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# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 2 (b)

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

*Fifty-fifth Session, FAO Headquarters*

*Rome (Italy), 9 – 11 February 2005*

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT FAO/WHO EVALUATION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS AND OTHER FAO AND WHO WORK ON FOOD STANDARDS

#### General Implementation Status

1. The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (July 2003) examined specific proposals that had originated from the Joint FAO/WHO Evaluation of the Codex Alimentarius and other FAO and WHO Work on Food Standards<sup>1</sup>. The implementation status of those proposals endorsed by the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission and other decisions by the Commission related to the Joint FAO/WHO Evaluation is summarised in Tables 1 and 2.
2. The Executive Committee is invited to take note of the progress being made and to provide any guidance deemed necessary to ensure the timely and continuous implementation of the proposals/decisions.

#### Review of the mandates of Codex Committees and Task Forces

3. This matter is being addressed under Agenda Item 6(c) (see document CX/EXEC 05/55/2 Part III).

#### Review of the Regional Coordinating Committees

4. In accordance with the decision by the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, the Secretariat submitted the proposals concerning the review of the Regional Coordinating Committees, for consideration by the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission. The Commission at its 27<sup>th</sup> Session agreed that a Circular Letter would be issued to all Codex members to invite government comments in the following areas<sup>2</sup>:

<sup>1</sup> ALINORM 03/26/11 and its addenda 1-6; ALINORM 03/41 paras. 149-183

<sup>2</sup> ALINORM 04/27/41 para. 135

- Role of Regional Coordinating Committees in furthering the objectives of the Codex Alimentarius Commission;
- Membership of Regional Coordinating Committees, including their current geographic coverage;
- Terms of reference of the Regional Coordinating Committees as set out in the Procedural Manual, including the relevance of developing regional standards;
- Effectiveness of Regional Coordinating Committees in respect of country participation record and of venues and meeting intervals (currently every two years);
- Respective roles of the Regional Coordinator as *ex officio* Chairperson of the Regional Coordinating Committee and the Member(s) of the Executive Committee elected on a geographic basis, particularly within the framework of the Executive Committee; and
- Any other issues.

5. The Coordinating Committees are in the process of considering this matter in the light of the comments from governments of their respective Region. Their views and recommendations expressed by the Coordinating Committees will be forwarded to the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission for consideration.

**TABLE 1 : IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF PROPOSALS ENDORSED BY THE 26TH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

<b>Proposal No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Follow-up Actions Required</b>
1	Annual meetings of the Commission	Implemented.
2	Follow-up and progress monitoring of the Implementation of the Evaluation	On-going at CCEXEC (CX/EXEC 05/55/2 Part II).
3	Priorities for implementation	None.
4	Acceptable levels of protection	None.
5	Review of the mandates of Codex Committees and Task Forces	On-going (CX/EXEC 05/55/2 Part III).
6	Review of the Regional Coordinating Committees	On-going; CAC28 to consider the views and recommendations of Coordinating Committees.
7	Strategic and Managerial Functions of the Executive Committee	CCGP19 proposed amendment to the Procedural Manual; CAC27 amended the Elaboration Procedures; CAC28 to consider the amendment to the Rules of Procedure; CCEXEC to start exercising the functions.
8	Budgetary, Planning and Programming Functions of the Executive Committee	CCGP19 proposed amendment to the Rules of Procedure; CAC28 to consider the proposed amendment; CCEXEC to start exercising the functions.
9	Retention of the Executive Committee as a Strategic and Standards Management body	CCGP19 proposed amendment to the Procedural Manual; CAC27 amended the Elaboration Procedures; CAC28 to consider the amendment to the Rules of Procedure; CCEXEC to start exercising the functions.
10	Removal of additional functions of the Executive Committee	CCGP19 proposed amendment to the Procedural Manual; CAC27 amended the Elaboration Procedures; CAC28 to consider the amendment to the Rules of Procedure.
11	Executive Committee Membership	CCGP19 proposed amendment to the Rules of Procedure; CAC28 to consider the proposed amendment.
12	Participation of observers in the Executive Committee	CCGP21 considered this matter; CAC and the Codex Secretariat to follow up.
13	Strategic Planning	On-going at CCEXEC.
14	Critical review of proposals to undertake work	CAC27 amended the Elaboration Procedures; CCEXEC56 starting to exercise the functions.
15	Monitoring progress of standards development	CAC27 amended the Elaboration Procedures; CCEXEC55 starting to exercise the functions.
16	Standards management responsibility	None.
17	Time-bound decision making	CCEXEC to start exercising the functions as part of Critical review and progress monitoring.
18	Simplified procedures for standards development	None.
19	Use of facilitators	CCGP21 considered this matter; CAC28 to follow up.
20	Establishment of electronic working groups	CCGP21 finalised draft guidelines; CAC28 to consider the proposal.
21	Establishment of physical working groups	CCGP21 finalised draft guidelines; CAC28 to consider the proposal.

22	Adoption of Standards	None.
23	Responsibility for the procedural review	None (CCGP was identified as the responsible body).
24	Amendment of the Codex Mandate	None.
25	Revision of the Rules and working procedures governing the Executive Committee	See Proposals Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 above.
26	Subsequent revision of the Rules and working procedures governing the Executive Committee	See Proposal No. 12 above.
27	Right to address the Chair	CCGP21 proposed amendment to the Rules of Procedure; CAC28 to consider the proposed amendment.
28	Observer Organizations	CCGP21 proposed amendment to the Procedural Manual; CAC28 to consider the proposed amendment.
29	Chairpersons of Codex Committees and Task Forces	Implemented (Criteria adopted by CAC27)
30	Revision of Rule XI.4	CCGP19 proposed amendment to the Procedural Manual; CAC28 to consider the proposed amendment.
31	Separation of advice to host governments and advice on the conduct of meetings	Implemented (Revised Guidelines adopted by CAC27)
32	Co-chairmanship	CCGP21 considered this matter; CAC28 to follow up.
33	Criteria for the selection of Chairpersons	See Proposal No. 29 above.
34	Determination of consensus	No immediate action required (the Commission agreed to maintain the <i>statu quo</i> ); CCGP21 agreed to undertake no new work on the definition of "consensus" at this stage <sup>3</sup> .
35	Conduct of Meetings: Reports	Work to be undertaken by CCGP.
36	Conduct of Meetings: Country groupings	Work to be undertaken by CCGP.
37	Relations with OIE	On-going; CCGP21 finalised draft guideline on cooperation with IGOs; See also CX/EXEC 05/55/7.
38	Criteria for the establishment of work priorities	CCGP21 proposed amendment to the Procedural Manual; CAC28 to consider the proposed amendment.

**TABLE 2 : OTHER DECISIONS OF THE 26TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION (RELATED TO THE JOINT FAO/WHO EVALUATION) REGARDING THE CURRENT UNIFORM PROCEDURE FOR THE ELABORATION OF CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS<sup>4</sup>**

No.	Title	Follow-up Actions Required
1	Subsequent Procedure Concerning Publication and Acceptance of Codex Standards	CCGP21 agreed to abolish Acceptance procedure; CCGP22 to consider specific amendments required.
2	Guide to the Consideration of Standards at Step 8	Work to be undertaken by CCGP.
3	Guide to the Procedure for the Revision and Amendment of Codex Standards	Work to be undertaken by CCGP.
4	Arrangements for the Amendment of Codex Standards Elaborated by Codex Committees which have Adjourned <i>Sine Die</i> .	Work to be undertaken by CCGP.

<sup>3</sup> ALINORM 05/28/33 paras 9-10.

<sup>4</sup> ALINORM 03/26/11: Add.4 para. 31; ALINORM 03/41 para.178.