Codex Standards

Related to control, inspection and approval procedures

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Codex is

• a result of negotiations: the Codex Alimentarius – a collection of standards, guidelines and codes of practice
Summary mandate of Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)

a) CCFICS develops principles/guidelines/criteria in respect of:
   - Inspection and certification systems – harmonise of methods and procedures
   - application of measures by the CAs
   - utilisation of quality assurance systems – (in bilateral and multilateral arrangements)
   - the format, declarations and language of such official certificates

b) Make recommendations for information exchange;

c) Consult as necessary with other international groups;

d) Consider other matters assigned to it by the Commission
Work of CCFICS related to control, inspection and approval procedures

Four Key areas:

- Food Control Systems
- Monitoring of Food Control Systems
- Accreditation, Inspection and Certification
- Exchange of information
Food control and Monitoring of food systems

Food Control Systems

• Principles and Guidelines for National Food Control Systems (CAC/GL 82-2013)

Monitoring of food systems

Accreditation, Inspection and Certification

- Principles for Food Export Inspection and Certification (CAC/GL 20-1995)
Accreditation, Inspection and Certification

• Principles for Traceability / Product Tracing as a Tool Within a Food Inspection and Certification System (CAC/GL 60-2006)
Exchange of information

• Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Control Emergency Situations (CAC/GL 25-1997)

• Guidelines for the Exchange of Information between Countries on Rejections of Imported Foods (CAC/GL 19-1995)

• Principles and guidelines for the exchange of information between importing and exporting countries to support the trade in food (CAC/GL 89-2016)
Challenges

• In Codex in General, including CCFICS, is not involved in the Implementation;
• CCFICS is currently involved in horizon scanning on emerging issues:
  ✓ New food production, processing, transport and distribution technologies;
  ✓ Rapidly changing technologies and processes supporting food production, globalisation, and the emergence of other risks - there is an ever increasing need to ensure consumers are protected from unsafe foods.
Horizon scanning – emerging issues

- Focus on food integrity / authenticity
- Improved analytics and testing technologies
- Private standards
- Increasing electronic transactions and ICT capabilities
- Evolving role of competent authority and interactions between various government entities;
Horizon scanning – emerging issues

- Anti-microbial resistance;
- Evolving global food production systems
- New approaches to food safety, including preventative and outcomes-based systems
On-going work

• Proposed draft guidance on the use of systems equivalence
• Proposed draft guidance on regulatory approaches to third party assurance schemes in food safety and fair practices in the food trade
• Food integrity and food authenticity
• Emerging issues and future directions for the work of CCFICS
(www.codexalimentarius.org)