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codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
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WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 5

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Fifty-fifth Session, FAO Headquarters

Rome (Italy), 9 – 11 February 2005

FAO/WHO PROJECT AND TRUST FUND FOR ENHANCED PARTICIPATION IN CODEX

Annual Report 2004 of the Administrator

Introduction

1. The Codex Trust Fund is operational since March 2004. The Annual Report provides an overview of the performance of the Fund in 2004. This report should be read in conjunction with particularly the third and fourth progress report of the FAO/WHO Consultative Group for the Project and Fund submitted to the Codex Executive Committee and the Codex Alimentarius Commission¹. These reports provide information on the criteria for eligibility of countries and the management of the Project and Fund in general.

The Fund in 2004

Application and participation

2. In response to the call for applications for 2004, the Administrator has received applications from 95 eligible countries. Given the level of funding early 2004, the FAO/WHO Consultative Group has decided that all applicants meeting the criteria, would obtain their first priority request. Remaining funds would allow to grant second priority requests from Least Developed Countries only.

3. In 2004, about 92 participants, representing 75 countries, out of the initial 95 applications, will have benefited from the Trust Fund. Table A of the Annex shows the countries which actually attended the respective meetings and the potential participants in meetings still to be held. The meeting of the

¹ Third Progress Report, CX/EXEC 04/53/3, 2003;

Fourth Progress Report, ALINORM 04/27/10F, 2004;

Both reports are also available on: <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/codex/trustfund/en/>

CCAFRICA has been postponed and was rescheduled for early 2005 but expenditures will be covered by the 2004 budget. This will have no implications for the beneficiary countries attending this meeting regarding their application for 2005. In Table B of the Annex, beneficiary countries are grouped according to the Codex regions.

4. Of these 75 countries which have benefited from the support of the Codex Trust Fund, 26 were Least Developed Countries, and 19 of these participated in two Codex meetings.

5. Total expenditure related to delegates' participation in Codex meetings in 2004 including the CCAFRICA is about US\$ 620,000. This figure includes the cost of the management of the Fund.

6. It should be noted that Korea and The Netherlands have supported participation of several developing countries in workshops preceding respectively the CCASIA and CCEURO as well as in the sessions of these Regional Codex Committees, thereby assisting the Codex Trust Fund in helping more countries than otherwise would have been possible.

7. Regarding the overall expenditures in 2004, the FAO/WHO Consultative Group, at its meeting early 2004, has decided how to manage to Trust Fund this year. Given the proven level of funding and the number of applications received at that stage, the Consultative Group took a conservative approach which could result in a positive balance in 2004. This balance then would be added to the budget of 2005, the first full year of operation of the Trust Fund to ensure continuity in the work of the Fund.

The role of Codex Contact Points

8. The call for applications 2004 was circulated by the Codex Secretariat to countries through the Codex Contact Points. Simultaneously, the call for applications was distributed through the formal channels of FAO and WHO to respectively Ministries of Agriculture and Ministries of Health. Also the regional and local representatives of both parent organizations were informed.

9. In several cases the use of different channels to inform eligible countries about the Codex Trust Fund has resulted in more than one application from a given country usually representing different entities within the government. This was an unsatisfactory outcome, also in the light of basic criteria applied to review applications, namely that coordination between governmental entities should be demonstrated. Too often the information provided by applicants on the coordinating mechanism in their country was either insufficient or unclear, which resulted in a delay of the review of the application or in non-acceptance of the application.

10. The call for applications 2005, therefore, was primarily circulated through the Codex Contact Points which is in line with the views of the Codex Executive Committee² and the Codex Alimentarius Commission³.

11. The active involvement of regional and local representatives of FAO and WHO in the application process has proven to be very useful and their involvement should be further stimulated. The Administrator has noted that often Codex Contact Points do not provide full contact details which was a significant impediment for smooth communication with beneficiary countries. As efficient operating Codex Contact Points are in the mutual interest of both the Codex Trust Fund and the Codex Secretariat, the Administrator will actively share information with the Codex Secretariat to achieve this objective.

Reports of beneficiary countries

12. Beneficiary countries funded in 2004 had an obligation to report back to the Administrator. Such a report was also a prerequisite for these countries to successfully apply for 2005. A format has been provided. In order to meet the deadline for applications of 1 October, countries were requested for 2004 to submit a report covering participation at meetings funded by the Trust Fund up to and including the meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in June/July 2004. Reporting on subsequent meetings (up to and including the Codex Alimentarius Commission mid-2005) will be expected on application for funding for 2006.

13. As of 3 December 2004, 13 out of the 35 countries due to submit a report for 2004 have not done so. Of those 13 countries, only 5 submitted an application for 2005.

² ALINORM 04/27/4, paras 94-103, Report of the Fifty-fourth Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

³ ALINORM 04/27/41, paras 188-196, Report of the Twenty-seventh Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

14. The quality of the reports was generally satisfactory. Several countries provided detailed information on the structure and functioning of their national Codex infrastructure, like a Codex Contact Point and a National Codex Committee or equivalent structure, and the way they used this infrastructure to prepare the application and the actual participation in Codex meetings.

15. Several beneficiary countries stated that they participated for the first time in a Codex meeting and that there was a long way to go, not only because of lack of experience in the work of Codex but also because the relative weakness of national food legislation and related institutions, available budgets and capacities, the lack of political awareness of the relevance of Codex standards in relation to international trade and the capability to implement Codex standards.

16. The reporting of several other countries clearly indicated an already considerable understanding of and involvement in the work of Codex. Support provided by the Trust Fund had resulted in broader participation of a government and an improved level of coordination of country positions.

17. The support provided by regional and local representatives of FAO and WHO, particularly in preparing the applications, was generally seen as adequate. Several countries also reported presence of FAO and WHO in debriefing and follow-up work.

18. Detailed review of the reports submitted will guide the FAO/WHO Consultative Group in further assisting beneficiary countries in their Codex endeavours through activities eligible under the Trust Fund. It also will provide useful information for FAO and WHO regarding their Technical Cooperation Programmes and regular capacity building work in the area of food safety and quality.

Funding

Current funding situation

19. The Fund became "operational" in February 2004, after the agreed minimum threshold of US\$ 500,000 had been reached.

20. To date (30 November 2004), a total of US\$ 1,232,532 has been received in contributions from 10 Member States and the European Community. An additional US\$ 588,000 in pledges has been received, and those contributions are expected in late 2004 or early 2005.

21. Table 1 below provides a summary of the current funding situation.

Table 1: Codex Trust Fund -- Contributions Received

Donor	Amount Received (in contribution currency)	Amount Received (in US\$)	Date Received
Switzerland	CHF 50,000	US\$ 35,971	January 2003
Canada	Cdn \$ 50,000	US\$ 34,014	April 2003
The United States	US\$ 168,000	US\$ 168,000	November 2003
Norway	US\$ 100,000	US\$ 100,000	December 2003
Ireland	EUR 50,000	US\$ 60,824	December 2003
The Netherlands	US\$ 50,000	US\$ 50,000	December 2003
European Community	EUR 280,250	US\$ 348,570	February 2004
Canada	Cdn \$ 166,666	US\$ 125,287	February 2004
Australia	AUD 40,000	US\$ 27,906	August 2004
Sweden	SEK 2,000,000	US\$ 281,960	November 2004
Total amount received	US\$ 1,232,532		

Pledges received and contributions expected:

- (1) Canada -- According to Canada's 3-year pledge, Canada will contribute an additional Cdn\$ 166,666 (approximately US\$ 125,000) per year in 2005 and 2006.
- (2) Netherlands -- The 4-year Agreement stipulates that the Netherlands will contribute an additional US\$ 50,000 annually in 2004, 2005 and 2006.
- (3) Germany -- The German Government has indicated its intention to provide a contribution of US\$ 50,000 for 2005.
- (4) New Zealand -- The Government of New Zealand has indicated its intention to provide a contribution of NZ\$ 50,000 (approximately US\$ 33,000) in December 2004.
- (5) United States -- The U.S. Government has signed an Agreement for 2004 that provides for a contribution of US\$ 85,000.
- (6) European Community -- A second Agreement has been signed (November 2004), and the European Community will provide an additional EUR 295,000 (approximately US\$ 380,000) in late 2004 or early 2005.
- (7) Ireland -- The Irish Government has indicated its intention to provide a contribution of EUR 30,000 (approximately US\$ 38,000) for 2005.

Steps undertaken to raise funds

22. In September 2004, WHO sent letters to 24 Permanent Missions in Geneva. These countries are deemed to be the most likely to provide new or renewed contributions to the Fund. The letters were followed up in November 2004 with direct e-mails from WHO to the Codex Contact Points for these countries, with a copy of the relevant September 2004 letter attached. In addition, during November 2004, FAO sent separate letters to Missions in Rome.

Proposed Donor meeting in 2005

23. It is proposed that a donor meeting be held in July 2005, during the meeting of the CAC in Rome. The meeting will be similar in nature and format to the meeting that was held in mid-2003 (CAC, Rome).

Forecast 2005

Applications 2005

24. As of 3 December 2004 applications from 85 countries have been received.

Further information

25. Further information can be found on the website of the Codex Trust Fund:

<http://www.who.int/foodsafety/codex/trustfund/en/>

26. The Administrator can be contacted through:

codextrustfund@who.int

ANNEX

Table A: Countries funded by the Codex Trust Fund in 2004: distribution of participants according to meetings of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Codex Subsidiary Bodies

Committees/Commissions	Countries	Remarks
CC on Food Hygiene 29 March-3 April 2004 (Washington, USA)	1. Indonesia 2. Papua New Guinea	
CC on Pesticide Residues 19-24 April 2004 (New Delhi, India)	1. Ghana	
CC on General Principles 3-7 May 2004 (Paris, France)	1. Burundi* 2. Congo DR* 3. Tonga 4. Uganda*	
CC on Food Labelling 10-14 May 2004 (Montréal, Canada)	1. Burundi* 2. Cameroon	
CAC 28 June-2 July 2004 (Geneva, Switzerland)	1. Bhutan* 2. Botswana 3. Chile 4. China 5. Congo, Republic of 6. Costa Rica 7. Côte d'Ivoire 8. Cuba 9. India 10. Jamaica 11. Lesotho* 12. Mali* 13. Mauritania* 14. Morocco 15. Niger* 16. Paraguay 17. Samoa* 18. Solomon Islands* 19. Sudan* 20. Syria 21. Tanzania* 22. Tunisia 23. Uganda* 24. Uruguay 25. Vanuatu* 26. Viet Nam 27. Zimbabwe	

Committees/Commissions	Countries	Remarks
FAO/WHO CC for Asia 7-10 September 2004 (Jeju City, Republic of Korea)	1. Sri Lanka	Participation of LDCs and Mongolia funded by Korea
CC on Processed Fruit and Vegetables 27 Sept.-1 Oct.2004 (Washington, USA)	1. Rwanda*	
Ad Hoc Intergov. Task Force on Fruit and Vegetable Juices 11-15 October 2004 (Fortaleza, Brazil)	1. Guatemala	
FAO/WHO CC for North America and South West Pacific 19-22 October 2004 (Apia, Samoa)	1. Cook Islands 2. Micronesia 3. Solomon Islands*	
CC on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods 26-29 October 2004 (Washington, USA) Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods of Analysis and Sampling, 25 October 2004	1. Burkina Faso* 2. Dominican Republic 3. Mongolia 4. Peru 5. Poland	
CC on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses 1-5 November 2004 (Bonn, Germany)	1. Bolivia 2. Cambodia* 3. Niger	
CC on General Principles 8-12 November 2004 (Paris, France) Working Group on Proposed Draft Working Principles for Risk Analysis, Saturday, 6 November 2004	1. Cambodia* 2. Kazakhstan 3. Kyrgyzstan 4. Laos* 5. Macedonia 6. Nepal* 7. Rwanda* 8. Samoa* 9. Togo 10. Zambia*	
FAO/WHO CC for Latin America and the Caribbean 29 November- 3 December 2004 (Buenos Aires, Argentina) Regional Workshop on Food Control Systems, Martinez, Buenos Aires, 28 November 2004	1. Belice 2. Colombia 3. Ecuador 4. El Salvador 5. Haiti* 6. Nicaragua 7. Panama	

Committees/Commissions	Countries	Remarks
CC on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems 6-10 December 2004 (Melbourne, Australia)	1. Bhutan* 2. Burkina Faso* 3. Gabon 4. Haiti* 5. Honduras 6. Iran 7. Jordan 8. Liberia* 9. Lithuania 10. Nepal * 11. Sudan *	
FAO/WHO CC for Africa 25-28 January 2005 (Rome, Italy)	1. Benin* 2. Congo, DR* 3. Ethiopia* 4. Guinea Bissau* 5. Guinea 6. Lesotho* 7. Mali* 8. Mauritania* 9. Mozambique* 10. Nigeria 11. Swaziland 12. Tanzania* 13. Togo* 14. Zambia*	Potential participants

* Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

Table B: Countries funded by the Codex Trust Fund in 2004: distribution of beneficiary countries according to Codex regions

Codex Region	Country
Africa	Benin*
Africa	Botswana
Africa	Burkina Faso*
Africa	Burundi*
Africa	Cameroon
Africa	Congo, Republic of
Africa	Cote d' Ivoire
Africa	Congo DR*
Africa	Ethiopia*
Africa	Gabon
Africa	Ghana
Africa	Guinea*
Africa	Guinea-Bissau*
Africa	Lesotho*
Africa	Liberia*
Africa	Mali*
Africa	Mauritania*
Africa	Morocco
Africa	Mozambique*
Africa	Niger*
Africa	Nigeria
Africa	Rwanda*
Africa	Swaziland
Africa	Togo*
Africa	Uganda*
Africa	Tanzania*
Africa	Zambia*
Africa	Zimbabwe
Asia	Bhutan*
Asia	Cambodia*
Asia	China
Asia	India
Asia	Indonesia
Asia	Laos*
Asia	Mongolia
Asia	Nepal*
Asia	Sri Lanka
Asia	Viet Nam
Europe	Kazakhstan
Europe	Lithuania

Europe	Moldova
Europe	Poland
Europe	Serbia and Montenegro
Europe	Macedonia
Latin America and the Caribbean	Belize
Latin America and the Caribbean	Bolivia
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile
Latin America and the Caribbean	Colombia
Latin America and the Caribbean	Costa Rica
Latin America and the Caribbean	Cuba
Latin America and the Caribbean	Dominican Republic
Latin America and the Caribbean	Ecuador
Latin America and the Caribbean	El Salvador
Latin America and the Caribbean	Guatemala
Latin America and the Caribbean	Haiti*
Latin America and the Caribbean	Honduras
Latin America and the Caribbean	Jamaica
Latin America and the Caribbean	Nicaragua
Latin America and the Caribbean	Panama
Latin America and the Caribbean	Paraguay
Latin America and the Caribbean	Peru
Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay
Near East	Iran
Near East	Jordan
Near East	Kyrgyzstan
Near East	Sudan*
Near East	Syria
Near East	Tunisia
South-West Pacific	Cook Islands
South-West Pacific	Micronesia
South-West Pacific	Papua New Guinea
South-West Pacific	Samoa*
South-West Pacific	Solomon Islands*
South-West Pacific	Tonga
South-West Pacific	Vanuatu*

* LDCs (Least Developed Countries)