

# codex alimentarius commission

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION

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**CX 4/10**

**CL 1998/33-GP**  
**September 1998**

**TO:** - Codex Contact Points  
- Interested International Organizations  
- Participants at the 13th Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles

**FROM:** - Secretary, Codex Alimentarius Commission, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, 00100 Rome, Italy

**SUBJECT: DEFINITIONS OF RISK ANALYSIS TERMS RELATED TO FOOD SAFETY**

**DEADLINE: 15 January 1999**

**COMMENTS: To:**  
Secretary, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy.

## **Background<sup>1</sup>**

The 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on General Principles considered matters related to Risk Analysis, and in particular the Definitions related to Risk Management (Risk Assessment Policy and Risk Profile). While discussing these questions, the Committee agreed that the current definitions for *Risk Management* and *Risk Communication* required further consideration in the light of the reports of the recently held FAO/WHO Expert Consultations and agreed to circulate these definitions for comment with a view to their revision.

The current definitions are hereby circulated for government comments and consideration by the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCGP in the framework of the discussion on Risk Analysis in Codex. The definitions, as included in the Procedural Manual (page 45), are as follows:

**Risk management :** The process of weighing policy alternatives in the light of the results of risk assessment and, if required, selecting and implementing appropriate control options, including regulatory measures.

**Risk Communication:** The interactive exchange of information and opinions concerning risk among risk assessors, risk managers, consumers and other interested parties.

Governments and international organizations wishing to submit comments should do so in writing to the Secretary, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy, **before 15 January 1999.**

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<sup>1</sup> This CL should be read in conjunction with the report of CCGP, ALINORM 99/33 (paras. 15-17)