

# C O D E X   A L I M E N T A R I U S

**Safe, good food for everyone**



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**Food and Agriculture  
Organization of  
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## Why food standards?

- To protect everybody in the food chain from unsafe and bad quality food and from fraud
- Harmonized international rules facilitate trade



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## Protecting safety and quality

- Unsafe food can lead to illness and death
- Quality issues affect the eating quality, composition or exterior aspect of a food
- Accidents, negligence, ignorance or fraud can be reasons for safety and quality problems



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# C O D E X   A L I M E N T A R I U S

**185 members**

**FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius  
Commission**

**204 observers**



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# C O D E X   A L I M E N T A R I U S

- To protect the health of consumers
- To ensure fair practices in the food trade
- To promote coordination of all food standards work and to develop the Codex Alimentarius



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# C O D E X   A L I M E N T A R I U S

## A RESULT

Standards,  
guidelines and  
codes of practice

## A FORUM

Structure and process  
for governments and  
organizations to find a  
consensus



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# C O D E X   A L I M E N T A R I U S

**Voluntary** - each country decides how to apply it

**A reference** in the WTO SPS agreement

An **invisible link** between producers and consumers and all actors in the food chain



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## STRENGTHS

- 100% Member driven
- Science based
- Consensus decisions
- Transparent
- Flexible



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# Codex Alimentarius Commission

## Executive Committee

## Secretariat

### Horizontal/ general Committees

General Principles (France)	Food Labelling (Canada)
Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (Australia)	Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (United States)
Food Additives (China)	Pesticide Residues (China)
Contaminants in Foods (Netherlands)	Food Hygiene (United States)
Methods of Analysis and Sampling (Hungary)	Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (Germany)

### Vertical/commodity Committees

#### active

Fish and Fishery Products (Norway)	Processed Fruits and Vegetables (United States)
Fats and Oils (Malaysia)	Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (Mexico)
Sugars (Colombia)	

#### adjourned sine die

Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (United States)	Meat Hygiene (New Zealand)
Natural Mineral Waters (Switzerland)	Vegetable Proteins (Canada)
Milk and Milk Products (New Zealand)	Cocoa Products and Chocolate (Switzerland)

### Ad-hoc intergovernmental task forces

#### active

Animal Feeding  
(Switzerland)

#### dissolved

Fruit Juices (Brazil)

Foods derived from  
Biotechnology (Japan)

Processing and Handling of  
Quick Frozen Foods  
(Thailand)

Antimicrobial Resistance  
(Republic of Korea)

### FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees

Africa (Cameroon)	Asia (Japan)	Europe (Poland)	Latin America and the Caribbean (Costa Rica)	North America and South West Pacific (Papua New Guinee)	Near East (Lebanon)
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## CCASIA17: Discussion paper for new work on a regional standard for edible crickets and their products



Lao PDR highlighted the importance of insects as a food source in the region.

CCASIA17 noted that insects were consumed in some countries and that there was a great potential and growing global interest for utilization of insects as food resource and generally supported the proposal.

Clarification was requested as to the nature of the products to be covered by the Standard, the level of trade and the dimension of production and it was noted that these data were not available since most of the trade was in the informal sector.



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## Format for commodity standards



Name of the Standard

Scope

Description

Essential Composition and Quality  
Factors

Food Additives

Contaminants

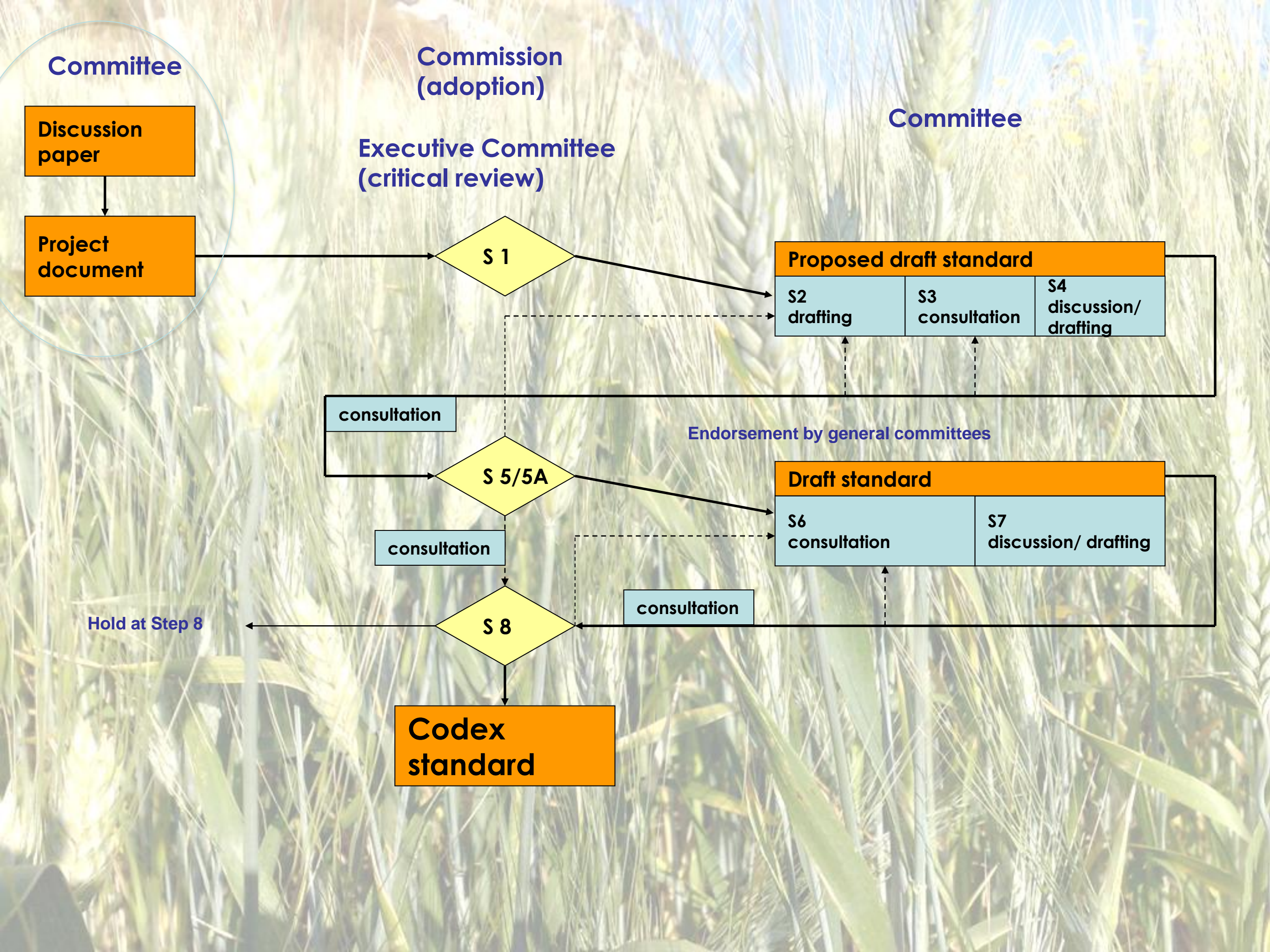
Hygiene

Weights and Measures

Labelling

Methods of Analysis and Sampling







# C O D E X   A L I M E N T A R I U S

## Critical review

- purpose and scope
- relevance and timeliness;
- main aspects to be covered;
- an assessment against the *Criteria for the establishment of work priorities*;
- relevance to the Codex strategic objectives;
- the relation between the proposal and other existing Codex documents;
- requirement for and availability of expert scientific advice;
- need for technical input to the standard from external bodies;
- the proposed time-line for completion of the new work(<5years).



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## Conclusions

- Codex works on demand from members in accordance with its 8 step procedure
- General Codex standards can always be used to ensure safety, quality and consumer information for new products
- Scientific advice will be needed on a number of questions related to edible insects if a standard will be developed



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Thank you!