

INTRODUCTION

1. The FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA) held its 21st Session in Yaoundé Cameroon from 27 to 30 January 2015 at the kind invitation of the Government of Cameroon. The Session was chaired by Mr Médi MOUNGUI, Deputy Permanent Representative to FAO of Cameroon and was attended by xx delegates from xx Member countries, xx Member countries outside the Region, xx international organizations and Representatives of FAO and WHO. A complete list of participants, including the Secretariats, is given in Appendix I to this report.

OPENING OF THE SESSION¹

2. Mr. Emanuel BONDE the Minister for Mines, Industry and Technological Development opened the session on behalf of the Prime Minister. In his speech, he reiterated the need to transform food supply systems including production processes; storage and distribution to reduce the cost of malnutrition in Africa. He underscored the importance of Codex Standards in supporting agricultural transformation, consumer protection and fair trade. He expressed optimism that the outcome of the discussions of CCAFRICA21 would contribute to the improvement of the health situation in Africa and the world at large. He finally thanked FAO and WHO for their continued support to the work of Codex and expressed Cameroon's Commitment to continued participation in the work of Codex.

3. Mr. Tsimi Evouna Gilbert, Cameroon Government delegate; Ms Awilo Pernet Ochieng, Chairperson of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Dr. Charlotte Faty Ndiaye, WHO Representative in Cameroon; Mr Dan Rugabira, the FAO Sub-Regional Coordinator for Central Africa also addressed the Session.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda Item 1)²

4. The Coordinating Committee adopted the Provisional Agenda as its Agenda for the Session and agreed to consider the following issue under Agenda Item 11 – Other Business

- Update on the Progress of development of the definition for Biofortification of foods - IFPRI

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES (Agenda Item 2)³

5. The Coordinating Committee noted matters arising from the 36th and 37th Session of the Commission and also noted that the framework for the Monitoring of the Codex Strategic Plan was contained in CRD1.

6. The delegation of South Africa noted that the Monitoring framework would be beneficial in the development of the strategic plan for Africa.

7. The Codex Secretariat clarified that the monitoring framework contained in CRD1 was developed in order to assist Codex Committees to update the Commission on the progress of Implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan. The Secretariat further pointed out that those Regional Coordinating Committees that develop their own strategic plan, would not need to respond to the questions set out in CRD1, however they would have to demonstrate linkages of their Regional Strategic Plan to the Codex Strategic Plan.

¹ CRD 9

² CX/AFRICA 15/21/1; CRD 7 (Comments of Rwanda)

³ CX/AFRICA 15/21/2; CRD 1;

8. The Committee noted that India as host Government of CCSCCH had invited Nigeria to start negotiations regarding co-hosting a future session of CCSCCH.

FAO/WHO ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO THE REGION, IDENTIFYING PRIORITIES AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS (Agenda Item 3)⁴

a. FAO and WHO activities and regional priorities

9. The Representative of FAO introduced documents CX/AFRICA/15/21/3, on Codex related capacity building activities and the provision of scientific advice performed by FAO and WHO. He drew the attention of the Committee to work undertaken by both FAO and WHO at regional level, global initiatives and activities funded under the Codex Trust Fund.

10. He gave an overview of completed or ongoing technical capacity development activities in the region, existing challenges that require further assistance and the priorities that have been identified for the region for the coming biennium including, among others: improving food safety policy coordination at the national level, providing expertise in drafting laws and other regulatory texts, and supporting national Codex programmes.

11. The Representative of WHO informed the Committee that the World Health Day 2015 (WHD) will have its theme as “**How safe is your food? From farm-to-plate, make food safe**”, and urged member states to take advantage of the anticipated publicity. Specifically, it was proposed that during World Health Day governments could improve food safety through public awareness campaigns, and encourage consumers to ensure that the food on their plates is safe.

12. Several members expressed their sincere gratitude towards FAO and WHO for their capacity building efforts, expressing a strong wish for them to continue. Many members agreed with the list of priorities as set out, but proposed a different order of importance, based on the situation in their particular country.

13. The delegation of Kenya supported by South Africa, proposed that information related to Codex capacity building programmes and training should in future be channeled through the Codex Contact Point and that training materials be posted on the website for ease of access to all.

14. The representative of FAO concluded that the list of priorities as presented in CX/AFRICA/15/21/3 had been adequate, and noted that the order of priorities will vary between countries. The following actions seemed to be those most often called for in the interventions: improving coordination of food safety policies between members in the region; providing expertise in enacting national food safety policies, regulations and authorities; promoting risk-based food inspection and the use of the risk analysis framework when establishing food safety policies, and; establishing ways for helping small and medium size enterprises implement preventative approaches to food safety. He encouraged member countries to ensure that identified priorities at country level are included in the country program framework (CPF) negotiated between FAO and member countries and in which all priority work is highlighted. With respect to concerns raised he emphasized the importance to be systematic in including the CCPs in the information list when training and workshops are organized in the country.

15. The Representative of WHO noted that member states feedback indicated their willingness to showcase WHD 2015 and encouraged members to collaborate with a wider range of local partners including public and private sectors, UN agencies, NGOs and consumer groups to achieve this goal. In line with this

⁴ CX/AFRICA/15/21/3, CRD 2 (Comments of Cameroon, Kenya and Morocco) CRD 6 Comments of Ghana and Nigeria

he encouraged members to develop national strategies to celebrate the event and to submit them through their WHO country office to the WHO Regional Office. He further encouraged members to regularly visit the WHD 2015 website (www.who.int/campaigns/world-health-day/2015) to receive regular updates on the toolkit for WHD 2015.

Successor initiative to the Codex Trust Fund

16. The Administrator of the FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund updated delegates on the status of discussions on the design and development of the successor initiative. These discussions would continue to take into consideration the inputs from the FAO/WHO regional coordinating committees, as well as the findings and recommendations of the final project evaluation which would appear in the final report scheduled for March 2015. She highlighted that three changes were being contemplated in the design of the successor initiative: 1) a change in approach that would move from a one-size fits all approach to a targeted approach; 2) a change in focus to concentrate more at the country level through the provision of multi-year support to assist countries to identify and achieve their desired level of engagement in Codex; 3) a change in the way support might be provided, including exploring new mechanisms such as twinning/partnering to allow for countries to learn from others. The Administrator highlighted that the situation of participation in CCAFRICA indicated that there were still barriers to countries participating fully and effectively in Codex without reliance on external support. She requested input from CCAFRICA members on what these barriers were, how they could best be addressed, and what specific role a successor initiative could play in addressing these barriers.

17. The Chair requested CCAFRICA member states to focus their input on providing new elements to what already appeared in the documentation. In their interventions CCAFRICA members stated that a more tailored approach was welcomed, and that this should be linked to needs and priorities. Member states highlighted: the need to retain some element of support for physical participation, possibly through mechanisms such as cost-sharing; the need to support awareness-raising of the importance of Codex at the highest levels, and the importance of using World Health Day 2015 on Food Safety for this purpose; the need to look at having transition measures to allow countries to understand and prepare for their engagement with the successor initiative; the need to support capacity development in bringing the scientific and technical input into the Codex process. A proposal was made on the use of basic eligibility criteria similar to those used by the current Codex Trust Fund, and the possible inclusion of a criterion that examined e.g. the frequency of technical participation in Codex technical committees. It was pointed out that new options to fund the successor initiative would need to be sought and, in situations of limited resources, use of electronic means to assist participation should be considered.

18. The Administrator of the Codex Trust Fund welcomed these ideas and inputs which were aligned with the direction that that design and development of the successor initiative was taking. The WHO regional representative called attention to how data collection might be strengthened in countries and cited the example of how WHO was supporting the surveillance of anti-microbial resistance in some countries.

19. The Codex Secretariat informed the Committee on updates that will be made to the Codex website to support electronic working groups, online commenting and regional websites. The Secretariat said that Codex Contact points would be the main focal points for the use of these systems such as for the already operational online registration system and that it was the intention of the Secretariat to prepare a survey on the capacity of all contact points with regards sufficient and reliable access to internet and equipment in order to be able to use the new systems.

Conclusion

20. The Committee expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO for their support in building capacity in the region and agreed with the priorities as set for 2015. The Committee also noted that countries have their own priorities and these should be taken into consideration during planning for the 2015.

21. On celebrating the World Health Day 2015, the Committee appreciated the information provided and encouraged every CCAFRICA member to prepare and forward a programme to WHO for marking this day.

22. The Committee strongly supported the progress made on the development of the CTF successor initiative, agreed with the preliminary ideas put forward in the relevant document and looked forward to the final report of the Codex Trust Fund evaluation.

23. The Committee also noted that support had been expressed for the review of criteria for eligibility; possible cost-sharing as a mechanism to continue to support physical participation; and a scheme to support transition from the current Codex Trust Fund to the successor initiative.

Revitalisation of FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees - proposals on strengthening the role and platform of RCCs (Agenda Item 4)⁵

24. The Codex Secretariat gave a general introduction to the document CX/AFRICA 15/21/4 noting that the present Terms of Reference (TOR) of the RCC fell under the two main categories i.e: (1) supporting and enriching the standard setting and related work of the Commission from the region and (2) supporting the work of FAO and WHO in the region as regards capacity building. These committees were very rich resources for the Codex system, however the context in which they work had changed over the years e.g. the regional FAO/WHO Food safety conferences had been discontinued. The document developed in cooperation between the Codex Secretariat, FAO and WHO, intended to start a process with members to identify how discussions at RCC could best feed into the CODEX global process and strategies concerning food standards setting and also into the FAO and WHO global and regional strategies concerning capacity development on food quality and safety. RCC had the potential to become the primary food safety event in the region, to discuss food safety and quality issues, and exchange information.

25. The Representative of FAO, speaking on behalf of FAO and WHO, noted the good work of FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees (RCC) in the past while also mentioning some of the challenges such as: duplication of the global strategic plan in regional plans; limited information sharing due to low response rate to CL; and development of too rigid regional positions limiting negotiation flexibility in CAC. She introduced the proposals presented in the document, which are intended to address the challenges and make RCC meetings more dynamic.

26. Several delegations noted that regional positions were important as they helped to identify local issues.

Point 3.1

27. Four proposed standing items for RCC, as a means to ensure their alignment, were introduced. Feedback was requested from countries on whether they would support information sharing and discussions on current key issues and challenges, as well as on emerging issues and capacity development needs and programming. A keynote address as a support for focused discussion to identify priorities and challenges

⁵ CX/AFRICA/15/21/4, CRD 2 (Comments of Cameroon, Kenya and Morocco) CRD 6 Comments of Ghana and Nigeria

was proposed. Monitoring the global strategic plan as it relates to the work of the RCC was introduced as a third standing item for the agenda. Finally a discussion on food standards in the region was also proposed.

28. The Committee agreed with the proposed standing agenda items presented under 3.1.

Point 3.2

29. The Representative of FAO introduced point 3.2. Given the relatively low response rate to CL, an alternative mechanism to support information collection and sharing was proposed, as a means to enable meaningful discussions under the newly proposed standing agenda items. The compilation of replies to the circular letters on food control systems could be replaced by an analysis produced by the Codex secretariat, FAO and WHO, on the basis of a living database supported by countries technical contributions. A preliminary template (CX/AFRICA 15/21/4-Add.1) for the collection of information was also introduced.

30. The Committee supported the development of the online platform which should be user friendly, accessible and allow easy upload of data. One delegation noted the challenge of regular updating of data by members and proposed to explore how to motivate members to undertake this activity.

Point 3.3

31. The Representative of FAO reminded delegates on the importance to find a mechanism to better identify the needs and priorities for improved targeting of FAO/WHO capacity development and scientific advice programmes, as well as for the Codex processes. A proposal was made for countries, as well as for FAO and WHO, to submit information on emerging issues with sufficient advance so that the Codex secretariat could compile a summary paper for review by the RCC.

32. The Committee agreed with the proposals as set out in the document.

Point 3.4

33. The Representative of FAO introduced the section on regional strategic planning, proposing RCC to monitor their contribution to the global Codex strategic plan. For existing regional strategic plans, it was proposed to ensure that they should align with the global strategic plan and share the same timeframe.

34. The Committee agreed to continue developing a regional strategic plan as it would take into account regional needs.

35. The Committee also agreed that the regional strategic plan should be aligned with the global strategic plan in terms of content and timelines in order to ensure complementarity.

Comments and information on national food control systems, consumer participation in food standards setting and the use of Codex standards at the national level (replies to CL 2014/29-CCAFRICA) (Agenda item 5)⁶

36. The delegation of Cameroon briefly presented the document containing the replies to CL 2014/29-AFRICA received from 14 countries. He noted that despite the existing challenges, there had been slight improvements reported in a number of areas, such as coordination, legislation, infrastructure development, training and awareness.

⁶ CX/AFRICA 15/21/5; CRD 4 : Comments of Angola, Cameroun, Cape Verde, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire; CRD 6 Comments of Ghana and Nigeria

37. One delegation intervened that the CL in its present form did not enable proper analysis of the information provided by members and therefore proposed that any further discussions on this matter be deferred.

38. In light of the discussion held under Agenda Item 4 and the views expressed by members, the Committee agreed that if a data collection system as proposed under agenda item 4 was functional and usable by all members then there was no need for using the CL, however if this was not the case then the CL should continue to be used as tool for data collection despite its limitations.

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR CCAFRICA (Agenda Item 6)⁷

39. The Delegation of Cameroon as Chair of the In-session working group introduced their report (CRD 13). He informed the Committee that the objectives of the draft regional strategic plan were consistent with those of the global strategic plan for Codex and that the working group had prepared an implementation plan.

Discussion

40. The Committee considered the draft strategic plan and the implementation plan and agreed that the text was consistent with the global strategic plan.

41. The Committee also noted that the final document should clearly reflect the linkage between the objectives to the relevant goals and/or objectives of the Codex strategic plan to facilitate monitoring and implementation of both plans.

42. The Committee considered each of the four draft objectives and the activities therein, made proposals and amendment only on the strategic objectives and activities highlighted below, while maintaining others as originally proposed:

Strategic objective 1: Ensure effective participation of African countries in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

Objective 1.1: *Establish a regional trust fund for financing Codex activities in Africa.*

Activities:

1.1.1 Seek funding for Codex activities and food safety among donors, African governments and regional economic communities.

43. The Committee agreed to add the words “regional economic communities”, noting that regional economic communities are also involved in supporting activities related to the work of Codex and food safety.

Objective 1.3: Encourage member States of CCAFRICA to create and strengthen the capacity of Codex contact points and national committees in CCAFRICA Member States.

44. The Committee agreed to insert the words “encourage member states to ...” **include** both those members who have not created CCPs and those who have already established CCPs to strengthen such points.

⁷ CX/AFRICA 15/21/6; CRD 1; CRD 2 Comments of Cameroon, Kenya and Morocco; CRD 5 Comments of Cameroon; CRD 6 Comments of Ghana and Nigeria; CRD 7: Comments of Rwanda

Activities:

1.3.3 Build cooperation with FAO, WHO and other development partners in order to strengthen the capacities of Contact Points and national Codex committees.

45. The Committee agreed to insert the words “other development partners ...”

Objective 1.4: *Produce scientific data in line with WHO and FAO specifications, and which can be used by those organizations’ risk assessment entities.*

Activities:

1.4.4 – Encourage meetings for food safety experts and the establishment of expert committees on various matters of interest to Africa (New)

46. The Committee agreed to include this activity as it was found important for the region to have experts that can provide scientific and technical opinion on matters of interest to the region.

Strategic objective 2: Draft African regional food standards that address current and future food challenges.

Objective 2.1: *Encourage the governments of CCAFRICA Member States to compile and present technical information for drafting regional standards relating to their food products.*

Activities:

2.2.1 – Encourage Member States to collect and retain good scientific data and to share them with research agencies at regional level (New)

Strategic objective 3: Ensure the longevity of CCAFRICA activities.

Objective 3.1: *Organize and encourage African countries to formulate a joint position on the relevant Codex activities.*

Activities:

3.1.1 Increase dialogue between African delegates, with a view to harmonizing national positions, at national and regional level.

47. The Committee agreed to insert the words “at national and regional level” as one the ways to achieving regional positions

3.1.3 – organize within the CCAFRICA, meetings for the development of technical and educational capabilities [New]

Objective 3.4: *Develop cooperation with partners and mobilize African decision-makers to fund CCAFRICA activities.*

3.4.1 Campaign for funding for CCAFRICA’s activities among partners, African governments and regional economic communities.

48. The Committee agreed to insert the words regional economic communities“

Objective 4.3: *Encourage and help CCAFRICA Member States to harmonize their domestic legislation and regulations regarding food in light of Codex standards and related texts.*

Activities:

4.3.1 Organize and encourage CCAFRICA Member States to dialogue and work together in the regional economic communities in order to harmonize legislation and national food regulations.

49. The Committee agreed to replace the words "at the subregional level" with the words "in the regional economic communities".

Conclusion

50. The Chairman clarified that that each member within the region should take ownership of the strategic plan, and that the role of Coordinator would be to facilitate its implementation.

51. The Committee agreed to adopt the strategic plan, and also requested Cameroon and Kenya to finalise it and its implementation plan taking into account the above amendments and including the linkages to the global strategic plan as agreed by the Committee.

52. The Committee also agreed to inform the Commission of its new regional strategic plan.

Discussion paper on the development of a Regional Standards (Agenda Item 7)⁸

53. The delegation of Cote d'Ivoire, presented the report of the In-session working group (CRD 10), and informed the Committee that five prioritised food commodities/ products i.e. dried meat; Baobab (fruits), Gnetum leaves (Eru), shea butter; and cassava sticks (batons de manioc), as listed in CX/AFRICA 15/21/7 were considered and that the criteria used for their prioritisation were found adequate, and that these products were of regional importance. However, he noted that the working group reviewed only 4 project documents as the one on Baobab (fruits) had not been submitted by Mali. He said that in general all the project documents comply with the criteria laid down in the Procedural Manual and that they required minor amendments in terms of timelines and volumes of production.

Discussion

54. The Committee considered in detail the recommendations of the In-session working group with respect to each proposal as follows:

a) Dried meat

55. The observer from the United States supported by the European Union requested to know if the project document was intended for the elaboration of regional standard as it made reference to: names of products in other parts of world, global trade and it clearly indicated that the intention was to develop an International Standard.

56. The Delegation of Morocco proposed the inclusion of a product the inclusion of a Khili (dried and cooked meat).

57. The Codex Secretary said that dried meat was produced in most countries of the world and it might be difficult to define a product standard covering all different production processes. He said that it was important for the project document to focus on the problem that should be addressed which seemed to be mainly hygiene issues. He proposed that the Committee could consider requesting the Commission how to

⁸ CX/AFRICA 15/21/7; CRD 2 Comments of Cameroon, Kenya and Morocco; CRD 3: Codex Secretariat

most appropriately address the issues related to dried meat production and trade (e.g. a code of hygienic practice or a standard).

Conclusion:

58. The Committee agreed with the recommendation to include the production data and timelines for undertaking the project and to include in the list of examples only African products and also to refocus the remainder of the document on the development of a regional standard.

59. The Committee agreed to propose new work on a standard for dried meat to the Commission (see Appendix 2 for the project document) and to establish, subject to the approval of new work by the Commission, an electronic Working Group, led by Cote d'Ivoire and co-chaired by Botswana and Morocco and working in English and French, to prepare the proposed draft standard for dried meat for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at its next Session.

b) Cassava sticks (Batons de Manioc)

60. The Committee agreed to include the scientific name (*Manihot spp*) in order to clarify that the product was obtained from fermented cassava only.

Conclusion

61. The Committee agreed to propose new work on a standard for cassava sticks to the Commission (see Appendix 3 for the project document) and to establish, subject to the approval of new work by the Commission, an electronic Working Group, led by Cameroon and co-chaired by Congo Republic and Democratic Republic of Congo, working in English and French to prepare the proposed draft standard for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at its next Session.

c) Shea butter

62. The Committee noted that there were existing ISO Standards for this product which would be useful to look at during elaboration of the standard.

63. The Committee agreed to propose new work on a standard for shea butter to the Commission (see Appendix 4 for the project document) and to establish, subject to the approval of new work by the Commission, an electronic Working Group, led by Mali and co-chaired by Guinea, working in English and French, to prepare the proposed draft standard for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at its next Session.

d) Gnetum leaves (Feuilles de Gnetum)

64. The Committee agreed to propose new work on a standard for gnetum leaves to the Commission (see Appendix 5 for the project document) and to establish, subject to the approval of new work by the Commission, an electronic Working Group, led by Cameroon and Nigeria working in English and French, to prepare the proposed draft standard for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at its next Session.

e) Baobab (Fruits)

65. The Committee deferred consideration this product as no project document had been submitted

66. The Committee also agreed to retain the list of non-prioritised items, and that these would be considered at its next meeting.

Guidelines for the submission of Candidature from Africa for Positions of responsibility at the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies (Agenda item 8)⁹

67. The meeting recalled that during its 20th Session, the Delegation of Cameroon presented a paper on guidance for the submission of candidatures from Africa for positions of responsibility at the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Subsidiary Bodies. Due to time constraints, the Committee had not discussed the paper but had agreed to request comments through a Circular Letter and had also agreed that Cameroon would prepare a revised proposal based on the comments received (CX/AFRICA 15/21/8).

68. The Chair informed the meeting that because of certain legal implications of the paper it might be preferable to keep it as an informal document for use of CCAFRICA members. He invited the Secretary of the Commission to inform the meeting on these implications based on his discussions held with the FAO and WHO legal Counsels.

69. The Codex Secretary said that the document contained valuable information for countries of the region wishing to apply for positions of responsibility in Codex. However, if such guidance was adopted or in any way formally agreed by the Committee, in the view of the legal counsel it would have implications on the Commissions prerogative to elect or appoint officials and thus the Commission would have to express itself on such guidance.

70. Several members welcomed the guidance and advice given in the document for those seeking to apply for positions of importance in Codex and supported that it should be maintained internally.

71. The Committee agreed that the document be maintained and further developed for internal use only..

Codex work relevant to the region (Agenda item 9)¹⁰

72. The delegation of Cameroon as Coordinator for Africa presented a brief report on Codex work relevant to the region and highlighted a number of activities of particular relevance to African countries. He said that as they had held consultation meetings with regional delegations prior to all Codex meetings, in order to align national positions and develop a regional strategy for presenting countries' positions.

73. The CCAFRICA coordinator noted that although African participation in committee work has risen constantly, the participation in working groups and expert bodies still remained limited. This probably was a reflection of the limited research capability of many African countries and ways to rectify the situation were called for.

74. The Chairperson noted that the report would assist the next coordinator to follow up on important activities in the region.

NOMINATION OF THE COORDINATOR (Agenda Item 10)¹¹

75. On the proposal of the delegation of Nigeria, the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the Commission that Kenya be appointed as the next Coordinator for AFRICA. The delegation of Kenya accepted the nomination; thanked Nigeria and all members for their support and pledged to continue working with all delegations on matters of common interest in the region

76. The Committee acknowledged the excellent contribution of Cameroon to Codex work in the region.

OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item 11)

⁹ CX/AFRICA 15/21/8 ; CRD 2 Comments of Cameroon, Kenya and Morocco ; CRD 6 Comments of Ghana and Nigeria ; CRD 7:Comments of Rwanda

¹⁰ CX/AFRICA 15/21/9; CRD 2 Comments of Cameroon, Kenya and Morocco

¹¹ CX/AFRICA 15/21/9.

- **Update on the Progress of development of the definition for Biofortification of foods**

77. The delegation of Zimbabwe informed the Committee on the progress made towards developing a definition for biofortified foods since its 20th Session. He reported that the 36th Session of the CCNFSDU had recommended a project document on this subject to the Commission for approval of new work in this area, and that CCNFSDU had established an electronic working chaired by Zimbabwe and co-chaired by South Africa to start drafting a proposal.

78. The Committed noted the information, thanked Zimbabwe and South Africa for their active participation in the work of Codex and requested members of CCAFRICA to support the work as it directly addresses the challenge of hidden hunger faced by the Continent.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION (Agenda Item 12)

79. The Committee was informed that its 22nd Session would be held in approximately two years' time and that more detailed arrangements would be communicated to Members following the appointment of the Coordinator by the 38th Session of the Commission and consultation with the Codex Secretariat.