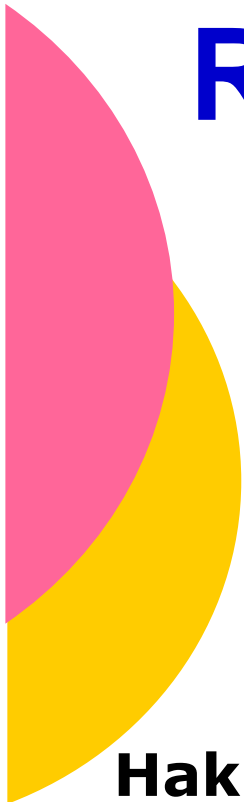


# Alignment of National & Regional Codex efforts to AfCFTA



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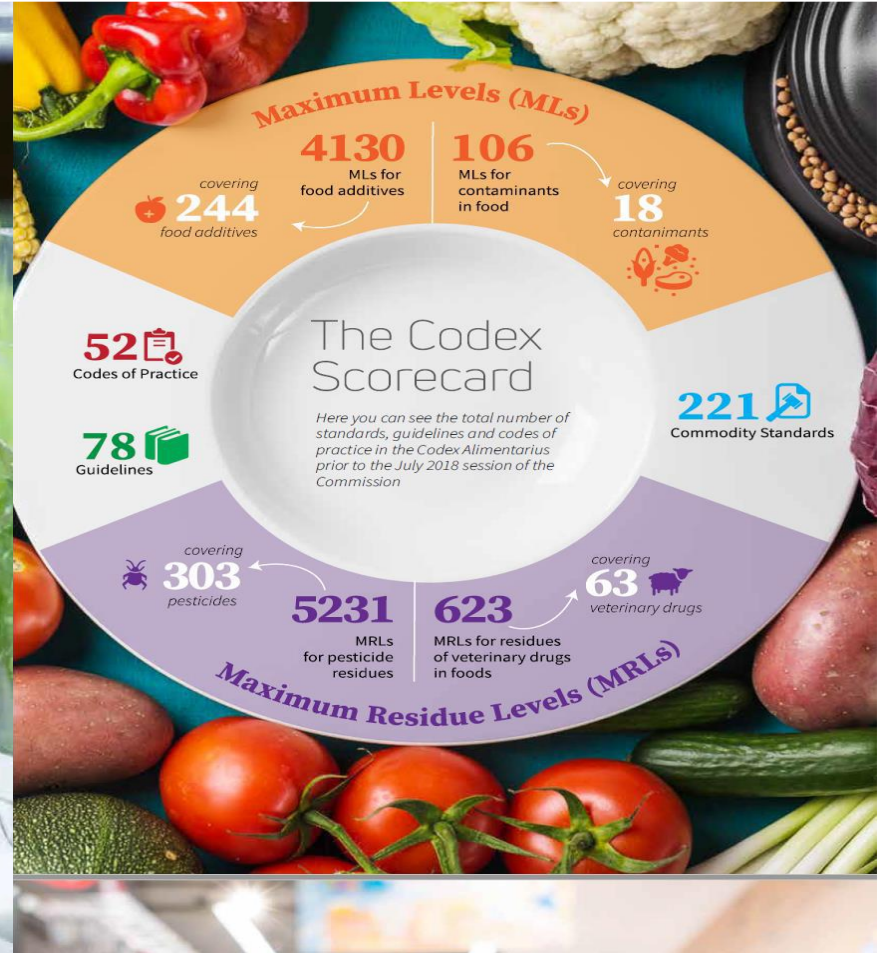
# Content

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- Context
- CCAFRICA
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- Development of African's common positions
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- Conclusion



# Context



# Context

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- Codex Alimentarius is about safe, good food for everyone – everywhere
- International Food standards contribute to the safety, quality and fairness of this international food trade
- Reference made to Codex Standards in the WTO SPS Agreement has far reaching implications for resolving trade disputes (one of “sisters” with IPPC and OIE)
- 188 Member Countries and 1 Member Organization (The European Union)
- 239 Codex Observers - 59 IGOs, 164 NGOs, 16 UN
- 23 active Codex Committees (Policy, regional, vertical and horizontal)

# CCAFRICA

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- 49 Members (some other members in Near East Region) – Since 1974
- To support and coordinate the work of the Codex Committees in the region or group of countries in the preparation of draft standards
- Key deliverables are regional standards (currently 4 completed and 2 at different stages of development)
- Uganda is currently the Coordinator having taken over from Kenya in November 2020

# CCAFRICA

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- Key ongoing work:
  - Draft regional standard for dried meat at Step 5 (expect to complete process next year during CCAFRICA24) – Led by Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire & Morocco
  - Draft guidelines for supporting the development of harmonised Food Laws for the CCAFRICA Region (Step 2/3 and process ongoing) – Led by Kenya, Senegal and Morocco

# Codex standards and AfCFTA

- Codex standards key tool as provided in Annex 7 of the AfCFTA Agreement on SPS
- Standards vital in supporting intra-regional trade in Africa for agricultural products
- Health and safety of the over 1.3 Billion consumers in Africa will be protected as a result of applying standards in trade



# Codex standards and AfCFTA

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- CXC 1-1969, General Principles of Food Hygiene
- CXS 1-1985, General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods
- CXS 192-1995, General Standard for Food Additives
- CXG 20-1995, Principles for Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification
- CXG 82-2013, Principles and Guidelines for National Food Control Systems
- CXG 53-2003, Guidelines on the Judgement of Equivalence of Sanitary Measures associated with Food Inspection and Certification Systems

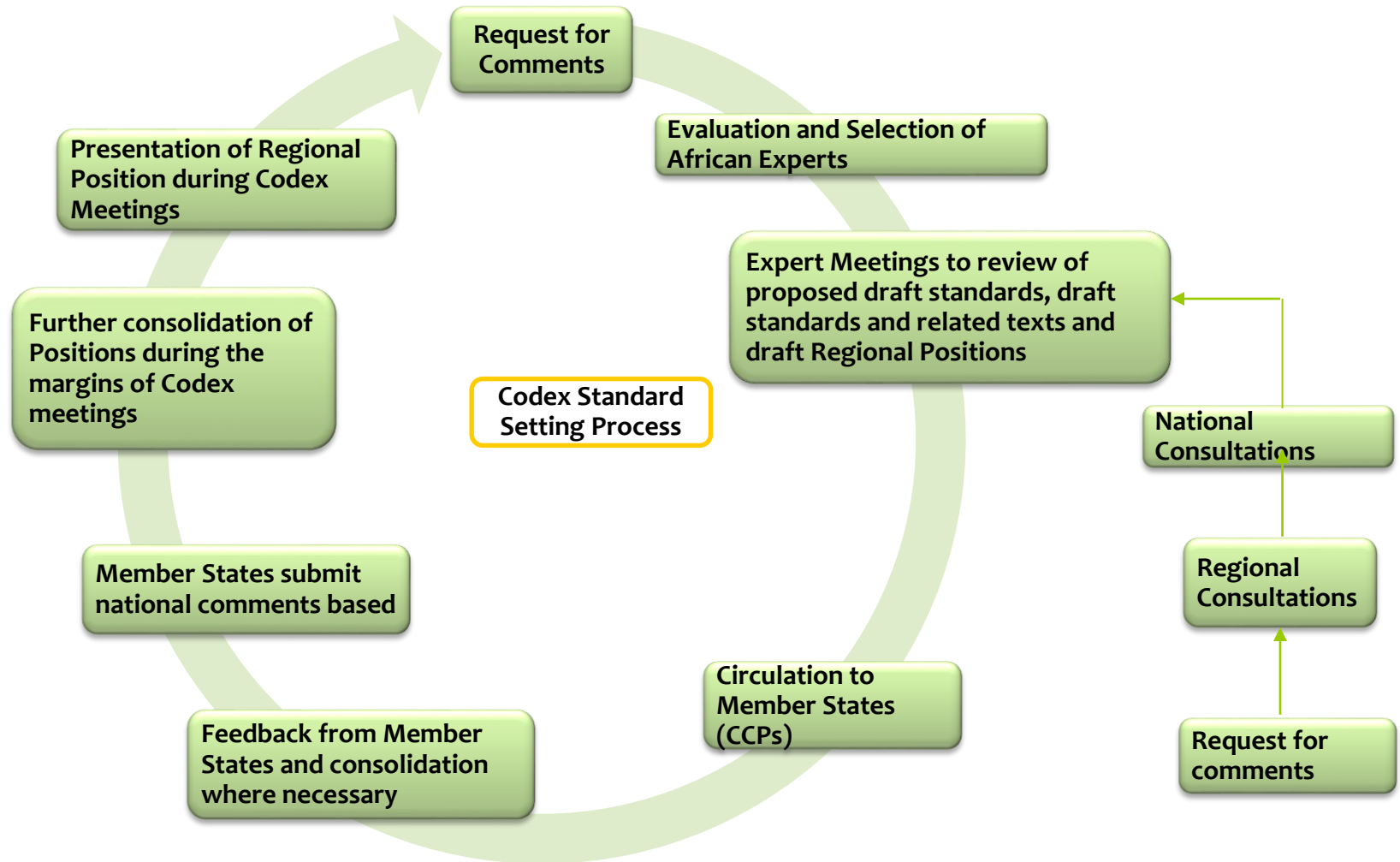


# Development of Africa's common positions

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- Strategy through AU-IBAR framework (experts positions shared with members)
- Drive harmonization of issues in the RECs
- Engagement of members to consult at the national level on priority food safety issues
- Activities anchored on the existing Codex Committees which develop food safety related standards, guidelines and codes of practice
- Members submit CRDs based on Regional common positions

# Development of Africa's common positions



# Recommendations

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- Member States encouraged to foster consultations at national level to feed into regional common positions
- It is important to strengthen national codex systems to support regional initiatives
- Codex standards are based on sound science hence the need for data to support positions
- Engagement of the many African Food Safety experts in the process
- Enhance participation of Member States in Codex work
- RECs need to strengthen coordination mechanisms to feed into the wider Continent positions and objectives
- Strengthen collaboration among AU, CCAFRICA and ARSO to drive standardization in Africa

# Conclusion

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- Codex standards and those issued by ARSO are critical for trade in the region and implementation of AfCFTA
- Member States have a critical role in contributing to the process
- One standard, one test, accepted everywhere
- Regional initiatives are best supported by functional national quality infrastructure and coordination of RECs
- Effective implementation of standards is important in Africa to avoid impacts on trade

Thank  
you

