THE STRUCTURE OF CODEX

(CAC, CODEX COMMITTEES, CODEX SECRETARIAT, HOSTING, IMPORTANT CODEX TEXTS)
‘THREE SISTERS’
OF THE SPS AGREEMENT

- OIE - Animal Health
- IPPC - Plant Health
- Codex - Human Health
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF CODEX

- The Codex Alimentarius Commission
- The Executive Committee of the Commission
  - Chairperson
  - 3 Vice-Chairpersons
  - 6 Regional Coordinators
  - 7 Members elected on geographic basis
  - 1-2 Advisors to the Members

Cont…
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF CODEX

- Codex Secretariat

- Active Codex Subsidiary Bodies
  - General Subject Committees (10)
  - Commodity Committees (8)
  - Regional Coordinating Committees (6)
GENERAL SUBJECT COMMITTEES (10)

- CCFA
  (additives)
- CCCF
  (contaminants)
- CCFH
  (food hygiene)
- CCFICS
  (inspection)
- CCFL
  (labeling)
- CCGP
  (general principles)
- CCMAS
  (sampling & analysis)
- CCNFSDU
  (nutrition)
- CCPR
  (pesticides)
- CCRVDF
  (vet. drugs)
Functions of a General Subject Committee

- develop all-embracing concepts & 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 (8)

- CCFFP **
  (fish)

- CCFO
  (fats & oils)

- CCFFV
  (fresh fruits & veg.)

- CCPFV
  (processed fruits and veg.)

- CCMMP *(NZ) *
  (milk)

- CCS *(Colombia) *
  (sugar)

- CCCPL *(USA) *
  (cereals, pulses & legumes)

- CCSCH
  (spices, etc.)

** adjourned sine die in 2016

* reactivated (to work by correspondence)
COMMODITY COMMITTEES
ADJOURNED SINE DIE (4)

- CCCPC (*cocoa products & chocolates*)
- CCNMW (*natural mineral waters*)
- CCVP (*vegetable proteins*)
- CCMH (*meat hygiene*)
Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Forces (5) (All have been dissolved)

- Foods derived from Biotechnology
- Animal Feeding
- Antimicrobial Resistance *
- Fruit and Vegetable Juices
- Processing and Handling of Quick Frozen Foods

* Reactivated in 2016
REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEES (6)

- CCAFRICA (49)
  (Africa - Kenya)

- CCNASWP (14)
  (North America and South West Pacific - Vanuatu)

- CCEURO (50+1)
  (Europe - NL)

- CCASIA (23)
  (Asia - India)

- CCLAC (33)
  (Latin America and the Caribbean - Chile)

- CCNEA (17)
  (Near East - Iran)
Long Term Joint Expert Committees:

- JECFA  (Jt. Expert Committee on Food Additives)
- JMPR   (Jt. Meeting on Pesticide Residues)
- JEMRA  (Jt. Expert Committee on Microbiological Risk Assessment)
- JEMNU  (Jt. Expert Meeting on Nutrition) *

* not functional
The office in Rome is the **Principal Secretariat**. It’s tasks include:

- coordinating documentation for the meeting;
- advising the Chairperson of the Committee on technical and procedural matters;
- preparing the report of the meeting.

**Host Country Secretariat:** Assists Codex Secretariat in coordinating documentation for the meeting and is mainly responsible for logistic aspects.
Responsibility of the Codex Secretariat

- Schedule meeting in consultation with host country CCP;
- preparation of meeting documentation; and
- their distribution

The main documentation is:
- Invitation
- Provisional Agenda
- Working papers
HOSTING OF A COMMITTEE

- A member country has to make a proposal
- The country takes responsibility to:
  -- arrange logistics
  -- arrange for visas
  -- provide information on hotels
  -- arrange for interpretation
  -- arrange for several meeting rooms

Cont...
HOSTING OF A COMMITTEE

- CAC designates a country by consensus
- CAC also defines the Terms of Reference
- Country signs MOU with FAO and designates Chair and host country Secretariat for coordination
- Hosting of Working Groups (*electronic and physical*)

**********