



**John Némot**

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION  
Rome, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla. Cables: FOODAGRI, Rome. Tel. 5797



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ  
Genève, Palais des Nations. Câbles: UNISANTÉ, Genève. Tél. 33 10 00

ALINORM 64/Exec. 2/11  
26 May 1964

SECOND MEETING OF CODEX ALIMENTARIUS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
WASHINGTON, D.C., MAY 25-26, 1964

Summary Record of Conclusions and Recommendations on Agenda

The Committee was attended by the following members:

Mr. John L. Harvey, Chairman (U.S.A.)  
Prof. M.J.L. Dols (Netherlands)  
Mr. Zenon Zackiewicz (Poland)  
Dr. H. Doyle (New Zealand)  
Dr. S.C. Hansen, Secretariat FAO  
Dr. Rodolphe L. Coigney, WHO  
Mr. J.V.A. Nehemiah, FAO (Rome)  
Mr. J.D. Macfarlane (Australia)  
Mr. H.V. Dempsey (Canada)  
Mr. G.O. Kermode (United Kingdom)  
Prof. O. Högl, Codex Alimentarius Europaeus

Item 1. The Executive Committee approved in general the arrangements for the Second Session of the Commission subject to full investigation by the Secretariat concerning a possible saving of expenditure by arranging for the Conference to be held in Rome. These arrangements were left to the discretion of the Secretariat after an examination of the facilities available and the existing commitment to interpreters. The approved provisional agenda is attached, Annex A.

Item 2. Finance and Revised Budget 1964-65:

Sub-Items A and E. The Executive Committee examined proposals contained in Doc. 64/Exec. 2/2A - Rev.1 Appendix A-1, Appendixes B, C and D. In view of the state of the trust fund the Executive Committee felt it necessary to carry out a drastic revision of the budgetary proposals and program on an austerity basis for the remainder of 1964 and for 1965. A revised budget for 1964 and 1965 is attached, Annex B.

The Executive Committee, in drawing up the revised budgets, took fully into account information available concerning contributions and pledges for 1964 and the carry-over of money from 1963. The revised statement of the contributions and pledges of 1964 is attached as Annex C. In view of the deficit of \$40,000 forecast in the statement of receipts and expenditures, the Executive Committee recommended that a communication at the highest level should be addressed to contributing member countries and other countries likely to contribute, drawing their attention to the serious nature of the situation and requesting them, as a matter of urgency, to contribute, as soon as possible, any arrears for 1963 and contributions for 1964. The Executive Committee also requested that the communication should ask those countries to consider a possibility of increasing their contributions for 1965, and as there will be no carry-over in that year from 1964 to 1965, to make their contributions as early as possible in the first quarter of 1965. If there is inadequate response to this request, it is the opinion of the Executive Committee that the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission could come to a halt. This would be most unfortunate as the program had started well, and would be seriously impaired by such a setback.

With regard to the suggestion that there should be some provision in the budgets to meet unforeseen expenditures in engaging staff for specific purposes (consultants) or to arrange for the attendance of meetings of importance to the commission by members of expert committees, the Executive Committee while accepting in principle the idea, thought that such provision in the budgets of 1964 and 1965 would not be possible because of the serious deficit disclosed in the budgets. However, the Committee recommended that future budget estimates should contain appropriate provision for consultant services.

Sub-Items B and C. As the European Council of the Codex Alimentarius had not, in practice, assumed the role of an Advisory Group for Europe as envisaged in the Report of the First Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Executive Committee came to the conclusion that a question of the meeting of any expenses in connection with an Advisory Group for Europe did not arise at this time. If and when such an advisory group began to function, the Executive Committee would like to have an opportunity to examine the financial implications involved in the Swiss Government's proposal. A suitable reply to the Swiss Government should be sent from FAO on these lines.

Sub-Item D. In view of the difficult financial position of the trust fund, the Executive Committee recommended that Governments who have accepted chairmanship of expert committees should endeavour to meet all costs of such committees including over-head charges of interpretation and translation services. The Executive Committee further recommended that during future years the power conferred in Rule IX should be invoked only in exceptional cases where there was a clear indication at the time of appointment of a committee that the Government concerned would not be able to provide simultaneous interpretation necessary for the efficient conduct of meetings.

However, Governments accepting chairmanship of expert committees should be clearly and fully appraised of their obligations and be requested to meet all expenses. FAO would endeavour to advise and assist them to locate interpreters and the necessary equipment.

Sub-Item E. (Covered under 2A)

Sub-Item F. It was not possible for the Executive Committee to anticipate the volume of work with respect to the food standards program during 1966 and 1967. The enforced slowing down of the program because of financial and other considerations during 1964 and 1965 might result in some expansion in the work-load to be handled in subsequent years. Many of the items now receiving preliminary consideration by the different expert committees would probably reach a stage where the work connected with their finalization for acceptance by Governments and publication in the Codex would arise during 1966 and 1967. The Executive Committee recommended that further work should not be added to the Program of the Commission until existing work has been fully consolidated. In the circumstances, the Executive Committee wished to consider the preparation of a draft budget for 1966 and 1967 for inclusion in the regular budgets of the two organizations during its next meeting prior to the next session of the Codex Commission in September. However, in order to enable the two organizations to prepare the necessary data for this purpose, the Executive Committee wished to state the following principles for sharing the cost of the regular budget by the two organizations. The main elements involved in the program of work for apportionment relate to (1) technical contributions through the technical divisions of FAO/WHO (2) the cost of the central unit located in FAO responsible for co-ordinating the entire program on behalf of the two organizations (3) the cost of holding an annual session of the Codex Commission preferably alternating meetings at the headquarters of FAO and WHO, (4) the cost of publications, and (5) operating costs of bodies under Rule IX and the travel expenses of officers in the central unit.

Taking into account the proportion of technical contents of the food and health aspects of the joint food standards program, the Executive Committee recommended that the sharing of expenditures as indicated in Annex 4, should be considered by FAO and WHO. The Committee further suggested that these principles of division should be discussed between the two organizations to arrive at some agreement so that a suitable program of work and budgets for the two years 1966 and 1967 could be discussed at the next session of the Commission. In this connection the Committee noted that the World Health Assembly had decided to await the working out of the financial consequences of including a portion of the costs of the program in the regular budget of WHO agreed with FAO, and that the Director-General of WHO has been asked to report fully on these matters to the Executive Board at its 35th Session in January 1965. The Committee wished to stress the importance of full participation of WHO in the program from the point of view of safety to health which would include toxicology, food hygiene and all other relevant public

health aspects. Having regard to the importance of public health aspects of the food standards program, the Committee stressed the need for active participation of WHO which will involve the appointment of suitable qualified staff for this purpose.

Item 3. The Executive Committee unanimously agreed that the official English version of the Report of the First Session was a correct record of the decision of the Codex Commission on Rule IX. It endorsed the Director-General's proposal that the matter should be referred to the next session of the Codex Commission for confirmation.

Item 4. The Executive Committee received a full report from Professor Högl in his capacity as Co-ordinator for Europe. Professor Högl brought to the attention of the Executive Committee the views of some European countries concerning their wish to elaborate standards on a regional basis. He also briefly reported on the outcome of a meeting held in May at Berne of the European Council of the Codex Alimentarius which had set up a small committee of representatives of the Council to meet the Director-General of FAO/WHO in order to bring to their attention certain proposed amendments to the rules of procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and discuss other proposals acceptable to the European Council for it to act as the Advisory Group for Europe. The Executive Committee thought that these matters raised a fundamental issue affecting the Statutes of the Joint Codex Alimentarius Commission and that any such proposals would have to be considered by the Codex Commission and the respective governing bodies of the two organizations before any changes could be contemplated in the rules of procedure.

Items 5 and 6. The Executive Committee after considering the communication from the Austrian Government and the reply from the Director-General of FAO was of the opinion that the question of reallocation of responsibility for expert committees on honey and on methods of analysis would require further discussion at the next session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The Committee noted the present status of member countries participating in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission as well as the National Codex Alimentarius Committees which had been set up by some of the Governments.

Item 7. A brief progress report was made on the work of the existing expert committees and attention was drawn to certain difficulties experienced in some of these committees on the clear understanding of the concepts of minimum "platform" standard and "trading" standard. The representative for Europe on the Executive Committee undertook at the request of the Chairman to submit a draft interpretation, consistent with the report of the conference in Geneva 1962, of these two concepts to the Secretariat for possible inclusion in the Report of the Second Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Item 8. The Executive Committee considered a recommendation by the International Olive Oil Council to ban the re-esterification of oils which

had been communicated to the Secretariat. The Executive Committee approved that the Secretariat should reply to the communication in accordance with the established rules of procedure that the Council's proposal would be communicated to the Expert Committee on Oils and Fats for consideration.

Item 9. The Committee was apprised of the discussions at the meeting of the Legal and Consultative Committee of FAO with regard to the provisional rules of procedure of the Commission for incorporation in the regular budget. The comments of that Committee for certain verbal changes would be communicated to the Commission in due course. Meanwhile the provisional rules will continue to be in force. The Committee noted that when the Joint Food Standards Program is transferred to the regular budget of FAO/WHO, the provisional rules of procedure would require revision to bring them in conformity with the financial and administrative procedures of the two organizations without altering in any way the substance of the rules based on the statutes of the Commission.

Item 10. The Committee decided to hold its next session on the 25th and 26th of September 1964.

Item 11. The guiding rules by Dr. Z. Zaczekiewicz. Comments by the members of the Executive Committee are invited before 1st August 1964.

Annex A: See Alinorm 64/2

Annex B: See Alinorm 64/25

Annex C: See Alinorm 64/25