



# THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF CODEX

# Subsidiary Bodies

The Commission is empowered to establish four kinds of subsidiary bodies:

- General Subject Committees
- Commodity Committees
- FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees
- Ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Forces

Each committee is hosted by a member country, which is responsible for the cost of its maintenance and administration.

# General Subject Committees

1. Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)
2. Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)
3. Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)
4. Codex Committee on Food Import & Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)
5. Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

# General Subject Committees (2)

6. Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)

7. Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

8. Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

9. Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

10. Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF)

# Functions of General Subject Committees

Develop all-embracing concepts and principles applying to foods in general, specific foods or groups of foods

Endorse or review relevant provisions in Codex commodity standards

Develop major recommendations pertaining to the health and safety of consumers

The CCGP is responsible for dealing with procedural and general matters of the Commission.

# Commodity Committees

1. Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)
2. Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)
3. Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)
4. Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP)
5. Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)



# Commodity Committees (2)

6. Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL)

7. Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate (CCCPC)

8. Codex Committee on Natural Mineral Waters (CCNMW)

9. Codex Committee on Sugars (CCS)

10. Codex Committee on Vegetable Proteins (CCVP)

11. Codex Committee on Meat Hygiene (CCMH)

# FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees

**There are six coordinating committees, i.e. one each for the following regions:**

- Africa (CCAFRICA)
- Asia(CCASIA)
- Europe (CCEURO)
- Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC)
- Near East (CCNEA)
- North America and the Southwest Pacific (CCNASWP)





# FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees (2)

- The host country for a Regional Coordinating Committee tends to rotate amongst the members of the region.
- Host countries should have the capacity to provide logistic and administrative support necessary when organizing an international meeting.

# Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force



Ad hoc intergovernmental task forces are established with a specific mandate and for a **limited period of time, not normally exceeding four years.**

**As in the case of the horizontal and vertical committees, Codex task forces are hosted by a member country.**

# Prioritizing / Determining Subsidiary Bodies to Attend

- What are the country's significant food safety/health issues?
- What are the issues most relevant to the consumer?
- What are the primary agrifood export industries contributing to the country's economy?
- What are the major agrifood imports?
- What are the agrifood priorities of most relevance to the domestic producers?
- Which Codex committees elaborate standards, guidelines or related texts pertaining to the areas identified above?
- What resources (e.g. time, money, etc.) are available to commit to the Codex programme?

Most developing countries and countries with small economies, **can't afford to participate in the work of all the Codex activities.**

Therefore, each country should **prioritize and focus** its resources to ensure that it is involved in discussing and developing standards of greatest national significance.



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