

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

## Global control of our food by governments and the transnationals



### WHAT IS CODEX?

The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an inter-governmental body with over 170 member countries, established in 1963, within the framework of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Its primary stated purpose is "protecting the health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade." The Commission also promotes coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations (INGOs). Guidelines and standards are used as a benchmark for regional/national legislation and in World Trade Organization (WTO) disputes. Work is conducted through nearly 30 committees, each dealing with specific areas of food, and decisions are based on consensus voting by member countries. INGOs do not have voting rights but may influence proceedings. Most INGOs present at Codex meetings represent transnational corporation interests.

### GENETICALLY-MODIFIED FOOD

- Driven by GM interests which argue world food requirements cannot be met without global implementation of GM
- Led by USA and Canada; EU may cave to pressure
- GM food plants being given the green light on safety
- 'Terminator' seeds could be approved
- GM food animals are on the way

### The railtracks to Auschwitz - the architects of these, were the architects of Codex.

Are you prepared to hand over your right to wholesome, natural food to faceless governments and corporations? Are you content that more and more food is subject to patents? Are you willing to lose the ability to manage your own health using nutrients? Are you prepared to accept irradiation and genetic manipulation of your food, as well as pesticide-contaminated food? Will you allow continued dilution of organic food standards so they suit the mass-market agri-business operators?



### FOOD/DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

- Setting very low maximum daily doses for supplements as foods using flawed risk assessment methods
- Effectively establishing international borderline for nutrients between foods and drugs, forcing therapeutic nutrients into drug category
- Requirement for clinical trials to substantiate health claims, too expensive for small companies. Therefore provides passport system for big corporations and acts as obstacle to freedom of speech for smaller ones.
- Setting of unnecessarily low Nutrient Reference Values which seriously understate requirements for long-term optimum health for given sub-populations, age groups and genders.

### ORGANIC FOOD

- 'Dumbing-down' of organic standards to suit interests of large food producers
- Promotes large-scale, high input agriculture and international freight
- Approves use of various chemical additives and 'processing aids' in organic foods
- No outright ban on use of irradiation post production
- Labelling allows use of hidden ingredients

### FOOD ADDITIVES

- Approval as safe around 300 different food additives (mainly synthetic) including aspartame, BHA, BHT, potassium bromate, tartrazine, etc.
- No consideration given to potential risks associated with long-term exposure to mixtures of additives

### PESTICIDE RESIDUES

- Allows significant residues of over 3275 different pesticides, including those that are suspected carcinogens or endocrine disruptors, e.g. 2,4-D, atrazine, methyl bromide
- No account taken of long-term effects of exposure to mixtures of residues in food

TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT YOUR AND FUTURE GENERATIONS' RIGHTS TO HEALTHY, WHOLESOME, UNADULTERATED FOOD AND NUTRIENTS, VISIT:

[www.anhcampaign.org](http://www.anhcampaign.org)

