

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL
DIETARY USES**

**Forty third Session - Düsseldorf, Germany
7 – 11 March 2023 and 15 March 2023**

European Union comments on

Agenda item 7.2

**Prioritisation mechanism to better manage the work of CCNFSDU
(CX/NFSDU 23/43/8)**

*Mixed Competence
Member States Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank Germany and Canada for preparing the Draft Guideline for the preliminary assessment to identify and prioritise new work for CCNFSDU.

General comments

The EUMS note that some committees have developed or are in the process of developing their own approach and tailored criteria for managing work priorities.

While the EUMS greatly appreciate the efforts of all committees engaging in work management enhancement processes, the EUMS feel that a more detailed overview of all existing procedures in committees and a centralised access to all existing prioritisation criteria and methodologies would be beneficial for Members wishing to propose new work that addresses their needs in Codex.

For that purpose, all prioritisation mechanisms and other work practices that have been developed on this issue should be collated in one single place. Such place could be the practical guidance for new work proposals that the Codex secretariat has been tasked to draft.¹

Specific comments

The draft guideline proposes that when assessing new work and trying to identify priorities, four basic criteria are taken into account. In addition to the four criteria proposed, the EUMS would like to see that consumers' interests are sufficiently protected and taken into account, therefore the EUMS propose the addition of one more criterion: "Impact on consumers' interest".

Furthermore, by the prioritization exercise the EUMS noted that new work proposals might eventually also negatively impact certain criterion, thus the EUMS recommend that introducing negative impacts in the decision tree should be considered.

¹ REP22/EXEC2, paragraph 118 (iii)