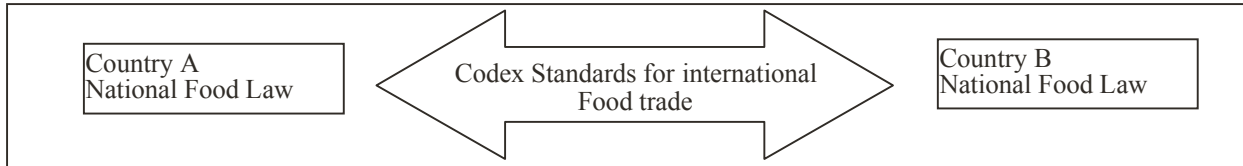
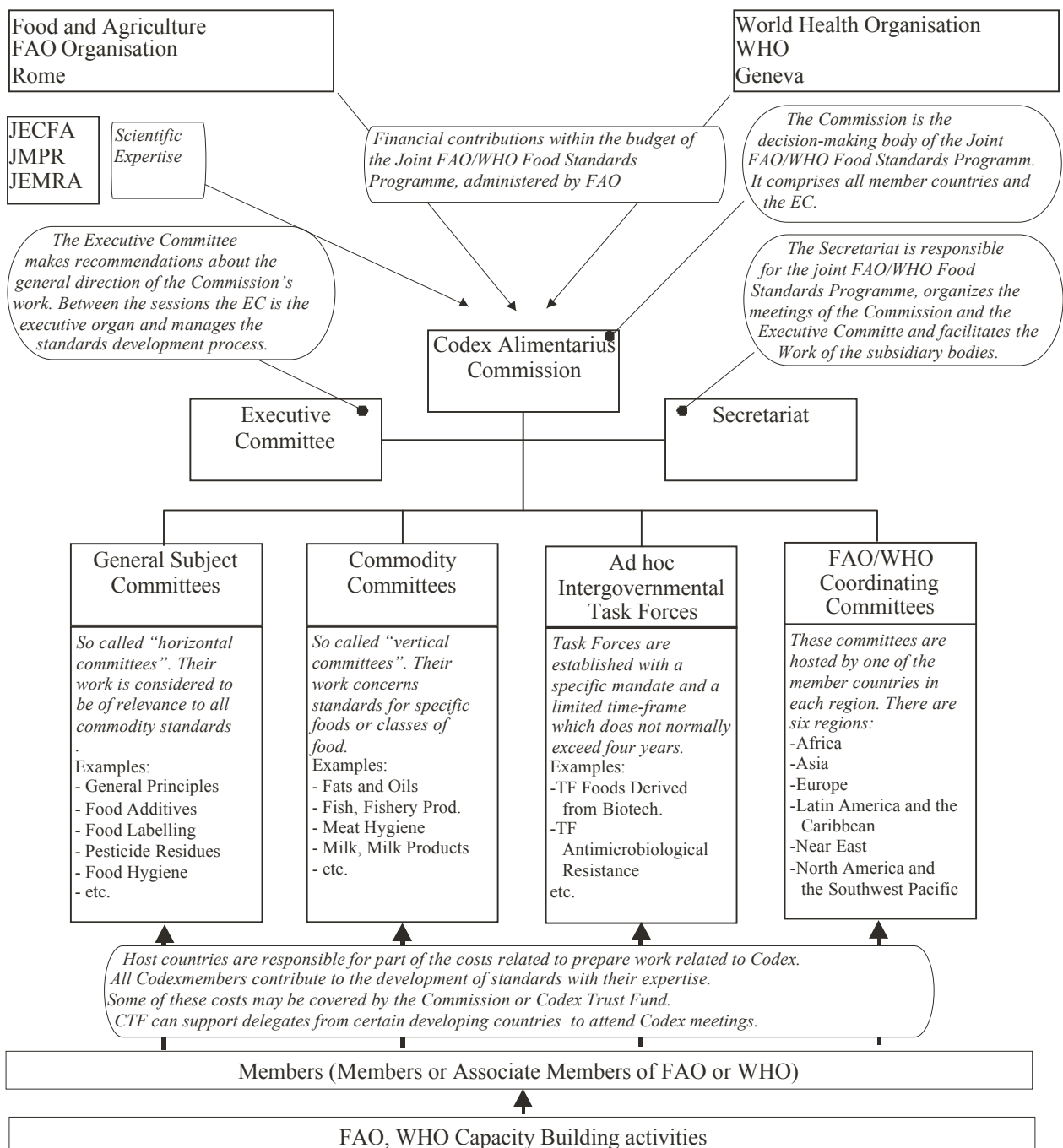


## What is Codex ?

- ☒ The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) is the body established to implement the joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme.
- ☒ The CAC is an intergovernmental body whose purpose is to develop international food standards
- ☒ WTO Members are required to base their national measures in the context of international food trade on Codex Standards.
- ☒ WTO Members are entitled to establish their own appropriate level of health protection in international food trade if the measures are science-based and do not represent an unnecessary or disguised restriction of trade

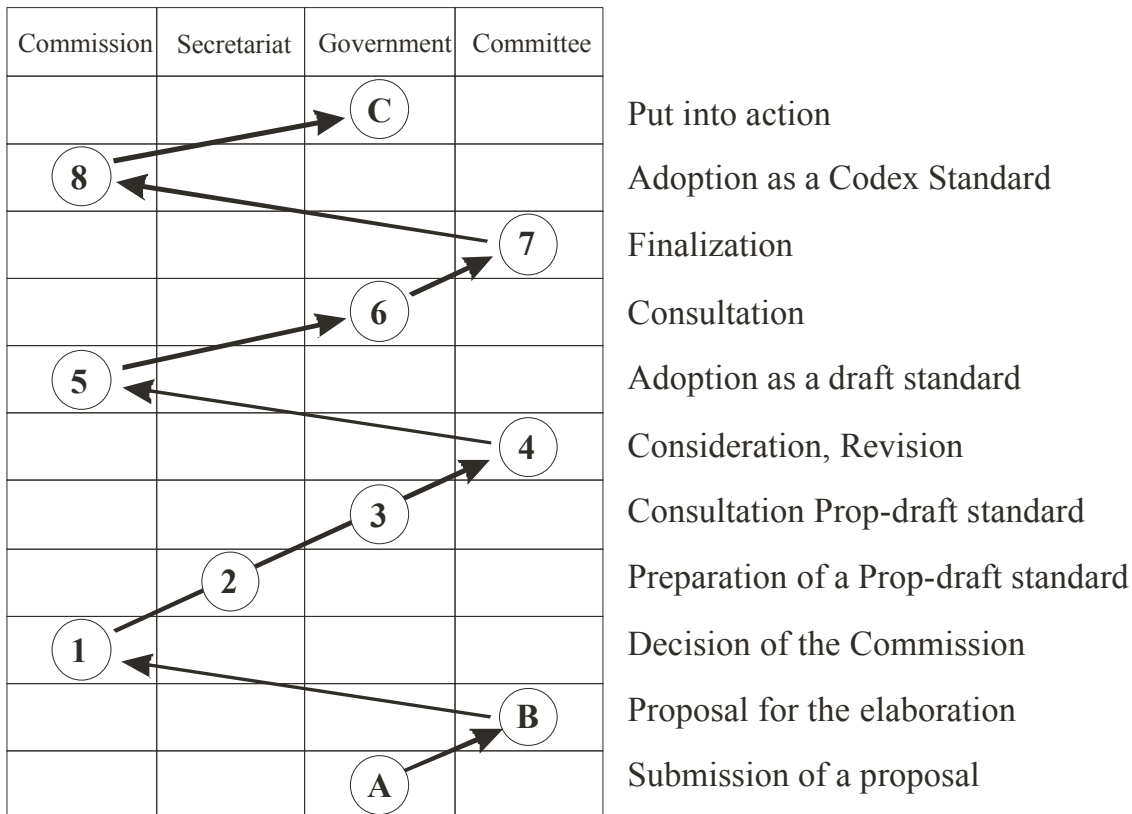


## How is Codex organised?



## How does Codex elaborate standards?

Procedures for preparing standards are well defined, open and transparent:



### Proposal, Project Documentation:

- ♦ purpose of the proposed standard;
- ♦ indication of its relevance to the Codex strategic objectives;
- ♦ scope of the proposed standard;
- ♦ Assessment of the proposed standard against the criteria for the establishment of priorities;
- ♦ proposed time line for completion of the work;
- ♦ identification of expert advice requirements;
- ♦ identification of any issues related to the needs of developing countries

Preparation of this project document is the responsibility of the Member Committee proposing new work. It should be prepared early enough in order to allow sufficient time for the committee to reach consensus on whether or not to recommend the new work and subsequently allow the consideration of the project proposals by the Executive Committee before final approach by the CAC.

### Criteria applicable to general subject committees

- ♦ Contribution to the protection of consumers' health and prevention of fraudulent practices
- ♦ Diversification of national legislation and apparent resultant or potential impediments to international trade
- ♦ Scope of the work undertaken and the establishment of priorities between the various sections of the work
- ♦ Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field will be considered.

### Criteria applicable to commodity committees

- ♦ Contribution to the protection of consumers' health and prevention of fraudulent practices
- ♦ Volume of production and consumption in individual countries and volume and pattern of trade between countries
- ♦ Diversification of national legislation and apparent resultant or potential impediments to international trade
- ♦ International or regional market potential
- ♦ Amenability of the commodity to standardization
- ♦ Coverage of the main consumer protection and trade issues by existing or proposed general standards
- ♦ Number of commodities that would need separate standards indicating whether raw, semi-processed or processed products are to be included in the standard
- ♦ Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field