

Codex “Two Step Process” Summary

I. Codex

1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission was created in 1963 by FAO and WHO to develop food standards, guidelines and related texts such as codes of practice under the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. The main purposes of this Programme are protecting health of the consumers and ensuring fair trade practices in the food trade, and promoting coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations. Fm. Official Codex Web Site http://www.codexalimentarius.net/web/index_en.jsp
2. The entire body of work created by The Codex Alimentarius Commission is known as the Codex Alimentarius. The word Codex is use to refer to both the Commission and the body of work.
3. Codex grew out of a series of joint meetings between held the FAO and WHO, UN specialized agencies, in the 1950's addressing nutrition and health and industrial chemicals added to the food supply. It is a voluntary Organization. Its actions do not bind its members or any other government or non government organizations.

II. Food Standards: Food standards (Codex Alimentarius)

1. FAO/WHO Training Package Full text [pdf 18.78Mb]

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) is an intergovernmental body to implement the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme which was established by an FAO Conference resolution in 1961 and a World Health Assembly resolution, WHA 16.42, in 1963. Its principle objective is to protect the health of consumers and to facilitate the trade of food by setting international standards on foods (i.e. Codex Standards) and other texts which can be recommended to governments for acceptance. The CAC is open to the governments of all member nations, or associate members of FAO and/or WHO. It currently has 174 Member States. Fm. Official Codex Food Standard Web Site <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/codex/en/>

Note "... can be recommended to governments for acceptance."

2. The Codex food standards list includes food standards, guidelines and related texts such as codes of practice under the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme none of which is mandatory-that is binds a country-unless and until, and only to the degree that, a country actually and affirmatively, in accordance with its own laws, adopts it.
3. Codex proceedings are heavily dominated by multinational food

corporations.

4. The World Trade Organization, activated on January 1, 1995, recognizes Codex food standards, guidelines and related texts as one source of sound scientific information in evaluating, in its arbitration process, claims of one country against another that it has engaged in improper restraint of international trade banned by the WTO agreement.

5. The Codex Two Step provides self defense for countries working to defend themselves from domination of their food supply by multinational food corporation using Codex as tool of intimidation.

III. The Codex Two Step Process:

* Step One: Country A adopts a national guideline that deviate in whole or in part from the Codex Alimentarius Standards to establish its standards for the food products it intends to regulate and then adopts food laws it desires in accordance with its national guideline..

- o These laws govern all food transactions within country A

- o Country A can prohibit importation across its borders of any food product that violates its laws (contains GMOs, too many antibiotics, hormones or other chemicals, is a useless vitamin or mineral supplement, has too much pesticide residue, etc.) as long as its laws are based on sound science. .

- o Country B, prohibited from sending its food product(s) into country A can complain the WTO and make the argument to a WTO panel that the laws prohibiting it from sending its food product(s) to country A are not based on sound science. The best science wins. A Codex standard creates a rebut-able presumption.

* Step Two: Country A exports food products that comply with its laws to country B.

- o Country B attempts to stop country A's imports across its borders.

- o Country A brings a complaint to the WTO

- o The best science wins. A Codex standard creates a rebutable presumption.