

#### 2015/SOM3/SCSC/FSCF/PTIN/RT/008

### **Good Regulatory Practice: Perspective of Codex**

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Towards a Future of Prevention and Partnership:
Roundtable on Effective Industry / Regulator
Cooperation
Cebu, Philippines
24-25 August 2015

## **Good Regulatory Practice: Perspective of Codex**

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2015 Workshop of the APEC Food Safety Cooperation Forum (FSCF)
Partnership Training Institute Network (PTIN)
"Towards a Future of Prevention and Partnership:
Roundtable on Effective Industry/Regulator Cooperation"

24-25 August 2015 Cebu, Republic of the Philippines Radisson Blue Cebu Serge Osmeña Boulevard corner Juan Luna

## **Good Regulatory Practices (GRP)**

- Internationally recognized processes, systems, tools and methods for **improving the quality of regulations**.
- Systematically implements public consultations, stakeholder engagement, and impact analysis of government proposals, before these are implemented to make sure that these are fit for purpose and will deliver what these are set out to achieve.

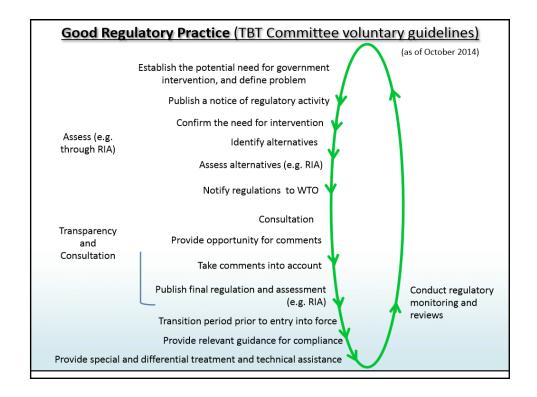
Reference: ASEAN-OECD Good Regulatory Practice Conference 2015: Connectivity, Competitiveness and Regulatory Coherence. Institutional Connectivity to Support Regional Economic Integration. 10-11 March 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

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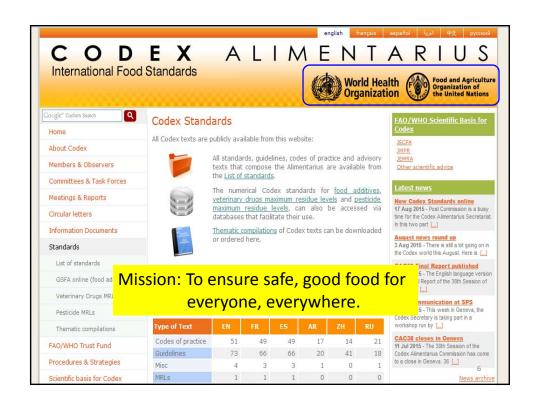
#### **Principles for Good Regulatory Practice (GRP)**

- Serve clearly identified policy objectives and be effective in achieving those objectives
- Have sound legal and empirical basis
- Produce benefits that justify costs, considering the distribution of effects across society and taking economic, environmental, social effects into account
- Minimize costs and market distortions
- Clear, simple and practical for users Based on international or national standards that are harmonized to international standards, except where legitimate reasons for deviation exist
- Least trade restrictive to achieve desired objectives
- Performance based rather than prescriptive
- Accord equal treatment to products of national origin and like products imported from Member states
- Subject to review to maintain flexibility and adaptability to changes

Reference: ASEAN Good Regulatory Practice (GRP) Guide. Endorsed by the 2/40 SEOM Meeting. 2-4 February 2009, Bangkok, Thailand.







#### **Codex Standards\***

- Voluntary application by members Codex standards serve in many cases as a basis for national legislation.
- WTO's Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS Agreement) refer to Codex food safety standards when resolving trade disputes.
- When WTO members wish to impose food safety measures which are stricter than those set by Codex, they may be required to justify these measures scientifically.
- \* Include all Codex Standards, Guidelines, Codes of Practice and Other Related Texts

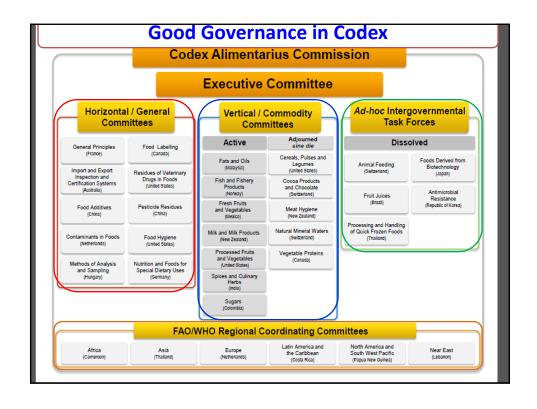
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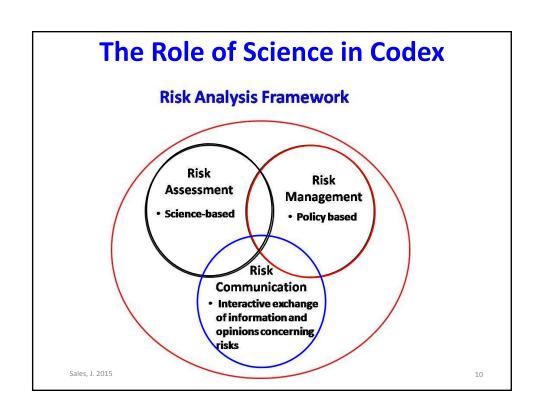
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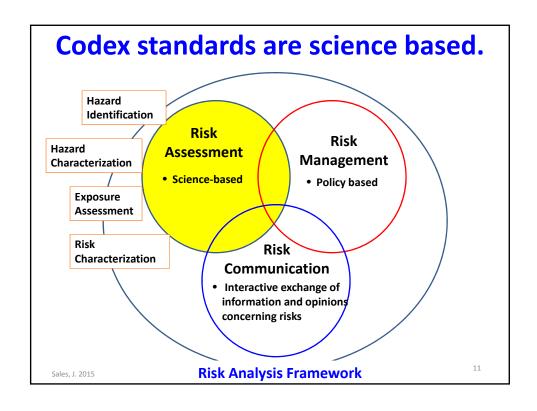
#### **Good Governance in Codex**

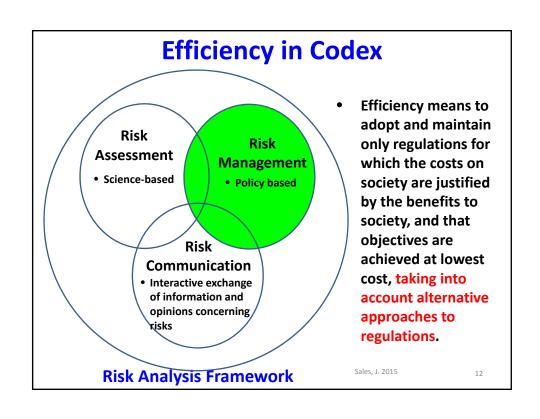
- The work at Codex is participated by member governments from various countries, about 99% of the worlds population.
- Members are encouraged to actively participate in various horizontal general committees, vertical commodity committees, and ad hoc intergovernmental task forces.
- FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees are also formed to address the concerns in specific regions.

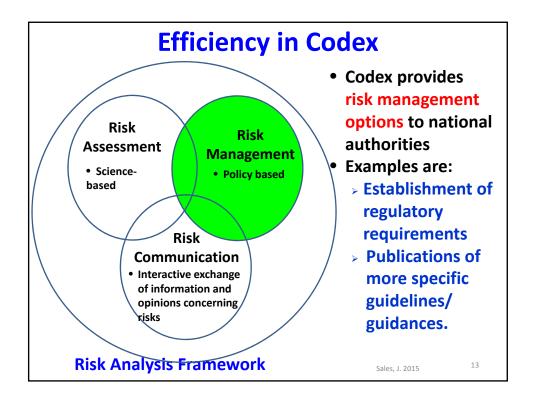








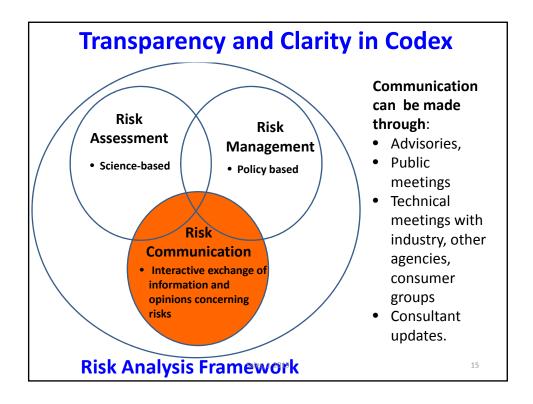




## **Efficiency in Codex**

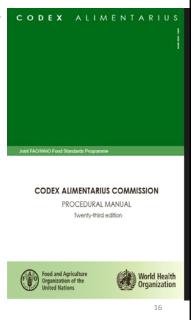
- Codex recommends other variety of actions based on risk management to the National authorities to reduce food safety hazards such as:
  - Dietary Advice/Labelling
  - Mitigation strategies such as sampling and monitoring for enforcement of food safety programs
  - Recalls/public health alerts
  - Education and training
  - > Research.

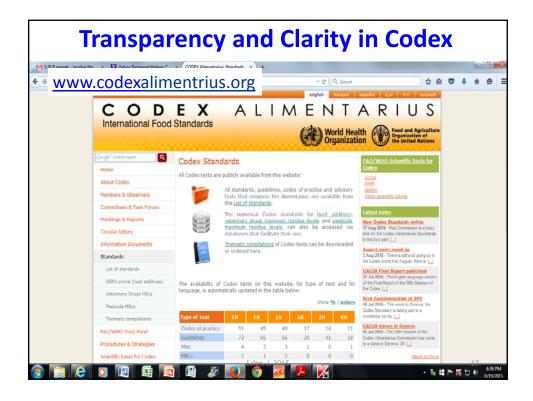
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### **Transparency and Clarity in Codex**

- Codex Procedural Manual laid down the procedure for the development of standards, guidelines, codes of practice, and other related texts
- All plans for new work and revisions of existing work as well as on-going activities are circulated to Members for review and comments.
- Active Codex members help countries to compete in sophisticated world markets and to improve food safety for their own population.
- At the same time, exporters know what importers demand, and importers are protected from substandard shipments.

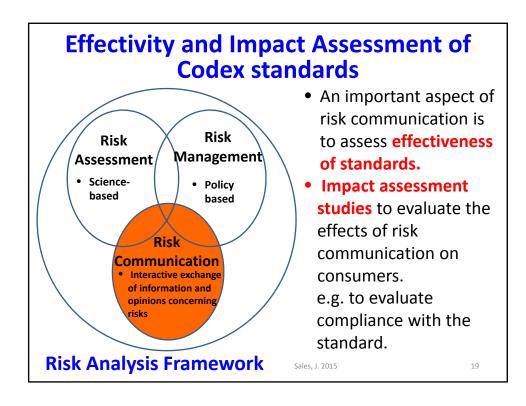


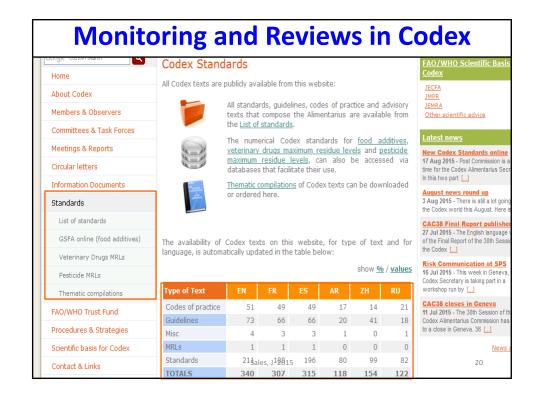


## Minimal Restrictiveness and Equity in Codex

- Equity means regulations should be fair and treat those affected equitably.
- Access of all Members to Codex work, documents and activities favors minimal restrictiveness and equity as everybody is given equal chance to review and comment on the standards, guidelines, codes of practice to be developed, being developed, to be revised, being revised, and/or to be deleted.

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## **Summary**

- Codex are international food standards, guidelines, codes of practice, and related information which contribute to the safety and quality of food and fairness in the international food trade.
- The guiding principles of Good Regulatory Practice are consistent and evident in Codex work.
- Therefore, Codex standards, guidelines, code of practice and related information can be **powerful instruments** in the establishment of good regulatory practice which can be adopted and/or adapted by national authorities.

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#### **Disclaimer:**

The information within this presentation is based on the presenter's expertise and experience, and represents the views of the presenter for the purposes of this workshop.

# Maraming salamat po. (Thank you.)

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