

# Preparation for Mock session

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REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON  
“ENHANCING EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN CODEX ACTIVITIES”  
5-7 DECEMBER 2018, TOKYO, JAPAN

# Mock session

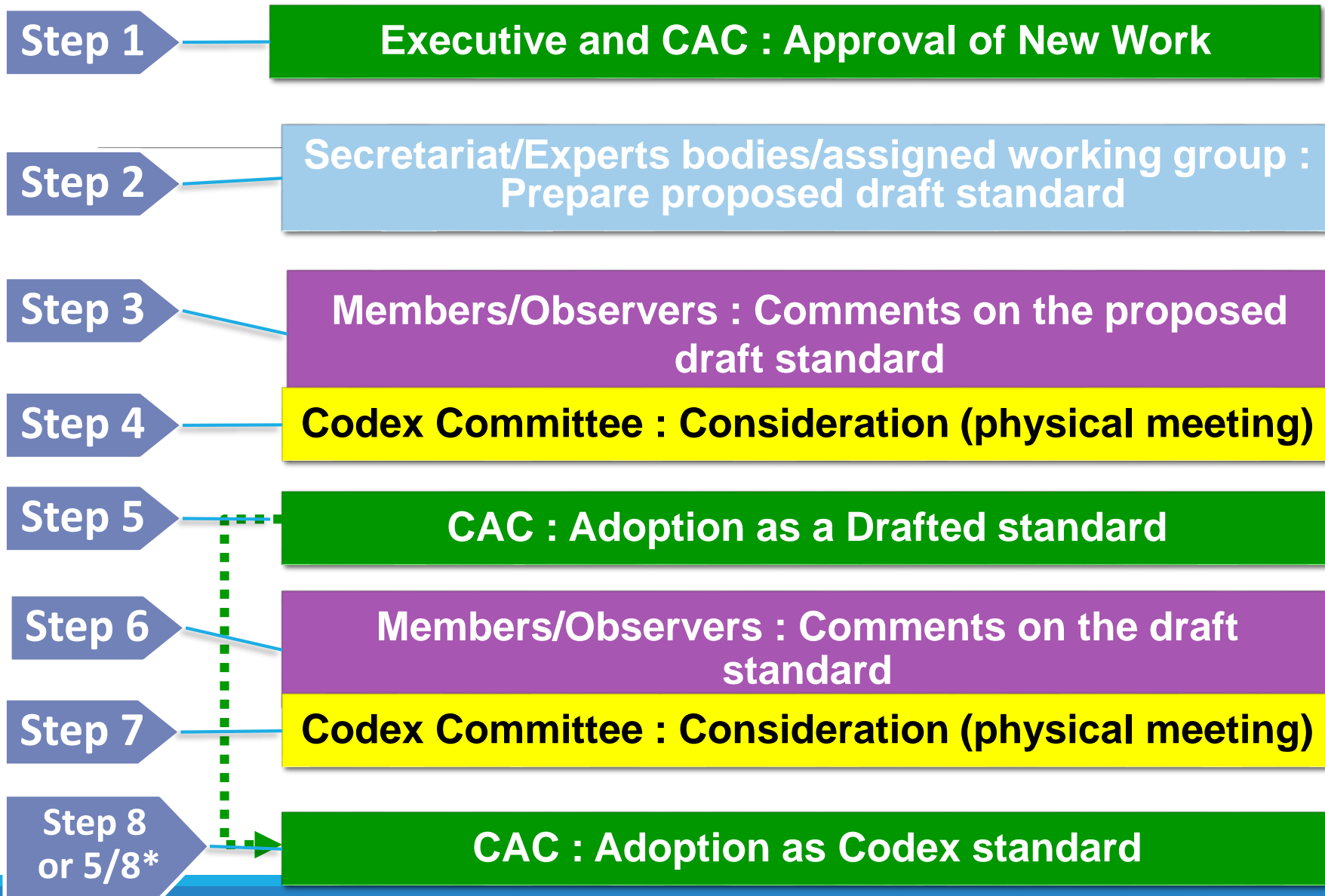
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**Objective:** to improve effective participation in Codex activities

- Understand the Codex documentation and working procedures
- Understand how to prepare the national positions in the meeting of Codex Committees and to present them in the Codex meetings
- Understand the concept of “consensus” and how to reach this concept
- Develop negotiation skill and share
  
- How to reach the objective??

**Role-Play Session !!**

# Procedures for elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts



# Mock session information and instructions

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- Our mock session will be based on an actual Codex meeting but using hypothetical scenarios for make-believe countries
- Participants will be divided into groups and distributed as Delegation members of the make-believe countries attending the session
- Specific roles to be played out during the mock sessions will likewise be assigned.

## ROLE-PLAYING: **PLENARY** AND **COUNTRY SESSIONS**

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**Participants will be designated to play the following roles:**

**Chairperson of the plenary**

**Codex Committee Secretariat**

**Host Country Secretariat**

**Head of Delegation (HOD) of each country**

**Delegation Members**

**Observers**

**FAO representative**

**WHO representative**

# General Instructions: Roles

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Generally, the **Chairperson** of the plenary is designated from the Host Country and presides over the plenary session.

The **Codex Committee Secretariat** and the **Host Country Secretariat** will assist the Chairperson, receive and disseminate positions submitted by Delegations, document the plenary proceedings, and prepare the Committee Report for review and adoption at the end of the session.

Each Delegation will be provided with a **Country name plate**, which the **HOD raises to signal to the Chairperson** that he/she wishes to present or flag their country position/s on the agenda item being discussed.

**With permission from the HOD, members may present** the position on behalf of their Delegation.

## General Instructions: Roles

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**Observers** may participate fully in the discussions and shall be provided with the same opportunities as other Members to express their point of view (including the submission of memoranda), but without the right to vote or to move motions either of substance or of procedure.

**FAO and WHO** participate in all Codex committees, representing their respective Director Generals. They provide consultation, in line with the Codex Statutes, “on all matters pertaining to the implementation of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme” - namely Codex.

# Role-play session

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**CODEX COMMITTEE ON FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS**

Thirty-fifth Session

Country B,

19- 22 March 2018





## MOCK SESSION SETTING: 35<sup>th</sup> Session CCFFP

<b>Delegation</b>	<b>Country Category</b>	<b>Key Interest</b>
<b>Country A</b>	<b>Developing Country</b>	<b>Main exporter of fish sauce</b>
<b>Country B (Host Country)</b>	<b>Developing Country</b>	<b>Exporter; did not attend the EWG responsible for drafting the standard</b>
<b>Country C</b>	<b>Developed Country</b>	<b>Importer of fish sauce and producer of synthetic enzyme</b>
<b>Country D</b>	<b>Developed Country</b>	<b>[Importer] with strict food safety legislation</b>

# WORKING GROUP INSTRUCTIONS

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1. read all obtained documents carefully

Documents:

- General Information
- Specific information for each country
- Annexes (Document for the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFFP)

# WORKING GROUP INSTRUCTIONS

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## 2. Appoint the Head of Delegation

Each country will **nominate their Head of Delegation (HOD)** who will speak on behalf of their Country.

**It is suggested that priority consideration be given to those who will have future responsibility to represent their countries in actual Codex meetings.**

To enable everyone to actively participate in the meeting, **the HOD may allow any member of her/his Delegation to present their country position/s.**

Each group will be assisted by trainers in the conduct of the mock plenary session and informal meetings between Delegations.

# WORKING GROUP INSTRUCTIONS

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## **3. Develop the national positions**

**Preparation is essential but Delegations also need to prepare for the unexpected**

**Ready to attend the Codex meeting**

## **4. Attend the Codex meeting and express your interventions (talk/share your positions with other delegates)**

## General Instructions: Plenary Session

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Generally, the **Chairperson** of the plenary is designated from the Host Country and presides over the plenary session.

The **Codex Committee Secretariat** and the **Host Country Secretariat** will assist the Chairperson, receive and disseminate positions submitted by Delegations, document the plenary proceedings, and prepare the Committee Report for review and adoption at the end of the session.

Each Delegation will be provided with a **Country name plate**, which the **HOD raises to signal to the Chairperson** that he/she wishes to present or flag their country position/s on the agenda item being discussed.

**With permission from the HOD, members may present** the position on behalf of their Delegation.

## As in actual Committee sessions, the following reminders will help Delegations achieve their goals in Codex meetings:

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- Preparation is essential but Delegations also need to prepare for the unexpected.
- It must be noted that **there is a time limit to presenting positions**. It is thus important for Delegations to **get straight to the point and present the key message** of their comment.
- An intervention needs to be clear, in terms of content and justification for the intervention.
- The timing of an intervention is important. Please carefully decide, when you should intervene.
- **Complete texts of written positions or comments may be submitted** to the Codex Secretariat within the prescribed deadline prior to or during the meeting for proper documentation and recording. The submission will be in the form of a **Conference Room Document (CRD)** and will be prepared for circulation at the plenary.

## As in actual Committee sessions, the following reminders will help Delegations achieve their goals in Codex meetings:

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- Delegations need to look for a **win-win situation**.
    - You may sometimes have no objection against some agendas/issues, which are important for other Delegations; on the other hand, the less important issue/agenda for other Delegations may be the important issue for your Country. **You may have to negotiate to get support from each other.**
    - It will also serve the Delegations well to **network\*** and establish working relationships with other Delegations to promote sharing and exchange views. This will facilitate **consensus-building**, a key principle in Codex decision-making.
- \*During coffee or lunch breaks*
- The **most knowledgeable person on the topic** under discussion should be able to intervene, not only the head of the Delegation.
  - The report needs to reflect the decision correctly and accurately, hence **Delegations should intervene if it does not so.**

## Remember: Mock session=Role Playing

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keep in mind the concept of “**consensus**” in the Codex decision-making process

keep in mind the **two-fold Codex objectives**:

1. protecting public health and
2. promoting fair trade

keep in mind that the session is a role-playing exercise only and actual home country positions should not influence the positions of their assigned roles



# Now .....

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Let's do the grouping now so everybody gets settled in their "home countries" and have that "feeling of belonging"

Let us start to **internalize** our country scenarios and positions to be articulated/negotiated during both the plenary and informal meetings/exchange of views with other countries.

*Grouping and rearrangement of seats by group*

*Have fun!!!*

