



GHANA'S EXPERIENCE WITH CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

1966 - 2013

HISTORY OF CODEX IN GHANA

- First African member country of **Codex Alimentarius Commission (1966)**.
 - Appointed as the Africa Coordinator (1974).
- **Dr. Nicholas A. De Heer,**
 - First Chairman, National Codex Committee
 - A renowned Medical Officer and Administrator.

HISTORY CONT'D.

- **Dr. De Heer appointed as First Vice Chairperson to the Codex Alimentarius Commission (1971)**
- **Ghana also elected as one of the three Codex Vice Chairpersons of the Commission (1986)**

HISTORY CONT'D.

- Dr. Robert Oteng was the First Coordinator for CCAFRICA (1974 – 1977)
- Under his tenure, Ghana led Codex Africa to
 - Identify commodities in the region that require international standards to facilitate trade.
 - Developed a resolution document to establish regional/sub-regional training institutes to provide adequate food control infrastructure.



CCAFRICA

- Ghana was nominated again as Coordinator for CCAFRICA (2007 – 2011).
- Under the Chairmanship of Prof. Samuel Sefa – Dedeh
- During his tenure,
 - Website for CCAFRICA (www.codexafrica.org) was re-developed to enhance the sharing of information
 - Organized the 18th and 19th Session of CCAFRICA in Accra

19th SESSION CCAFRICA IN ACCRA



WHO Representative, CCAFRICA Coordinator and Codex Secretariat

- Established electronic Working Groups and developed a database of experts to consider issues related to Africa



*Some of the Delegates at the
19th CCAFRICA Session in Accra
– Ghana*



- Prof. Samuel Sefa-Dedeh, Faculty of Engineering Sciences, University of Ghana, elected as one of the three Codex Vice Chairpersons. (2011)
- Currently serving a second term.



***Prof. Samuel Sefa-Dedeh
Vice Chairperson, CAC
2011 to Date***



GHANA'S PARTICIPATION IN CODEX ELECTRONIC WORKING GROUPS



CODEX COMMITTEE FOR NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES (CCNFSDU)

- Revision of the Codex Guidelines for Formulated Supplementary Foods for Older Infants and Young Children (30th Session CCNFSDU, 2008).

– **Chaired by Prof. Anna Lartey, Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Ghana**



CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD (CCCF)

Ghana led the eWG to develop a Discussion Paper on OTA contamination in Cocoa, (2006)

- **Chaired by Dr. Jemmy Felix Takrama, a Principal Research Scientist at the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG).**



- Assisted in the elaboration of the **Discussion Paper on Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons**
 - Code of Practice for the reduction of Contamination of food with Polycyclic Aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) from Smoking and directs Drying Processes (CAC/RCP 68-2009).



- Discussion Paper on OTA contamination in Coffee and
- Code of practice for the reduction and prevention of OTA contamination in Coffee (CAC/RCP 69-2009).



GHANA'S PARTICIPATION IN CODEX PHYSICAL WORKING GROUPS

CODEX COMMITTEE FOR NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES (CCNFSDU)



- Co-chaired the Working Group to revise Codex Guidelines for Formulated Supplementary Foods for Older Infants and Young Children (33rd Session CCNFSDU, 2011)
 - Prof. Esther Sakyi Dawson, Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Ghana

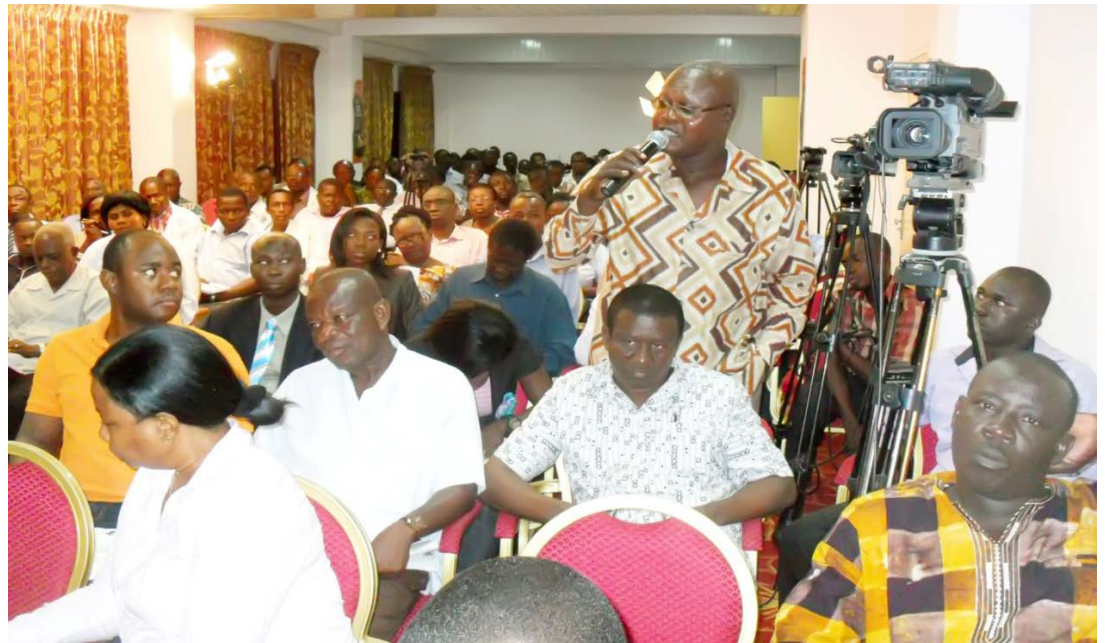


THE NATIONAL CODEX COMMITTEE (NCC) GHANA



- Consultative Group of Food Safety Experts from
 - Public and private institutions
 - Academia,
 - Research and
 - Consumer Organizations
- Advise Government on matters related to Codex
- Organizes lectures and workshops to educate stakeholders' on food safety issues.

PUBLIC LECTURES



Cross sections of Stakeholders during the presentation



WORKSHOPS



*Mr. Kwamina Van – Ess,
Member , NCC*

*Cross sections of
Stakeholders*



NATIONAL CODEX SUB-COMMITTEES

- Fourteen Sub-Committees to reflect Codex Subsidiary bodies.
- Development of international food standards via comments.
- Membership comprises of Representatives from identified Institutions related to the relevant subject area.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NCC

- Increased understanding of Codex and its relevance to food safety in Ghana.
- Enhanced participation of stakeholders in international Codex meetings
- Education of stakeholders on the aims and objectives of the NCC and the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

CHALLENGES

- Late response from Experts on matters of regional interest
- Need to increase support to local Codex matters from Stakeholders

RECOMMENDATIONS

African countries must

- Actively participate in developing international food standards for trade
- Increase cross boundary food safety surveillance
- Continue to use regional expertise

CONCLUSION



Ghana will continue to effectively participate and contribute to the promotion of food safety in the world.



Thank

You