GROUP DISCUSSION • 18 AUGUST 2025

Reviewing Items of Importance for CCASIA Members

Group 1: Areas of Priority Stemming from Codex Committee Work

Codex Committee Outputs and Priorities for CCASIA Members

The Group will aim to identify priority areas of focus for CCASIA members in preparation for CAC48 and beyond. The discussion will consider items on the Codex agenda with significant implications and will also serve to determine priority areas of work for CCASIA members and observers.

Review of Codex Committee Outputs and Future Agendas

Instructions

❖ Step 1: In each row, identify the Priority Issue(s) from the committee's recent or planned agenda.

❖ Step 2: Discuss the Regional Implications (E.g., data gaps, regulatory impact, trade relevance, or alignment needs).

❖ Step 3: Propose Possible CCASIA Actions (E.g., joint data collection, position papers, capacity-building activities, coordinated interventions at CAC48).

❖ Step 4: Use the Cross-Cutting row to capture issues that span multiple committees (E.g., allergen labelling, data generation, regulatory convergence).

Committee / Session	Priority Issue(s) (What specific topic/output is most important?)	Regional Implication(s) (Why is it important for CCASIA members/national food control systems?)	Possible CCASIA Action(s) (What collective steps could the region take?)
CCEXEC88 (Executive Committee)			

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CCGP34 (General Principles)			
CCCF18 (Contaminants in Foods)			
CCFA55 (Food Additives)			
CCMAS44 (Methods of Analysis and Sampling)			
CCPR56 (Pesticide Residues – Planned Agenda)			
CCSCH8 (Spices and Culinary Herbs – Planned Agenda)			
Cross-Cutting (Issues relevant across committees)			

Example of Issues

Committee / Session	Priority Issue(s) (What specific topic/output is most important?)	Regional Implication(s) (Why is it important for CCASIA members/national food control systems?)	Possible CCASIA Action(s) (What collective steps could the region take?)
CCGP34	Participation and decision-making procedures	Ensuring smaller delegations from Asia can engage effectively in consensus-building	Organize preparatory webinars for CCASIA delegations to review procedural changes
CCCF18	Maximum levels for lead and cadmium in selected commodities	Some commodities are heavily traded in Asia; implications for export compliance and consumer safety	Launch a joint data collection effort on contaminants in rice, spices, and seafood
CCMAS44	Allergen detection methods – performance criteria	Growing consumer demand for allergen labelling; Asian producers need validated methods	Coordinate regional laboratory capacity building and ring trials on allergen methods
CCPR56	Draft MRLs for key pesticides (e.g., tricyclazole in rice)	Significant trade impacts for Asian agricultural exports	Submit regional residue data to JMPR to ensure Asian practices are reflected
CCSCH8	Standards for cardamom, turmeric, and ginger	Asia is a major producer/exporter; harmonized standards will support trade	Coordinate with producing countries to consolidate input and propose regional priorities
Cross-Cutting	Data gaps and representativeness in Codex processes	Weak representation of Asia in Codex databases reduces influence on global standards	Develop a regional data-sharing platform and commit to annual submissions to Codex calls

Guiding Questions

The following Questions can be used to guide the development of your answers – they are NOT to be answered individually by the group:

1. **From your review of recent Codex committee outputs (CCEXEC88, CCGP34, CCCF18, CCFA55 CCMAS44), which issues or decisions do you consider to be of greatest importance for CCASIA countries? And Which may present opportunities for regional alignment or joint action among CCASIA members?**

    A. **CCEXEC88 (Executive Committee):** What key developments from CCEXEC88 (e.g., Codex Strategic Plan 2026–2031 monitoring framework, prioritization of new work) should CCASIA members consider when defining their priorities?

    B. **CCGP34 (General Principles):** Were there items discussed at CCGP34 (e.g., rules of procedure, participation, or decision-making processes) that have potential implications for the effective participation of CCASIA members in Codex? If yes, which should be prioritized?

    C. **CCCF18 (Contaminants in Foods) CCFA55 (Additives):** Which outcomes of CCCF18 (e.g., maximum levels for contaminants, data needs, exposure assessment guidance) or CCFA55 (e.g. recent additive approvals or requests for review) are most relevant to the region? ; Are there regional data gaps that CCASIA should address to strengthen contributions to future CCCF work?

    D. **CCMAS44 (Methods of Analysis and Sampling):** Which discussions or outputs from CCMAS44 (e.g., performance criteria for allergen detection methods, sampling guidance) require greater CCASIA attention? ; Should CCASIA consider joint technical work or training to strengthen capacity in this area?

    E. **CCPR56 (Pesticide Residues – Planned Agenda):** From the proposed agenda of CCPR56, which items are most likely to affect CCASIA countries (e.g., establishment of MRLs, dietary risk assessment methodologies)?; Would your country support a regional data collection initiative to improve representation of Asia in CCPR deliberations?

    F. **CCSCH8 (Spices and Culinary Herbs – Planned Agenda) :** Which proposed agenda items for CCSCH8 are of particular relevance to CCASIA (e.g., standards for priority spices, methods of analysis)? ; Are there opportunities for CCASIA members to collaborate in advancing Codex work on spices and culinary herbs?

    G. **Cross-**Cutting Considerations: Across all these committees, which three issues should CCASIA elevate as regional priorities for CCASIA23 and CAC48? ;

    H. **Mechanisms of Coordination and Multi-**Stakeholder Collaboration: What mechanisms (e.g., expert groups, data-sharing platforms, joint position papers) would best support regional coordination?