

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

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Thirty-third Session

Bordeaux, France

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Comments of Burundi

Burundi appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the different agenda items to be discussed by the thirty-third Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles.

Agenda item 3

CX/GP 23/33/3

Information on activities of FAO and WHO relevant to the work of CCGP

General comment

Position: Burundi takes note of the information on activities of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) that could be of interest or relevant to the work of the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP). Burundi, as a country including in beneficiaries' countries, appreciates building capacity done through CTF2.

Agenda item 4

CX/GP 23/33/4

Codex Procedural Manual: presentation of new format and observations on consistency and superseded content

General comment

Position: Burundi appreciates the progressive approach taken concerning the Codex Procedural Manual (PM) and acknowledges the merits of transitioning to an exclusively electronic format, in line with FAO and WHO policies. Recognizing the need to adapt to evolving technology and foster operational efficiency in a paperless environment, it is noted that certain aspects of the PM may no longer align with current practices. In this regard, Burundi is in agreement with the proposed edits in the appendices, aimed at ensuring technical consistency. Burundi would like to underscore that the primary objective of this review is to update and maintain linguistic consistency, in compliance with publishing standards, and does not cover substantive procedural or policy modification.

Agenda item 5

CX/GP 23/33/5

Codex Procedural Manual: Proposed update to the Guide to the Procedure for the Amendment and Revision of Codex Standards and Related Texts

General comment

Position: Burundi acknowledges the importance of harmonizing amendments and revisions to Codex text and appreciates the effort to enhance consistency and clarity in Codex procedures. But related to the Item: Proposed updates to the Codex Procedural Manual, section 2

Comment: Burundi proposes to remove an alternative proposal in paragraph 32

Rationale: correction and amendment give the same information; there is only two options i.e amendment or new edition.

Agenda item 6

CX/GP 23/33/6

Review and possible amendments to the rules of procedure on Sessions of the Commission

Position: Burundi supports the review of a possible amendment to the Codex Rules of Procedure allowing virtual sessions of the Commission not to be deferred.

Rationale: To provide more time for consultations that will enable development of a comprehensive approach by both FAO and WHO for the use of virtual sessions also avoid financial constraints to most developing countries which sometimes make them difficult to participate physically

Agenda item 7

CX/GP 23/33/7

Review and possible amendment of the Principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

Position: Burundi recognizes the valuable contributions made by NGOs with Observer Status to Codex work, especially through innovative means beyond traditional participation and appreciates the efforts undertaken to promote Codex standards and guidelines via contemporary channels, including webinars, social media, publications, and guidance documents.

Rationale: These activities can potentially extend the reach of Codex standards to a broader audience. While recognizing the value of modern promotional methods, it is vital to ensure that any changes align with the core principles and objectives of Codex. In this regard, Burundi recommends extensive consultation before implementing any modifications, as the integrity and inclusivity of the Codex process must be preserved. Moreover, the issue of one NGO representative advocating for another non-member NGO during Codex meetings deserves careful consideration and Burundi looks forward to engaging constructively in these discussions to enhance the effectiveness and inclusivity of Codex processes.