

Meeting of 15 September 2022 @ 3:00 AM Cairo Time, 9:00 Singapore Time

Participants

- ❖ *Prof. Purwiyatno Hariyadi, Indonesia*
- ❖ *Prof. Tee E. Siong, Malaysia*
- ❖ *Dr. Boon Yee Yeong, ILSI SEA*
- ❖ *Dr. Geoff Smith, ILSI SEA*
- ❖ *Dr. Pauline Chan, ILSI SEA*
- ❖ *Prof. Samuel Godefroy, Asia Codex - GForSS*

Objective

To discuss options for a sub-regional Codex Initiative encompassing South East Asian countries.

Outcomes of Meeting Discussions

- Participants acknowledged the response from the ASEAN Secretariat, not to schedule the introduction of the Asia Codex Initiative at the upcoming ASEAN Codex Taskforce meeting.
- This decision comes after an initially positive response welcoming the Initiative.
- The interpretation of the decision was tied to ASEAN protocols: a concern or reservation from any country would translate into not proceeding with an initiative.

This concern should not rule out other opportunities of engagement and the development of a Codex collaborative structure in the sub-region.

It was even identified that the feedback received would constitute an enabler to proceed with the related engagement of Codex Contact Points in the region, beyond the ASEAN structure (we inquired and were turned away), which ultimately offers more flexibility of intervention in the development of collaborative mechanisms.

- Prof. Tee, supported by Prof. Godefroy, suggested to follow the mode of the Codex roundtable on nutrition (in relation to the CCNFSDU agenda), created in the region and which appears to operate with a good effectiveness.
- The proposal was supported by all participants and it was agreed to develop a proposed Codex Collaborative Framework that would include as many participating countries as possible from this sub-region.
- Prof. Godefroy will develop a proposed framework for the approach to be shared with the group and with partner organizations of the Initiative, in particular, with the donor: The United States Codex Office.
- The group will reconvene following the circulation of the proposed Collaborative Framework, including a preliminary set of activities.