

**CORE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OF
NATIONAL CODEX COMMITTEE AND ITS SHADOW
COMMITTEES**

NATIONAL CODEX COMMITTEE

Core Functions

- To advise government on the implications of various food standardization, food quality and safety issues which have arisen and related to the work undertaken by the CAC so that national economic interest is taken into account, or considered, when international standards are discussed.
- To provide important inputs to the government so as to assist in ensuring quality and safety of food to the consumers, while at the same time maximizing the opportunities for development of industry and expansion of international trade.
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- To meet as and when necessary to formulate national position.

Responsibilities

- To cooperate with the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme and to nominate delegates to attend Codex meetings.
- To formulate national position in consultation with the members of NCC in the matters of Codex and recommend action to government.
- To study Codex documents, collect and review all relevant information relating to technology, economics, health and control systems, so as to give supporting reasons to the government for the acceptance of Codex Standards or otherwise.
- To identify organizations to take action and where necessary commission studies for generation of data base or preparation of base papers projecting the country's interest and for interacting with the CAC.
- To cooperate with other local/regional or foreign organizations dealing with activities relating to food standardization.

SHADOW COMMITTEES OF NATIONAL CODEX COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference of Shadow Committees

- To review and advise on the agenda documents including the Code of Hygienic Practices and Codex Guidelines for the respective Codex Committees.
- To advise on the composition of the Indian Delegation.
- To coordinate with the other Shadow committees and concerned Departments for seeking comments and finalise the India's view point on different agenda items under consideration of the respective Codex Committees.
- To advise the concerned Government Department on all matters relating to Codex procedure and working process for elaboration of Codex Standards, Codex Code of Practices and Codex Guidelines.
- To advise on Capacity Building, food safety, food regulations and technical assistance.
- Any other work assigned by the National Codex Committee and the Chairman, National Codex Committee, from time to time.

Functions of Shadow Committees

- To advise the NCCP / NCC on the implications of various food standardization, food quality and safety issues which have arisen and related to the work undertaken by the relevant Subsidiary Body/Task Force so that national economic interest is taken into account or considered when international standards are deliberated by the relevant committee.
- To follow the Codex agenda of the relevant Subsidiary Body and provide inputs to the government so as to assist in ensuring quality and safety of food to the consumers while at the same time safeguard national interests and maximize the opportunities for development of industry and expansion of international trade.

Responsibilities of Shadow Committees

- To study Codex documents, collect and revise all relevant information relating to technology, economics, health and control systems so as to give supporting reasons to the government in the acceptance of Codex Standards or otherwise
- To formulate national position in consultation with the members of the Shadow Committee with respect to the agenda for the forthcoming session / meeting of the Subsidiary Body of the CAC and forward the same to NCCP for sending it to Codex Secretariat after approval by government.
- To finalize the delegation for the meeting of the Codex in consultation with the NCC / NCCP and transmit the names to the host secretariat through the NCCP.
- To recommend to the NCCP the position to be taken during the Sessions of the Commission with respect to agenda items relevant to the terms of reference of the Shadow Committees.