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codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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ENGLISH ONLY

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Thirty-second Session

FAO Headquarters, Rome, 29 June – 4 July 2009

Report of FAO/WHO Budgets for Codex-related Activities 2008/09 and 2010/11

FAO/WHO Scientific Support to Codex

BACKGROUND

1. As agreed at the 27th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, FAO and WHO are providing information regarding the budget allocated to Codex-related activities, especially those related to the provision of scientific advice requested by Codex and by member countries.
2. The present document provides an update of the information presented to the 31st Session of the Commission^[1] and covers the period 2008-2009 and an estimation of the budget for the period 2010-2011. It contains information on funds used by both FAO and WHO in support of Codex activities. This includes both Organizations' Regular Programme financial contribution (core funding), as well as additional resources (e.g. voluntary contributions) used to conduct the expert meetings and consultations that provide scientific advice to Codex (i.e. JECFA, JMPR, JEMRA, and *ad hoc* expert consultations). The report also includes disclosure of resources received by FAO and WHO through the Global Initiative for Food-related Scientific Advice (GIFSA).

FAO INPUT

3. Table 1 gives information on the regular budget funds used by FAO in 2008-09 to cover the cost of convening the different expert meetings and consultations held during the reporting period, and the prospects for the next biennium 2010-11. This cost covers the participation of the experts in the actual meetings/consultations, the preparation of related papers and documents and the publication of the meeting/consultation reports as well as the travel cost of FAO staff to the Codex meetings to present the outcome of the FAO activities on the provision of scientific advice. These figures are rounded to the closest US\$1,000.

Table 1. FAO regular budget contributions to the provision of scientific advice to Codex (US\$ x 1000)

Biennium	JECFA	JEMRA	JMPR	JMPS ²	Nutrition	Others	Total
2008-09	430	600	370	150	300 ³	600 ⁴	2,450
2010-11 ¹	540	600	370	150	350	715	2,725

4. As requested by the 61st Session of the Executive Committee and the 31st Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the present report also includes the total staff costs (both professional and general service) under the “provision of scientific advice” regular budget entity for the biennium 2008–09 which was US\$1,898,000 for FAO.

5. Separately from the regular budget contributions, the following contributions were received by FAO for the programme of scientific advice for the biennium 2008-09:

Direct contribution (Total US\$ 66,500 and in-kind contributions):

- 1) FSANZ (Food Standards Australia New Zealand) Australia contributed US\$ 50,000 towards the development of an expert consultation on the use of nanotechnology in food and in-kind services of a consultant for 4 months (February-May 2008)
- 2) Japan (Trust Fund GCP/INT/712/JPN) funded the consultancy of a visiting scientist on Risk Assessment of Microbiological Hazards in Food for approximately US\$16,500 and the travel of an FAO staff member and non-staff to the “Microbiological Hazards in Fresh Leafy Vegetables and Herbs” meeting in Bangkok, 5-9 May 2008 for approximately US\$10,700
- 3) Thailand contributed logistical support to the meeting on “Microbiological Hazards in Fresh Leafy Vegetables and Herbs”, Bangkok, 5-9 May 2008

Contributions to the Global Initiative for Food-related Scientific Advice Facility (GIFSA) (Total US\$ 250,000 + €5,000 and in-kind contributions):

- 1) The USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) contributed US\$250,000 and part of this contribution was used to cover the cost of the FAO/WHO Technical Meeting on *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in Chicken Meat held from 4 to 8 May 2009 in Rome, Italy.
- 2) The Italian Ministry of Health contributed €5,000 and in-kind services of a consultant for 5 months (partial time from January-June 2009) for the implementation of the FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on the Application of Nanotechnologies in the Food and Agriculture Sectors: Potential Food Safety Implications.

WHO INPUT

6. Table 2 gives information on the funds used by WHO in 2008-09 to cover its contribution to cover the cost of convening the different joint expert meetings and consultations held during the reporting period, and the prospects for the next biennium 2010-11. This cost covers the participation of the experts in the actual meetings/consultations, the preparation of related papers and documents and the publication of the meeting/consultation reports, as well as the travel cost of WHO staff to the Codex meetings to present the outcome of the WHO activities on the provision of scientific advice. These figures are rounded to the closest US\$1,000.

Table 2. WHO contributions to the provision of scientific advice to Codex (US\$ x 1000)

Biennium	JECFA	JEMRA	JMPR	JMPS ²	Nutrition	Others	Total
2008-09	450	400	300	200	380	1450 ⁵	3,180
2010-11 ¹	600	400	300	200	560	2725	4,785

7. The total staff costs (both professional and general service) under the “provision of scientific advice” entity for the biennium 2008–09 was US\$2,240,000 for WHO (including regular programme and extra-budgetary resources).

8. Most of WHO's activity funds and some of the salary funds comes from direct contributions of Member Countries, which makes a significant contribution to WHO's work in food safety. Names of countries only, not the specific organizations, which provided resources to WHO in the 2008–2009 biennium to WHO are, in alphabetical order, Canada, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand and USA.

Notes:

1. The prospective budget for the next biennium (2010-11) is estimated based on approved resources for the current biennium. As allocations for the 2010-2011 biennium are dependent on the funds that will be made available to the two organizations and since, particularly in the case of WHO, much of the funding for the current biennium is provided by voluntary contributions rather than regular programme, accurate budget projections for 2010-2011 are indeed difficult.
2. JMPS stands for Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Specifications (JMPS).
3. The FAO/WHO Nutrition Expert Consultation, Fats and Fatty Acids in Human Nutrition, held in November 2008, was funded by FAO.
4. "Others" for the 2008–2009 biennium (FAO) include core group meeting and contribution to the *ad hoc* expert meeting on chlorine-containing disinfectants used in food production and food processing and the expert meeting on toxicological and health aspects of melamine and cyanuric acid, core group meeting and expert meeting on Application of nanotechnologies in the food and agriculture sectors: potential food safety implications, editing of the procedures to update the principles and methods for the assessment of chemicals in food, preparation of paper on private standards, support to the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) and developed of EMPRES-food safety, as well as participation of FAO staff in the WHO Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG) and antimicrobial resistance related meetings. It also includes resources used to support efforts of some developing countries to enhance their capacity to generate and analyze scientific data and information, e.g. data base on risk of *Vibrio spp* on marine ecosystems and its products for the Latin America and the Caribbean region, etc. More detailed information on this matter is available in the document on FAO and WHO Activities on Capacity Building (ALINORM 09//32/F-Add. 1)
5. "Others" for the 2008–2009 biennium (WHO) include core group meeting on use of chlorine, followed by the *ad hoc* expert meeting on chlorine-containing disinfectants used in food production and food processing, an expert consultation to update the principles and methods for the assessment of chemicals in food, expert meeting on toxicological and health aspects of melamine and cyanuric acid, core group meeting on nanotechnologies, a meeting on risk assessment of microbiological hazards in food (not covered under JEMRA), the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN), WHO Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG) activities and antimicrobial resistance activity.

¹¹ CAC/30 INF/3.