



United States Codex Steering Committees

Officials from the Departments of [Agriculture](#), [Health and Human Services](#), [State](#), and [Commerce](#), the [Environmental Protection Agency](#), and the [Office of the U.S. Trade Representative](#) participate on the United States Codex Steering Committees.

Policy Committee

Composition: Senior officials responsible for broad policy decisions within a department or agency.

- Chair: Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA
- Vice Chair: Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, USDA
- Executive Secretary: U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius

Meetings: Twice a year, and as scheduled if significant policy issues regarding Codex arise.

Charge: Through a process of consensus, the committee will:

- Address broad policy issues, such as the appropriate overall strategies the U.S. should pursue in the Codex process.
- Provide guidance, based on sound science, to U.S. Codex Delegates and U.S. Codex Office on issues that have widespread implications on regulatory and trade policies.
- Address issues of process, including policies and approaches that continue to assure transparency, within Codex, both nationally and internationally.
- Be available to address issues that are referred by the Senior-level Technical Committee for Codex.
- Provide advice and guidance on staffing, organization, and funding of the U.S. Codex Office.
- Address issues of dates, location, and funding for U.S. hosted meetings, including achieving consensus on sources of funds from involved agencies.

Technical Committee

Composition: Officials with broad responsibility for implementing food regulatory and trade programs, representing agencies with direct Codex involvement

- Chair: U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius

Meetings: Quarterly and as scheduled if significant issues regarding Codex arise.

Charge: Through a process of consensus, the committee will:

- Provide guidance to the U.S. Delegations to Codex Committees and to the U.S. Codex Office.
- Identify cross-cutting issues, especially those that involve several delegations or agencies or on issues on which two or more Codex Committees have differing view points, and resolve such issues or bring them to the attention of the Policy Committee.
- Address any issues brought to it by U.S. Delegates to Codex Committees, by the U.S. Codex Office, or by U.S. government agencies.
- Identify lead and secondary agencies for involvement in each Codex Committee and approve selections of U.S. Delegates and Alternate Delegates.
- Guide the long-term implementation of the U.S. Codex Strategic Plan.



United States Codex Steering Committee Membership

Names, affiliations, and contact information for current members of the Policy and Technical Committees

POLICY COMMITTEE

Chair

Under Secretary for Food Safety
U.S. Department of Agriculture
227-E Jamie Whitten Building
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Vice Chair

Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs
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