

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 8

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR NORTH AMERICA AND THE SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC

Sixth Session

Perth, Australia, 5 – 8 December 2000

CONSUMER PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF CODEX AND RELATED MATTERS

ADDITIONAL REPORTS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES

UNITED STATES

The United States offers the following information with respect to the measurable objectives identified in the Codex draft guidance:

1. the number or percentage of member countries that have established a National Codex Contact Point - *The United States National Codex Contact Point is the United States Codex Office, United States Department of Agriculture.*
2. the number or percentage of member countries that have established a National Codex Committee - *In the United States, general guidance to the Codex efforts is provided by a Steering Committee comprising policy level officials of USDA, DHHS, U.S. Department of Commerce, State, USTR and EPA. Executive direction to the effort comes from the Office of the U.S. Manager for Codex. The nitty-gritty work of participating in the development of standards is carried out by the U.S. Delegates to the subsidiary bodies. These delegates are government officials in USDA, FDA, and EPA. The names of these individuals and the work that is ongoing are reported annually in a Federal Register Notice. The delegates, with their addresses, phone and fax numbers, are listed in appendix 1 to that document. The delegates work with individuals, who are stakeholders, including other government officials, academics, industry representatives and consumers, to develop U. S. Positions on issues to be considered. As the delegates prepare for the meetings of their committees, they form delegations comprising individuals whose support they think necessary at the meetings. These individuals participate as members of the official U.S. Delegations, at their own expense.*

3. the number or percentage of member countries which hold public consultations when developing national positions for Codex meetings- ***The United States strives to hold public consultations in advance of each session of a Codex Committee and the Commission.***
4. the number or percentage of member countries that have identified independent consumer NGOs and invited them to participate in Codex meetings or in submitting written comments ***-In the United States, individual delegates notify interested parties, including consumer NGOs, of upcoming public meetings and of requests for comments. Also, Notices are published in its Federal Register.***
5. the number or percentage of member countries where independent consumer NGOs have participated in developing national positions for Codex meetings. - ***Independent consumer NGOs have made oral comments at public meetings and have submitted written comments to delegates and to the US Codex Office.***
6. the number of consumer NGOs that participate in the Codex process at the national level.- ***That statistic has not been collected.***