



SECOND NORTH AMERICA SOUTH WEST PACIFIC CODEX COLLOQUIUM

FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR NORTH AMERICA AND THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC MEMBERS

Supporting the Enhancement of Food Control Systems in the SWP Region

26 – 28 February 2024

Sofitel Fiji, Nadi, Fiji

Discussing Priority Committees for SWP Countries

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.

Discuss this at your respective Table and Develop a Rationale for 4 Important Key Committees for your country, excluding the Commission, CCEXEC and CCNASWP.

A. What are the country's significant food safety/health issues?

NCD's, Ciguatera poisoning during algae blooms due to changes such as climate change, pesticides residue levels in food and various pesticides coming into the country, banning of export of elephant ear tuber (Alocasia machroriza or Kape, or giant taro) due to claims of toxicant being present (claimed that oxalate is responsible for that itchy feeling on tongue if it is not fully cooked), food frauds. Some countries do not have the capacity to test for food contamination brought in from imported food such as rice.

B. What are the issues most relevant to the consumer?

Food hygiene, organic produce, food security

C. What are the primary agrifood export industries contributing to the country's economy?

Cassava, kava, tuna fish, cocoa, fiji water, vanilla, taro, turmeric, ginger

D. What are the major agrifood imports?

Fruits, rice, potatoes, wheat, dairy, meat,

E. What are the agrifood priorities of most relevance to the domestic producers?

Packaging, labelling, transport conditions, storage, biosecurity risks, market, costing, traditional knowledge of managing and producing food, food security.

- F. Which Codex committees elaborate standards, guidelines or related texts pertaining to the areas identified above?

CCFL, CCCF, CCPR, CCNASWP, CCMAS, CCNFSU, CCFA, CCFH, CCFICS, CCRVDF, CCFFP, CCFFV, CCSCH, CCEXEC, CCGP

- G. What resources (e.g. time, money, etc.) are available to commit to the Codex Program?

CTF, Stakeholder engagements, Donor partners like PHAMA plus, PACER plus etc, venue of meeting, virtual platforms, Laboratory facilities in some countries (infrastructure)

- H. Which Codex Committees Help Address Food Regulatory Needs of your country?

CCMAS, CCFL, CCPR, CCCF, CCFFP, CCFICS, CCGP, CCFH, CCNFSU

- I. Which Committees are Most Relevant to your country's food / agri-food exports/imports?

CCFICS, CCMAS, CCFL, CCRVDF, CCFFP, CCFFV, CCFO, CCSCH

- J. What is the input/feed-back received from Industry / other stakeholders?

-too much standards, hard to meet international standard levels

- K. What resources (e.g. time, money, etc.) are available to commit to the Codex Committee Participation?

Venue, online platforms