

Codex meeting in Germany set to decide future for vitamin consumers around the world

For immediate release

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The US-based National Health Federation (NHF), the world's longest-standing health-freedom organisation, is today beginning a week of meetings at the 29th session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) in Bad Neuenahr, Germany. Expected to be attended by over 300 delegates, observers and advisors, representing about 70 member countries and over 30 international organizations, the Committee, sponsored by the Food & Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization, is the world's highest international body setting global standards and guidelines on nutrition.

With consumer members all over the world, and a board of governors and advisory board containing representatives from six countries, the NHF is unique as being the only consumer health-freedom organization in the world to enjoy official observer delegate status at Codex. The NHF therefore has the opportunity to make representations on behalf of natural health interests all over the world, which are presently being threatened by over-regulation stimulated by spurious science, misinformed media attacks and corporate pressure from large food and pharmaceutical concerns.

Making up the three-person NHF delegation at this year's meeting is **Scott Tips**, NHF's President and Legal Counsel, **Dr Robert Verkerk**, scientific advisor to the NHF and also Executive and Scientific Director of the Alliance for Natural Health, and **Paul Anthony Taylor**, the NHF's Chairman and also External Relations Director for the Dr Rath Foundation.

*"Since Codex sets international principles, guidelines, and standards for all types of foods," said **Scott Tips**, "it is essential that the voice of vitamin consumers be heard adequately—and this has been our key focus at Codex ever since we've been involved. We are here to make a difference at these meetings and we can already see from our attendance at today's Electronic Working Group meeting on risk assessment that a number of delegations are receptive to our ideas."*

Addressing some serious scientific concerns, **Dr Robert Verkerk** added, *"In today's meeting, we have managed to make a strong case that risk-assessment approaches presently being used in Europe—which are being pushed as global guidelines to be adopted through Codex—need to be urgently amended if they are not to prevent millions of people in both the less-developed and developed world from obtaining health-promoting levels of nutrients in foods and food supplements."*

To find out more about Codex, and its potential implications to natural health, listen to the Codex special on the Alliance for Natural Health's Natural Health Hour on

Californian-based internet radio station, www.aimhealthyradio.com, to be broadcast for the first time at 13:00h GMT today.

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Editor's Notes:

- 1. Codex Committee on Nutrition and Food for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU):** one of 27 committees of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, established under the auspices of the Food & Agricultural Organization and World Health Organization.
www.codexalimentarius.net.
- 2. National Health Federation:** established in 1955, the National Health Federation is a consumer-education, health-freedom organization working to protect individuals' rights to choose to consume healthy food, take supplements and use alternative therapies without unnecessary government restrictions. The NHF is the only such organization with recognized observer status at Codex meetings.
www.thenhf.com.
- 3. Alliance for Natural Health:** The Alliance for Natural Health (ANH), founded in 2002, is a UK-based, internationally-active not-for-profit campaign organisation working to protect and promote sustainable approaches to healthcare through the use of 'good science' and 'good law.'
www.anhcampaign.org.