



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION  
38<sup>th</sup> Session, CIGG  
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**FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MATTERS  
FAO/WHO SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO CODEX**

**Introduction**

1. The budget requirements presented in this paper are based on the requests for scientific advice from a number of Codex Committees. An overview of the response to requests and outstanding requests are presented in CX/CAC 15/38/16<sup>1</sup>. This paper provides a summary of the resources made available for the provision of scientific advice to Codex in 2012-13 by FAO and WHO and the available resources, as of June 2015, to implement the 2014-15 biennial work plan for scientific advice considering the current staffing situation. The final information on 2014-15 spending will become available in early 2016

**WHO budget**

2. In WHO, the majority of the funds for the activity and staff costs related to the provision of scientific advice in food safety and nutrition is provided through voluntary extrabudgetary contributions from Member States rather than through the regular programme budget (assessed contributions).

3. For the biennium 2012-13, activity cost for scientific advice amounted to USD 1,217,000 in food safety and USD 988,000 in nutrition. Staff cost amounted to USD 2,618,000 in food safety and to USD 1,871,000 in nutrition.

4. In the biennium, extrabudgetary contributions were received from Japan, China, Canada, Republic of Korea and USA. For nutrition, some un-earmarked core voluntary contribution was received and approximately USD 330,000 was used to cover the staff cost for the work related to scientific advice on nutrition.

5. For the current biennium 2014-15, the planned activity costs for scientific advice are estimated at USD 1,400,000 in food safety and USD 1,076,000 in nutrition, based on actual expenditures in the previous biennium. Estimated staff costs are USD 2,817,000<sup>2</sup> in food safety and USD 2,051,000 in nutrition.

6. By May 2015 Canada, Japan and the USA have made voluntary contributions to food safety and nutrition. The funding gaps for scientific advice activities are currently estimated at USD 100,000 in food safety and USD 148,000 in nutrition. Currently the salaries of staff in food safety are partly covered through 2015 and in nutrition all staff are fully funded for the 2014-15 biennium.

7. The scientific advice activity of WHO depends on significant extrabudgetary contribution by a small number of Members States, which is gratefully acknowledged.

<sup>1</sup> [ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/meetings/cac/cac38/cac38\\_16e.pdf](http://ftp.fao.org/codex/meetings/cac/cac38/cac38_16e.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Two P-5 staff, three P-4 staff (contribution equivalent to USD 1.1 million on secondments from Japan, the Republic of Korea and China 6 months) and one G-5 staff.

## FAO budget

8. In FAO, funds to support the activities and staff costs related to the provision of scientific advice to Codex are budgeted in FAOs regular Programme of Work and Budget under one Organizational Output<sup>3</sup>, which helps to ensure for continuity and quality of scientific advice. Food Safety scientific advice to Codex is supported by a number of units and divisions within FAO including the Food Safety and Quality Unit, the Plant Production and Protection Division, the Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and Economics Division, and the Animal Production and Health Division. Scientific advice on nutrition, when requested, is provided by the Nutrition Division.

9. For the biennium 2012-13, activity costs for scientific advice to Codex amounted to USD 1,481,000 in food safety and USD 182,000 in nutrition. Staff costs amounted to USD 1,806,000 in food safety and to USD 160,000 in nutrition.

10. In the 2012-2013 biennium, all staff costs and 90% of the costs of activities actually implemented, amounting to USD 3.3 million were supported by FAO's Regular Programme budget. In the biennium, extrabudgetary contributions were received from Australia and the USA.

11. For 2014-2015, USD 4.2 million is required in order to fully implement all planned activities. The staff costs required for scientific advice are estimated at USD 1,950,000 for food safety and USD 302,000 for nutrition. The planned non-staff activity costs for food safety are estimated at USD 1,880,000. For nutrition, non-staff activity costs were estimated at to USD 59,000, as no specific requests were forthcoming for JEMNU.

12. For 2014-15, FAO is providing USD 3.5 million in scientific advice from its Regular Programme budget. The estimated available resources for staff costs in 2014/2015 from the FAO Regular Programme Budget are USD 1,778,000 for food safety and USD 303,000 for nutrition. The estimated available non-staff resources for food safety activities are USD 1,828,000 (79% from FAO Regular Programme Budget and 21% from confirmed extra budgetary resources<sup>4</sup>). The Regular Programme non-staff resources available for provision of scientific advice on nutrition to Codex is USD 58,000.

13. The recognition of key scientific advice meetings and consultations to Codex (such as JECFA, JEMRA and JMPR) as Corporate Technical Activities in FAO's Programme of Work and Budget has ensured budgetary security for non-staff activities in the current biennium and is gratefully acknowledged.

## Conclusion

14. A summary of the overall estimated cost of scientific advice to Codex is presented in Table 1. As indicated above, the way the provision of scientific advice is currently funded is different between WHO (heavily dependent on voluntary contributions) and FAO (mainly covered by assessed contributions).

15. The work of FAO/WHO expert bodies benefits from the significant in-kind contribution by member countries and their technical experts which is gratefully acknowledged.

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<sup>3</sup> Strategic Objective 4, Outcome 4.1 Output 4.1.1 – "New and revised international standards for food safety and quality and plant health are formulated and agreed by countries and serve as references for international harmonization.

<sup>4</sup> Contributed by the United States of America, Australia and Sweden.

Table 1. Resources for the provision of scientific advice to Codex (Actual Expenditures during 2012-13 and Estimated Expenditures for 2014-15, in USD)

		2012-13 (Actual)			2014-15 (Estimated)					
		Regular Budget	Extra-budget	Total	Regular Budget	Extra-budget	Total			
<b>WHO</b>	<b>Activity</b>	The majority of WHO funds for activity and staff cost related to the provision of scientific advice in food safety and nutrition is provided through voluntary extrabudgetary contributions (ear-marked and un-ear marked) from Member States			The majority of WHO funds for activity and staff costs related to the provision of scientific advice in food safety and nutrition is provided through voluntary extrabudgetary contributions (ear-marked and un-ear marked) from Member States					
								Food Safety	1,217,000	1,400,000
								Nutrition	988,000	1,076,000
	<b>Staff</b>							Food Safety	2,618,000	2,817,000
								Nutrition	1,871,000*	2,051,000*
	<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>6,694,000</b>		<b>7,344,000</b>					
<b>FAO</b>	<b>Activity</b>									
		Food Safety	1,351,000	130,000	1,481,000	1,443,000	385,000	1,828,000		
		Nutrition	182,000		182,000	58,000		58,000		
	<b>Staff</b>	Food Safety	1,806,000	-	1,806,000	1,778,000		1,778,000		
		Nutrition	166,000		160,000	303,000		303,000		
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3,505,000</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>3,629,000</b>	<b>3,582,000</b>	<b>385,000</b>	<b>3,967,000</b>			
	<b>Grand Total</b>			10,322,000			11,311,000			
	<b>Total per annum</b>			5,161,000			5,655,500			

- The costs of WHO expenditures on both activity and staff for Nutrition represent the overall expenditures on scientific advice on nutrition which include those that are related to the Codex.