The Member States of the European Community (MSEC) support the proposed amendments to the Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission but would like however to make the following remarks:

1) As regards the Proposed Amendments to the Procedures for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (Appendix V)/Proposed Amendments to the Terms of Reference of Subsidiary Bodies (page 17 of the EN version), the MSEC would like to propose the following minor amendment:

(h) promotes the use of Codex standards and related texts by member countries.

2) As regards the draft CCFAC Policy for Exposure Assessment for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods and Foods Groups, the following paragraph 8 has been included in the document: “JECFA performs exposure assessments if requested by CCFAC using the GEMS/Food Regional Diets and, if needed, available national consumption data to estimate the impact on dietary exposure of proposed alternative maximum levels to inform CCFAC about these risk management options”. The delegation of Belgium expressed its reservation on this decision. (ALINORM 04/27/12 § 128 c). While not opposing the inclusion of paragraph 8 in the draft CCFAC Policy for Exposure Assessment of Contaminants and Toxins in Foods or Food Groups, the MSEC wish to reiterate that only in certain cases do such comparative exposure assessments of proposed maximum levels provide useful information enabling CCFAC to perform a consistent policy on the prevention and reduction of the contamination of the food chain by contaminants.