

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Item 4, 7, 8

CRD21

Original Language Only

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Thirty-third Session

Bordeaux, France

2-6 October 2023

Comments of Malaysia

AGENDA ITEM 4 Codex Procedural Manual: presentation of new format and observations on consistency and superseded content - CX/GP 23/33/4

Appendix II

Malaysia agrees to the changes proposed by the Codex Secretariat as appear in Appendix II except the following, where since the registration to Codex meeting is now done through Codex Online Registration System that is handled by the Codex Secretariat, the need for copy of replies to be sent to Secretary, CAC, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Rome is also no longer needed. Our proposal is in **bold**.

| Section | Sub-section | Page number | Paragraph | Current text | Proposed change | Notes |
|--|---|-------------|-----------|--|--|---|
| Section 3: Guidelines for subsidiary bodies | Guidelines to host governments of Codex Committees and ad hoc intergovernmental task forces | 77 | 16 | Replies to invitations will normally be requested to be sent to reach the chairperson as early as possible and in any case not less than 30 days before the session. A copy should be sent also to the Secretary, CAC, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Rome. It is of the utmost importance that by the date requested a reply to invitations should be sent by all those governments and international organizations which | Replies to invitations will normally be requested to be sent to reach the chairperson as early as possible and in any case not less than 30 days before the session. A copy should be sent also to the Secretary, CAC, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Rome. It is of the utmost importance that by the date requested a reply to invitations should be sent by all those governments and international organizations which intend to participate. | With documents provided electronically reference to copies is no longer needed. |

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| | | | | intend to participate. The reply should specify the number of copies and the language of the documents required. | The reply should specify the number of copies and the language of the documents required. | |
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AGENDA ITEM 7 Review and Possible Amendment of the Principles Concerning the Participation of International Non-Governmental Organizations in the Work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CX/GP 23/33/7)

Review of Observer status

Malaysia agrees for Codex Secretariat to continue gathering information and data on the participation of INGO with Observer Status in Codex work and present the results at the relevant CCEXEC and CCGP sessions prior to the next Review of NGOs with Observer Status so that any agreed change can be applied during the next review. Malaysia is of the view that the current requirement for review of observer status in the *Principles Concerning the Participation of International Non-Governmental* should be maintained as it is important that the Observer status is granted to NGOs that continue to contribute to Codex work through attendance and written comments. As already provided for (para 29 of the Principles, 28th edition Procedural Manual), Malaysia opines in the case the requirement is not met, the Observer organisation has opportunity to submit its justification including to confirm their interest or how they will contribute in Codex work and accordingly CCEXEC can advise on the observer status for Commission consideration.

Other issues

With regard to the other issue where a representative of an NGO registered for a Codex meeting wishes to or attempts to intervene on behalf of another NGO (that is not a member of the participating NGO), Malaysia is of the view that the Observer should be given written reminder on the procedures in participating in Codex meetings. Such reminder can also be highlighted together with other rules of conduct of meeting by the Codex Secretariat or the Chairperson at the opening of Codex meeting.

Agenda Item 8 Other business

CRD2, Discussion paper on practical toolkits to promote the use of Codex Standards and Guidelines

Malaysia thanks the United Kingdom for considering approaches to enhance capacity and capability of national authorities in adopting Codex texts in the national food control system. We acknowledge the challenge in adopting Codex texts or some very good tools available, sometime due to its massive information and that in certain situation having an interactive tool where user can key in information and outcome or report will be produced, as example, would be very helpful to authorities.

With regard to the idea of developing toolkits, specifically Codex self-assessment toolkit for risk analysis, translating the Working Principles for Risk Analysis for Food Safety Application by Governments would be acceptable. However, in-depth analysis of certain aspects including the type of hazards and the risk assessment steps would be beyond the mandate of CCGP. As compared to developing Codex texts, the design of toolkits is particularly important so that it is able to cater different situations and the outcome is reflecting the actual situation. If a Codex toolkit is to be developed, we should also consider who will maintain the platform, how the data will be used etc.

Agenda Item 8 Other business

CRD 3, Comment of China on Proposed changes to the Procedural Manual

Malaysia thanks China for the proposal and we are in support of such proposal. To be more specific, the Chairpersons of Codex general subject committees, commodity committees and Task Forces where its work is to be considered in a CCEXEC session, those Chairpersons may be invited to the CCEXEC session as Observers to facilitate the discussion in CCEXEC. We agree that relevant discussions or experience of other Committees would also beneficial for other Chairperson and could be part of capacity building for the Chairperson.