

# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	2001/0120(CNS)	Procedure completed
Food safety: accession of the Community to the Codex Alimentarius Commission		
Subject 3.10.10 Foodstuffs, foodstuffs legislation 4.60.04.04 Food safety		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		11/07/2001
		PPE-DE <a href="#">JACKSON Caroline</a>	
	Former committee responsible		
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		
	Former committee for opinion		
	<b>JURI</b> Legal Affairs and Internal Market	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
<b>ITRE</b> Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
<b>AGRI</b> Agriculture and Rural Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
<b>DEVE</b> Development and Cooperation	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries</a>	<a href="#">2542</a>	17/11/2003
European Commission	Commission DG <a href="#">Health and Food Safety</a>	Commissioner	

Key events			
05/07/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
05/07/2001	Report referred back to committee		
08/10/2001	Vote in committee		
22/10/2001	Decision by Parliament	COM(2001)0287	Summary
05/11/2001	Vote in committee		Summary

05/11/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0383/2001</a>	
12/12/2001	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0672/2001</a>	Summary
17/11/2003	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
17/11/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		
26/11/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

#### Technical information

Procedure reference	2001/0120(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p3-a1; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/5/14899; ENVI/5/15347

#### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(2001)0287</a> <a href="#">OJ C 270 25.09.2001, p. 0001 E</a>	30/05/2001	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0383/2001</a>	05/11/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">T5-0672/2001</a> <a href="#">OJ C 177 25.07.2002, p. 0080-0131 E</a>	12/12/2001	EP	Summary

#### Additional information

European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>
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#### Final act

<a href="#">Decision 2003/822</a> <a href="#">OJ L 309 26.11.2003, p. 0014-0021</a> Summary
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## Food safety: accession of the Community to the Codex Alimentarius Commission

**PURPOSE:** to set up the legal framework permitting the European Community accession to the Codex Alimentarius Commission **CONTENT:** The European Community has been a member of the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) since 1991. There has been an understanding since then that the European Community should be entitled to membership of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, which is a joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. The object of the Codex Alimentarius is to protect the health of the consumers and to ensure fair practices in the food trade. Now that the WTO recognises Codex Alimentarius standards, guidelines and recommendations, there is an added urgency for Community participation. Codex standards, for example, are relied upon under WTO agreements such as the Agreement of the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS Agreement) and on the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement). Accordingly, the European Commission has been negotiating membership since 1993. The Commission proposal acknowledges that now is the right time for Community participation and recommends that membership proceed forthwith.?

## Food safety: accession of the Community to the Codex Alimentarius Commission

The committee adopted the report by its chair, Caroline JACKSON (EPP-ED, UK), approving the proposal without amendment under the consultation procedure.?

## Food safety: accession of the Community to the Codex Alimentarius Commission

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The European Parliament adopted without amendment the resolution by Mrs Caroline JACKSON (EPP-ED, UK).?

## Food safety: accession of the Community to the Codex Alimentarius Commission

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PURPOSE : to request admission for the EC to the Codex Alimentarius Commission. LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Decision 2003/822/EC on the accession of the European Community to the Codex Alimentarius Commission. CONTENT : the object of the Codex Alimentarius Commission is, inter alia, to develop and harmonise worldwide health standards and to issue guidelines and recommendations on agricultural and fishery products, foodstuffs, food additives and contaminants, feedstuffs, veterinary drugs, and pesticides. These objectives are in line with the objectives of the European Community as regards measures taken to protect human, animal or plant life or health or the environment with a view to ensuring free circulation in the internal market and imports from third countries. Since 1994, with the entry into force of the WTO Agreements, in particular the Agreement on the application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) and the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement), Codex Alimentarius standards, guidelines and recommendations have acquired increased legal relevance by virtue of the reference made to the Codex Alimentarius in the WTO Agreements and the presumption of conformity which is conferred on relevant national measures when they are based on such standards when adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Accession of the EC as a full member of Codex Alimentarius, alongside its Member States, is essential in order to ensure that the interests of the EC are taken into consideration during the preparation, negotiation and adoption of such standards. The Statutes of the Codex Alimentarius Commission entitles the EC, as a Member of FAO, also to become a full Member of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The outcome of the negotiations conducted by the European Commission is considered to be satisfactory taking into account the interests of the EC its Member States and the specific features of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. This Decision provides for the accession of the EC to the Codex Alimentarius Commission. It also provides for practical modalities concerning the participation of the EC and its Member States.?