

## India joins Executive Committee of Codex Alimentarius Commission

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India was recently **elected** unanimously **as a member** representing the Asian region in the **Executive Committee of Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)** during its 46th meeting.



[Ref- PIB]

### **About the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC):**

- It was **jointly created by FAO** (Food and Agriculture Organization) and **WHO** (World Health Organization), as the most important **international body** in the field of **food standards**.
- Codex developed many internationally recognized standards, guidelines, codes of practice, and defined permitted levels of **additives, contaminants, and chemical residues in food**.
- **The end goal:** Ensure food is safe for everyone, everywhere.
- **Meetings:** Regular session once a year alternating between **Geneva and Rome**.
- **Funded by:** Regular budgets of WHO and FAO after approval of their governing bodies.
- **Members:** 188 Member Countries including India, and 1 Member Organization (European Union).

### **About Executive Committee of CAC:**

- **Function:** Management of CAC's programme of standards development by conducting a critical review of proposals and monitoring progress of standards development.
- **Composition:** A Chair, three vice Chairs, six regional coordinators, and seven elected representatives from the various geographical regions of Codex.

### **Significance for India:**

- India would get an opportunity to contribute to the **International standard-setting process** for different food product categories and get involved in the **decision-making process**.
- India's proposal for setting up **group and global standards for millets** was accepted by CAC and supported by the member countries.
- The **Indian delegation** consisted of members from:

- [FSSAI](#) (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India),
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,
- NIFTEM (National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management),
- [APEDA](#) (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority),
- EIC (Export Inspection Council).