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Coalition for an Enhanced Codex Mission, Shared Principles and Public Policy Hopes

Mission: The Codex Alimentarius plays an integral role in establishing food safety standards, protecting the health of consumers and enabling the global trade of agriculture products to the benefit of farmers and consumers. The IAFN Codex Reform Coalition seeks effective and impactful Codex reforms to ensure the continued production and trade of safe, high-quality and diverse food in an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable way.

Shared principles

We share the following principles in our quest to achieve that mission.

- 1. Increased investment including private investment is positive and a catalyst of growth.** Investment creates new possibilities, increases capacity and provides new tools for the entire agricultural value chain including farmers, food producers, traders, and input industries to be more productive and sustainable.
- 2. Sound science** forms the basis for regulatory frameworks and decisions and ensures that Codex continues to protect the health of consumers. Codex provides clarity to all stakeholders including consumers, reduces market risk, and ensures continued investment in agriculture innovation.
- 3. Innovation and new technologies are major contributors** to achieving more sustainable, healthier foods and to providing farmers the necessary tools to address existing and emerging production challenges.
- 4. Open and predictable trade of agri-food commodities globally, based on international standards, is advantageous** to the developed, and even more so, to developing countries. Trade can act as an economic growth engine and assist in reducing poverty and improving access to world markets for developing economies.
- 5. Greater economic, environmental and social sustainability** are achieved through more efficient production and trade-associated infrastructure because these help make the most efficient use of natural resources.
- 6. Partnerships with the private sector provide valuable tools** to address the Sustainable Development Goal 2 to
 - end hunger, achieve food safety and security,
 - improve nutrition, and,
 - promote sustainable agriculture

Partnerships from farm-to-fork can and must exist involving all members of the agri-food value chain including public entities.

- 7. Transparency, unity and commitment are core values** in achieving the shared mission of our group.

Public policy hopes

To help unlock the potential of the agri-food value chain we need ambitious public policies. These are:

1. National and international policy-making that promotes food safety, food security, nutrition, and trade. Regulatory systems must **work efficiently towards lifting obstacles to, free and open trade**.
2. Policies aimed at increased **communication of science-based decisions** to improve public understanding and confidence.
3. Policies that **boost investment** while ensuring farmers access to new, innovative tools and practices
4. Policies that **systematically integrate social, environmental and economic sustainability**.
5. Policies that place **innovation and technologies at the heart of agri-food policies**, by promoting public and private research and investment in food and agriculture.

The IAFN Codex Reform Coalition represents industry associations across the agri-food chain. Members represent agricultural input industries such as suppliers of seeds, fertilizers, crop protection, animal health, feed and biotechnology-based products, traders, farmers, and the food and drink manufacturing sector.

Our mission is to help provide sufficient amounts of safe, healthy, high-quality and diverse food at affordable prices to consumers in an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable way. In doing so, we contribute to increased food safety, food security, better nutrition and health, economic growth and development, and poverty reduction.

The Coalition is part of the IAFN network (www.agrifood.net).