observation and, finally, sets out provisions for the collection of penalties.

The decree identifies the institutions responsible for phytosanitary control and the modalities of phytosanitary inspection, and imposes a phytosanitary certificate.

The complementary texts include Order N° 06-3275/MA-SG of 10 August 2005, which sets out the conditions for the treatment of wood packaging material in the Republic of Mali.

This text has resulted in institutional recognition of the IPPC International Standard for Phytosanitary Measure N° 15, which provides guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade.

Law No 02-014 of 3 June 2002 instituting the certification and control of pesticides in the Republic of Mali and Decree N° 02-306/PRM of 3 June 2002 setting its implementing modalities.

These texts define the labelling modalities with the interval before harvesting.

The Codex provisions are applied for the evaluation of pesticide residues in food.

2.2 Animal health legislation

The control of animal health is governed by Law No 01-022 of 31 May 2001 which regulates animal health inspection in the Republic of Mali and Decree No 01-339/PRM of 9 August 2001 which provides its implementing modalities.

The law gives the definition and general principles of sanitary inspection of animals and animal-derived food products, determines the areas of competence of the control officers, addresses infringements and procedures for their observation and, finally, sets out provisions for the collection of penalties.

The decree lists the diseases considered contagious in law in the Republic of Mali, defines sanitary culling and a disease free area, determines special measures for selected diseases, sets sanitary measures for the export and import of live animals, animal-derived foods and genetic material, identifies the institutions responsible for animal health control and the modalities of animal health inspection, and imposes an animal health certificate.

The complementary texts include:

Interministerial Order No 7028/MRNE-MSPAS of 22/12/1987 regulating the sanitary and safety inspection of animal-derived foods in Mali.

Law No 02-001/P-RM of 16 January 2002 setting the conditions for the production, processing and marketing of milk and milk products and Decree No 02-304/P-RM of 3 June 2002 stating its implementation modalities.

Interministerial Order No 00-3445/MDR/MIC/MEP of 5 December 2000 banning the import of beef and beef products, meatmeal, bloodmeal, and bonemeal, live cattle and cattle ovules and embryos.

Interministerial Order No 04-0596/MIC/MEF/MAEP-SG of 18 March 2004 banning the import of chicken meat.

2.3. Horizontal texts

Decree No 06-259/PRM of 23 June 2006 instituting sale authorization for food, feed and additives.

Interministerial Decree No 07-2650/MS-MEP-MA-MIC-MEF-SG of 26 September 2007 determining the implementing modalities of Decree N° 06-259/PRM of 23 June 2006.

Interministerial Order N° 07-2651/MS-MEP-MA-MIC-MEF-SG of 26 September 2007 determining the nature of food not subject to sale authorization.

Interministerial Order N° 07-2652/MS-MEP-MA-MIC-MEF-SG of 26 September 2007 determining the fixed charge for sale authorization of food, feed and additives.

Decree N° 66/PG-RM of 2 March 1962 establishing the modalities for organizing and implementing the control of processed products from agriculture, livestock, water and forest resources and agroindustries of Mali.

Order N° 2699/MICT-SG of 16 October 2001 listing products banned for import or export.

2.4. Other food-related legislative texts

Order N° 93-0123/MEFP-CAB of 27 January 1993 instituting mandatory information on edible oil packaging.

Interministerial Order No 06-1907/MS/MIC/MEP-MA-SG of 4 September 2006 regulating the sale, information and quality control of breastmilk substitutes in Mali.

2.5. Mali's food standards

Mali currently has 82 approved food standards and 66 proposed draft standards under public inquiry. Mali's standards cover the following areas and products: labelling of food products, hygiene of food production, transportation, storage and sale, terms and terminology, cereals and cereal products, fruit and vegetables, milk and milk products, water for beverages, fish and fish products, meat and meat products, eggs and egg products, pre-cooked meals, food additives and processing aids.

The workshop on food standards in Mali held from 26 to 29 June 2006 by the National Food Safety Agency was an opportunity for technical services, agricultural and agrifood practitioners and representatives of consumer associations to critically assess Mali's standards in relation to Codex standards.

The workshop's conclusion was that Mali's standards did not conform with Codex standards regarding: definitions, hygiene criteria, MRLs for food additives, contaminants and pesticides, and methods of analysis and sampling.

On the strength of experience gained from participation in Codex proceedings, Mali's ANSSA has started to review existing national standards on the basis of Codex standards and to translate Codex standards into national regulations.

Senegal

Senegal has a broad range of legislative texts, usually of European inspiration, otherwise based on Codex international standards. Such texts comprise:

- Laws;
- Decrees;
- Orders;
- Regulations that are mandatory or not yet mandatory.

Sierra Leone

The Standards Act No. 2 of 1996 and the Weight and Measure Act of 1978.

Zambia

SPS/Food Control system in Zambia is governed by the following legislation:

- Public Health Act
- Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act
- Food & Drugs Act
- Biosafety Act
- Standards Act
- Stock Diseases Act
- Plant Pest and Diseases Act

International/Regional standards published by OIE, Codex Alimentarius Commission, IPPC.

Zimbabwe

The Food and Food standards Act Chapter 15:04 and the Public Health Act Chapter 15:09 are the main laws that govern activities in food safety and quality control in Zimbabwe. The two laws empower the Minister of Health to promulgate mandatory regulations such as port health regulations that stipulate requirements for importation and export of all food. There are also regulations that cover requirements for quality and safety of food regardless of whether imported or locally produced.

(iii) Establishment of equivalence or other trade facilitation agreements with other governments**Ethiopia**

Ethiopia has bilateral agreement in trade with China.

Ghana

Ghana has a trade agreement with the European Union for fish trade and other food commodities.

Japan is a major importer of cocoa from Ghana and an agreement exists between the two countries that facilitate trade in cocoa with Japan.

The European Union has a mutual recognition agreement with Ghana for palm oil where certificates issued for palm oil exports are accepted by the European Union.

Kenya

There are contact points for WTO and SPS that facilitate agreements with other governments. Office International des Epizootics contact point is also in place to deal with the health of animals and human health (zoonotic).

Mali

Mali is a member of WAEMU and ECOWAS and observes their agreements.

With regard to food control, Mali is a signatory of several conventions and is a member of the following organizations:

FAO

WHO

OIE

IPPC

WTO

Codex Alimentarius

Senegal

Formal, consensual agreements exist and are applied in the framework of trade within subregional economic areas (WAEMU and ECOWAS). Senegal participates in the WTO negotiations and contributes to their implementation.

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone is a member of ECOWAS, Africa Union, Mano River Union and World Trade Organization.

Zimbabwe

The country does not currently have any official bilateral agreements on equivalence in food safety. Governments are however currently working on harmonisation of SPS Agreement within Common Market for Eastern and Southern African States (COMESA). This harmonisation hopes to come up with the COMESA green card.

(iv) Identified need for capacity building and training to strengthen the national food control system**Ethiopia**

- Developing compatible food safety regulation to International Trade
- Strengthening the conformity assessment structures of the country such as food testing laboratory, food inspection and certification services
- Awareness program on food safety
- Strengthening the consumer association; and
- Strengthening the participation of stakeholders in National, Regional and International Standardization activities.

Ghana

Ghana requires capacity building in the following areas:

Upgrading of the Gamma Irradiation facility at the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission to improve efficiency.

Research in the area of Mycotoxins, pesticide residues and heavy metals

Training on Mycotoxins Reduction in Grains, Cocoa and Coffee; Contaminants Monitoring (Chemicals and Pesticides) for Farmers and Food Safety in Vending

Training on: safe food handling practices; safe use of pesticides; traceability along the entire food supply chain

Implementing HACCP, Food Safety Management Systems, Food Standards & Code of Hygienic Practices by Manufacturing industries

Facilities and Laboratories for Food Safety Analysis, Assessment and Communication

Training of Technical Staff in the use of rapid detection methods for microbial analysis

Kenya

Needs in capacity building are done in tandem with the progress of the National food safety coordinating committee (NFSCC). Most trainings and capacity building are done by relevant institutions but can be improved by involving WHO and FAO funds.

Mali

- Build the capacity of testing and control laboratories for investigation of pesticides, veterinary drug residues, additives and contaminants in food;
- Support the networking of national food testing and control laboratories;
- Support the accreditation of food control laboratories;
- Support the training of experts in risk assessment;
- Support the training of members of the National Codex Committee (NFSCC) and Codex subcommittees;
- Support the training of inspectors of the food safety system;
- Build the capacity of the National Food Safety Agency;
- Build the capacity of the secretariat of the Codex Contact Point for Mali;
- Build the capacity of the food standard setting and control services;
- Build the capacity of consumer associations;
- Support the participation of national experts in FAO and WHO consultations;
- Support the organization of the National Food Safety Week;
- Support the organization of the National Food Safety Prize;
- Support activities to help food companies implement food safety systems;
- Support implementation of the strategic plan for food security in Africa.

Senegal

- Training of national experts in the review and elaboration of Codex standards;
- Institutional strengthening of control, surveillance and information structures for the implementation of Codex standards and sanitary and phytosanitary measures (laboratory equipment, networking);
- Support for the development of national advocacy for the high-level engagement of decision-makers;
- Support for activities relating to the qualitative study of food sold.

Sierra Leone

The Sierra Leone Standards Bureau needs capacity building and training on the following: HACCP, ISO 9000, ISO 14000, ISO 22000, Standardization Management and Techniques, Logistic and office equipment.

Zambia

Coordination

- Inadequate coordination of inspection; enforcement of fragmented pieces of legislation;

Legislation

- To be revised in line with the international standards; National regulation to be formulated in line with changing trends as required.

Policy

- Inadequate policies







Capacity

- Inadequate laboratory equipment
- Lack of accredited laboratories
- Limited human resource with regards to emerging challenges
- Uninstitutionalised national SPS and NCCC
- Inadequate resources directed at committees to facilitate their operations

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Laboratory support

-  Zambia Agriculture Research Institute
-  Central Veterinary Research Institute
-  Food & Drugs Control Lab
-  ZABS
-  NISIR
-  UNZA

Zimbabwe

- Risk analysis training
- strengthen laboratory capacity
- strengthen regulations in pre-requisites for HACCP

(v) Activities to increase awareness on food safety and quality among the consumers and other specified groups

Ethiopia

- Government and private media need to give adequate coverage for food safety issues;
- Training food handlers (producers, distributors and retailers) and consumers on food safety issues.

Ghana

The first National Food Safety Conference was held under the theme: Clean Markets, Clean Food and Healthy People. This conference drew a broad spectrum of players in Food Safety including Market Administrators, Environmental Health Officers, Administrators of Waste Management Companies, Students and Food Safety Experts.

Dramatized awareness creation on Food Safety depicting Food Safety concerns prevailing on the market scenes

Seminar Presentation on food adulteration

Food Safety advocacy on Television in different Ghanaian languages

Distribution of Food Safety tit bits example hand bills for travellers

Participation of consumer groups and other stakeholder in the National Food Standards setting process

Quizzes on Food Safety at Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Institutions.

Meeting with the press to educate them on the proper reporting of Food Safety issues

Kenya

These activities should be intensified with greater public-private-WHO representative-Consumer Information Network coalition.

Mali

The five consumer associations active in the field of food safety are represented on all the bodies of the national food standards and safety system (National Codex Committee and subcommittees, National Food Safety Council, National Committee for Standards and Quality Control, Standards Technical Committees, Administrative Council of the Food Safety Technical Services, Organizing Committees of the National Food Safety Week and Prize, National Committee of the Standards Week).

In order to enhance the coordination of their actions and with support from the National Food Safety Agency, the consumer associations have established a network of associations active in the field of food safety, referred to as the "MASSA Network".

The ANSSA has carried out the following activities to raise the food safety and quality awareness of consumers and other groups:

- Organization each year of a National Food Safety Week;
- Organization of a National Food Safety Prize;
- Organization throughout the country of seminars and workshops on national food safety policy;
- Raising decision-maker awareness of food safety;
- Raising economic operator and consumer awareness of food safety;
- Support for the implementation of consumer association awareness activities;
- Creation, training and awareness raising of hygiene brigades of the network of consumer associations.

Senegal

In Senegal, consumer, producer and economic operator information and awareness activities are conducted through national and community radio, television, public discussions and field visits on the occasion of special events (World Food Day, national agricultural days, agriculture and livestock fairs, national and

subregional fairs, creation of national consumer associations, support programmes for a competitive agriculture and industry, involvement of school establishments...).

Sierra Leone

Seminars, workshops, radio and television discussions, and documentary on food safety and quality. Forming food safety clubs at secondary schools.

Zambia

Public awareness programmes not collectively done but are ad hoc

Zimbabwe

Consumer organisation included in the Food Standards Advisory Board / National Codex Committee. Organisation is tasked with spearheading campaigns.

(vi) Any other relevant information

Ethiopia

Including the food safety issues in the educational curriculum will be effective means to create better awareness.

Kenya

Quarterly seminar/workshop to allow professionals/regulatory agencies exchange emerging information should be part of the Codex Contact Point activities. The lead agencies of national Codex committee may initiate national Codex trust fund to fund the seminars. This should be with financial support of FAO representative and WHO country representatives.

Sierra Leone

In Sierra Leone, the Standards Bureau has started forming a food safety task force at Chiefdom level to increase the awareness on food safety and quality to the community in three districts.

Zambia

- To strengthen the two committees (SPS/NCC), by providing a specific budget & consider legislation
- Expand on the laboratory capacity and activities at ZABS- EU
- Setting up quality control systems for specific products e.g. Honey -World Bank/USAID
- Strengthening of phytosanitary capacities for export oriented horticulture – Dutch Govt.
- Setting up of Zambia Assured Products Scheme – World Bank
- PVS assessment of Veterinary Service to be undertaken in July, 2008

Zimbabwe

FSAB currently working on regulations updating and identifying areas where none exist.

2. NATIONAL CODEX CONTACT POINT AND OTHER NATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR CODEX MATTERS

(i) Activities of the Codex Contact Point (update information since the 17th CCAFRICA) and any information about change of contact details (if not yet notified)

Ethiopia

The Codex Contact Point was reorganized on 29 July 2008 with a new contact person and members.

Ghana

An Officer from the Contact Point took part in the FAO Regional Training Program in Codex Alimentarius in Yaoundé, Cameroon from 1 - 4 April 2008.

The Contact Point also had a four-day meeting with Consultants from the USDA to share experiences in the running of Codex Contact Points and National Codex Committees from 28 – 30 July 2008.

The current contact details of Ghana's Codex Contact Point are:

The Contact Point Officer

Ghana Standards Board
 P. O. Box MB 245
 Accra Ghana
 Tel: +233 21 519 758 (direct line), +233 506 991-4
 Fax: +233 21 500 092
 Email: [Codex@ghanastandards.org/](mailto:Codex@ghanastandards.org) gsbnep@ghanastandards.org

Kenya

- Coordinates all relevant Codex activities within our own country like forming mirror committees to deal with relevant commodity standards, general standards and ad hoc standards and come up with country position
- Receives all Codex texts(standards, code of practice, guidelines and other advisory texts) and working documents of Codex sessions and ensure that they are circulated to those concerned with the organization
- Send comments on Codex documents or proposal to the CAC or its subsidiary bodies and/or the Codex Secretariat.
- Works in close cooperation with the different National Codex Committees(commodities, General Committees and Intergovernmental Ad Hoc committee.
- acts as the liaison point with the food industry, consumers, traders and all other concerned to ensure that the government is provided with an appropriate balance of policy and technical advice upon which to base decisions relating to issues raised in the context of the Codex work
- Coordinates with FAO/WHO on all issues concerning Codex
- Receive invitations to Codex sessions and inform the National Codex Committee and the relevant Embassies of names of participants going to participate and also facilitate delegates' registration
- Maintain a mini library of Codex final texts; and some references brought from various Codex meetings.
- Disseminates Codex information/publication and related text to stakeholders.
- Hold workshops/seminars quarterly to sensitize members and interested members on Codex activities and health issues
- Advise national standards committees on the current issue affecting fair food trade
- Work closely with National food safety coordinating secretary, OIE and WTO contact points on health related issues.
- Ensure National Codex website is in place for the nation for information and updates.
- Ensure that delegates attended Codex meetings report back to NCC and those who are sponsored by Codex trust funds to Codex meetings write Codex Trust Fund report which should reach Codex trust fund office within two weeks after the meeting.

Mali

For the implementation of Codex activities at national level, the National Food Safety Agency (ANSSA) has been designated as the Codex Contact Point.

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The following activities are carried out by the Contact Point for the communication and promotion of Codex standards:

- Transmittal of Codex documents to technical services, subcommittee members and consumer associations;
- Organization and administration of the Codex Contact Point's documentation centre;
- Consultation of the Codex website and transmittal of information and documents to interested parties;
- Consultation of the codexafrique website and transmittal of information and documents to interested parties;
- Organization of technical workshops for information and awareness about Codex standards (2004, 2005, 2006, 2007);
- Organization of workshops to raise awareness of food safety (2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008);
- Organization of sessions of the National Food Safety Council (2006, 2007);
- Review of Mali's standards in accordance with Codex standards (2006, 2007, 2008);
- Organization of sessions of the National Codex Committee (2006, 2007, 2008);
- Organization of preparatory meetings for Codex Committee sessions;
- Transmittal of elements of NCC written replies to the Codex Circular Letters on aspects considered important for the country;
- Preparation of travel of Mali's delegates to Codex sessions;
- Organization of debriefing sessions for Malian delegations to report on Codex Committee meetings;
- Presentation of a year-end report of the national secretariat to the NCC (2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008);
- Organization of the National Food Safety Week (2006, 2007, 2008);
- Organization of the National Food Safety Prize – 1st Edition in 2008;
- Drafting of a technical note on the national food safety system and standard setting in preparation for Mali's attendance at the Seventeenth Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (2007);
- Completion of questionnaires for the survey on national food control systems of the WHO Department of Food Safety, Zoonoses and Foodborne Diseases;
- Compilation of questionnaires for the survey of the Trade and Scientific Capacity-Building Division of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on Codex National Offices in Africa;
- Support for the collation of data for the survey of the Codex Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA) on the census of food safety infrastructure in Africa;
- Consultation of experts of the African Union on the initiative "Approach to the sale of animal-derived products based on the concept of trade", held in Addis-Abeba, February 2008;
- Support for the organization of a training course for two members of the National Codex Committee of Niger;
- Support for training of the Codex Contact Points of seven English-speaking African countries (Cameroon, Gambia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Nigeria, Malawi, Sierra Leone) on the modules "Enhancing participation in Codex activities".

Senegal

Decree 83-1204 of 24 November 1983 established the National Codex Committee which is under the direction of the Ministry of Health and Prevention and is answerable to the Food and Nutrition Division. The NCC comprises experts in health (nutritionists, hygienists, sanitary engineers), in livestock (veterinary doctors and zootechnicians), from the Plant Protection Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Institute of Food Technology under the Ministry of Industry, the Internal Trade Directorate (analytical laboratory), the analytical and bromatological laboratory of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Dakar, the Senegalese Standards Association, the Consumers Association of Senegal and the Directorate of Hygiene.

The National Codex Committee convenes consultation meetings, whenever needed, on activities relating to food safety, preparation for Codex meetings or corresponding technical opinions or comments to be conveyed, especially regarding the working documents of Codex sessions.

The Committee acts as technical support for the Senegalese Standards Association and, as such, sends it the technical documents (standards, guidelines, recommendations, invitations, requests for opinions and comments) that it receives from the Codex Alimentarius Secretariat.

In the framework of bilateral aid for the promotion of quality of food exports, the Committee initiates and implements activities for the quality assessment of food sold at national level (produced locally or imported) in order to inform and sensitize stakeholders, from farm to fork, and to enhance consumer protection against food-borne illness.

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone Bureau of Standards is the Codex Contact Point in Sierra Leone. Among its activities: disseminate all Codex materials to the National Codex Committee and other stakeholders, organize workshops and seminar on food safety for the public.

Zambia

Conducting CCC meeting, facilitation on Codex issues in SADC and COMESA

Zimbabwe

Current Contact Point is Mr F. Chinyavanhy – Deputy Director: Food Control. Government Analyst Laboratory. P.O.Box CY 231 Causeway, Harare. Tel: +263 4 792026/7. Email: FCHINYAVANHY@HEALTHNET.ORG.ZA or FCHINYAVANHY@HOTMAIL.COM

(ii) Structure, composition and operation of a National Codex Committee (or equivalent or similar structure) or plans for its establishment (update information since the 17th CCAFRICA)

Ethiopia

The Codex Contact Point and the Secretariat for the National Codex Committee is the Quality and Standards Authority of Ethiopia. Members of the National Codex Committee are:

- Addis Ababa University, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Education, Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, Chemical Society of Ethiopia, ELFORA Agro Industries PLC, National Association of Ethiopian Industries, Ethiopian Consumer Protection Association, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Quality and Standards Authority of Ethiopia.

Ghana

The National Codex Committee, (NCC) Ghana is a consultative group to the Government on matters of food safety and Codex issues. It has set up sub-committees or expert groups to formulate responses on proposals from the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

The NCC is made up of the following representatives:

- Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA)
- Nutrition and Public Health Directorate of the Ministry of Health (MOH)
- Department of Nutrition and Food science, University of Ghana, Legon (UG)
- Ghana Standards Board (GSB)
- Food and Drugs Board (FDB)
- Food Safety Experts
- Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Environment
- Ghana Export Promotion Council (GEPC)
- Ministry of Trade, Industry, Private Sector Development & Presidential Special Initiatives
- Consumers' Association of Ghana
- Food Research Institute (FRI) of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- Federation of Association of Ghanaian Exporters (FAGE)
- Association of Ghanaian Industries (AGI)
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning

In June 2008, the NCC organized a sensitization programme with the theme: “Codex Alimentarius – Promoting Food Safety, Quality and Fair Trade.” This was carried out as part of the launching of the CCAFRICA project which Ghana undertook as Coordinator for CCAFRICA.

The essence of the programme was to sensitize Consumers and other players as well as disseminate information on Codex and the work of the NCC. Participants at the workshop were drawn from Public Sector Agencies, Private Sector Organizations (Industry and Trade Associations), Civil Society Organizations, Research Institutions and the Media.

In September 2007, the NCC Ghana organized a seminar for all members of the various Sub-Committees. The essence of the seminar was to sensitize them on the crucial role their effective participation in Codex can play in enhancing the food control infrastructure in the country.

The NCC is also actively involved in matters of food standards and safety in Ghana. It has therefore taken steps to reorganize its Sub-Committees to make them more responsive to changing trends in Food Safety issues. A database of Experts capable of handling Food Safety has therefore been developed. This database spans from Experts involved in the entire food chain. It currently has one of the members of its Contaminants Sub-Committee serving on JECFA.

Scientists, health professionals, nutritionists and other experts in related fields are also active in matters brought up by the NCC. This includes new concepts in food safety.

The NCC is harnessing local expertise to introduce HACCP and adopt its principles into food safety management in Ghana.

Kenya

The National Codex Contact Point was established more than ten years ago. It is composed of members representing different sectors related to food, government, industry, consumers and academia. These include:

- WHO – Kenya Representative
- FAO – Kenya Representative
- Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)
- Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation
- Ministry of Livestock - Department of Veterinary Services
- Ministry of Fisheries – Fisheries Department
- Government Chemist – Chairman of NCC
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Water and Irrigation
- Ministry of Trade
- Kenya Dairy Board
- Tea Board of Kenya
- Coffee Board of Kenya
- Ministry of Industrialization
- Kenya Industrial and Research Development Institute (KIRDI)
- Consumer Information Network
- Pest Control Produce Board
- National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA)
- Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI)
- National Council for Science and Technology
- Kenya Bureau of Standards (Contact Point) –Secretariat

Mali

The National Codex Committee was established by order of the Minister of Health and groups all actors (government services, producers, economic operations, universities, research institutes, experts, civil society, consumer associations) and representatives of FAO and WHO.

The first meeting of the National Codex Committee (NNC), held on 23 May 2006, enabled its members to set up 17 subcommittees corresponding to Mali’s priority areas, to programme priority activities for Mali for 2007, and to make recommendations for the smooth functioning of the NCC and its Codex subcommittees.

The National Food Safety Agency has been designated the Codex Contact Point (Article 2 of Order N° 1812/MS-SG of 1 August 2005 on the creation, composition and operating modalities of the National Codex Committee).

With logistical support for the NCC secretariat ensured by the ANSSA, each subcommittee convenes before a corresponding Codex Committee session to draw up the national position which is then passed on to the national delegation.

A debriefing session is held to enable the delegation to report back on the Codex Committee proceedings and conclusions.

Senegal

See information above.

Sierra Leone

National Codex Committee comprises of the following institutions: Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Ministry of Trade and Industry, University, Association of Manufacturer, Consumer Association and Standards Bureau. It has a membership of thirty (30) and coordinated by a Chairman.

Zambia

unchanged

Zimbabwe

FSAB is still the NCC (no change since CCAFRICA 17th Session)

(iii) Participation in Codex Committees (update information since the 17th CCAFRICA)

Ethiopia

The Ethiopian delegate participated in the 24th Session of the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (13 – 20 September 2008)

Ghana

CODEX COMMITTEE SESSIONS ATTENDED IN 2007

- 1st & 2nd Sessions of Codex Committee for Contaminants in Foods
- 6th Session of Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Food Derived from Biotechnology
- 17th Session of FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa
- 27th & 28th Session of Codex Committee for Methods of Sampling & Analysis
- 29th Session of Codex Committee on Fish & Fishery Products
- 29th & 30th Session of Codex Committee on Nutrition & Foods for Special Dietary Uses
- 35th & 36th Session of Codex Committee on Food Labelling
- 39th & 40th Session of Codex Committee for Food Additives
- 39th & 40th Session of Codex Committee for Pesticide Residues
- 30th & 31st Session of Codex Alimentarius Commission
- 61st Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius

Kenya

The National Codex Contact Point (CCP) organizes and participates in all Codex committee meetings in the country. Participation has greatly increased since 2005 to date because CCP has sensitized stakeholders and also due to the launch of National Codex Committee (NCC).

Mali

- Codex Commission Session (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008), National Budget, Trust Fund;
- Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Commission (2008);
- Codex Committee on General Principles (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007), National Budget, Trust Fund;
- Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (2003, 2006, 2007), National Budget;
- Codex Committee on Food Labelling ;

- Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008), National Budget, Trust Fund;
- Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008), National Budget, Trust Fund;
- Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (2005, 2006), National Budget;
- Codex Committee on Food Additives (2006, 2007, 2008), National Budget, Trust Fund;
- Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (2007), National Budget;
- Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Food Derived from Biotechnology (2006, 2007), National Budget;
- Thematic Working Group on Food Derived from Genetically Modified Animals (2006);
- FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (2007), National Budget, Trust Fund;
- Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (2006, 2007), National Budget ;
- FAO/WHO Regional Conference on Food Safety for Africa (2005), National Budget, Trust Fund ;
- Second Global Forum on Food Safety, Trust Fund.

Sierra Leone

National Codex Committee normally participated in Codex meeting that is funded by Codex Trust Fund. Presently, National Codex Committee has attended five (5) meetings. In this regard National Codex Committee would appeal to the Codex Trust Fund for its participation to be increased to at least ten (10).

Zambia

- CAC
- CCEXEC
- CCFICS
- CCFICS WORKING GROUP
- CCFH
- CCMAS
- CCGP
- Ad hoc Intergovernmental Codex Committee on anti microbial resistance

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe has attended CCMAS, CCNFSDU, CCH, CCFICS, CCGP

3. PARTICIPATION OF CONSUMERS IN STANDARDS SETTING

(i) Consumer participation in Codex related activities at national and international level (update information since the 17th CCAFRICA)

Ethiopia

Recently in the newly organized National Codex Committee, the Consumer Association is represented.

Ghana

The Consumers' Association of Ghana (CAG), an independent consumer Non-Governmental Organization is represented on the National Codex Committee. They also participate in activities of the NCC including sub-committees meetings and therefore contribute to the preparation of national positions for Codex meetings.

Kenya

The Kenya Consumer Information Network (CIN) is involved in all areas of developing national standards, in all Codex activities and in National Food Safety Coordinating Committee.

Mali

The consumer associations are represented on all bodies of the national food safety system:

- The National Food Safety Council;
- The National Codex Committee and subcommittees;
- The National Council for Standards and Quality Control and Standards Technical Committees.

They participate in the National Council for Standards and Quality Control and the Standards Technical Committees in the formulation of national standards.

They also participate in the National Codex Committee and subcommittees to determine national positions for Codex Committee sessions.

Senegal

To this day, consumer participation is limited to meetings convened by the Senegalese Standards Association or the National Codex Committee. They are still not present at the international level because of a lack of resources available and generated through internal and external contributions.

Sierra Leone

Consumers normally participate in Codex related activities, as they are part of the National Codex Committee. They are also represented in the Technical Committees of the National Codex Committee.

Zambia

Nil

Zimbabwe

Current participation through the consumer organisation, Consumer Council of Zimbabwe

(ii) Activities aimed at increasing consumer participation in food standards setting (update information since the 17th CCAFRICA)

Ethiopia

The newly organized National Codex Committee will very soon avail information on the NCC websites. The NCC has also planned to conduct awareness on food safety.

Ghana

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Committee on Consumer Policy (COPOLCO) held a Regional Workshop in Accra from 25 - 28 February 2008 on consumer participation in standard setting activities for trainers. There are plans to hold a national training of trainers program on consumer participation in 2009.

Kenya

They are already involved and participate actively in several meetings. The Chief Executive officer (CEO) of Consumer Information Network organization Kenya is the president of Consumer International Organisation.

Mali

- Support to the creation of a food safety network of consumer associations (MASSA Network) under the instigation of the ANSSA;
- Information and awareness-raising of consumer associations on Codex ;
- Transmittal of Codex documents to consumer associations (Understanding Codex, Enhancing participation in Codex activities, Codex Procedural Manual) ;
- Support to the organization of consumer association activities ;
- In order to ensure greater contribution of civil society to Codex activities, the CAC Circular Letters with requests for comments on proposed draft Codex standards are e-mailed by the Focal Point to the consumer associations and other interested parties for comments.

Senegal

The heads of consumer associations are regularly invited to meetings on standards for strategic products. Their opinions are increasingly sought to enlighten consumers on topical issues relating to quality, cost and availability of food and accountability of authorities, operators and producers for protecting consumer health against food-borne disease and unfair trade practices.

Sierra Leone

Consumer participation in standard setting was as the result of the training that Standard Bureau conducted for them in January 2005. In this regard, consume representatives are in the four technical committees of the National Codex Committee.

Zambia

Codex meetings both national and regional

Zimbabwe

The CCZ is asked to consult consumer constituents during standard-making process.