

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

*Twenty-Sixth Session, FAO Headquarters, Rome, 30 June – 7 July 2003*

#### PROVISIONAL AGENDA

#### **PART I: INTRODUCTION**

1. Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Session
2. Report by the Chairperson on the 49<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> Sessions of the Executive Committee
3. Reports of FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees

#### **PART II: PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

4. Amendments to the Procedural Manual
  - a) Amendments to the Rules of Procedure
  - b) Other amendments to the Procedural Manual

#### **PART III: CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS**

5. Draft Standards and Related Texts at Step 8 of the Procedure (including those submitted at Step 5 with a recommendation to omit Steps 6 and 7 and those submitted at Step 5 of the Accelerated Procedure)
6. Proposed Draft Standards and Related Texts at Step 5
7. Withdrawal or revocation of existing Codex Standards and Related Texts
8. Proposals for the elaboration of new Standards and Related Texts

#### **PART IV: POLICY AND GENERAL MATTERS**

9. Risk Analysis Policies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
10. Joint FAO/WHO Evaluation of the Codex Alimentarius and other FAO and WHO Work on Food Standards

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11. FAO/WHO Trust Fund for Participation of Developing Countries in Codex Standard-Setting Procedures
12. Other Matters arising from FAO and WHO
13. Matters arising from the reports of Codex Committees and Task Forces

**PART V: PROGRAMME AND BUDGETARY MATTERS**

14. Financial and Budgetary Matters 2002/2003 and Proposed Budget 2004/2005
15. Proposed Schedule of Codex Meetings 2003-2005

**PART VI: ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

16. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons and Election of Members of the Executive Committee
17. Appointment of Regional Coordinators
18. Designation of Countries responsible for Appointing the Chairpersons of Codex Committees and Task Forces

**PART VII: OTHER MATTERS**

19. Other Business
20. Adoption of the Report

## NOTES ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**General Note:** The 50<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee (Rome, June 2002) recommended a revised format for the Provisional Agenda of Commission sessions that would give priority to standards management, in particular the consideration and adoption of standards. The Executive Committee also recommended extending the session to seven working days to allow for the business on the agenda to be completed. These decisions are reflected in the current Provisional Agenda. With the exception of Agenda Item 16, for which the election process will begin on the opening day of the session and continue through the first week, it is recommended that all items be taken in the order in which they appear.

### **PART I: INTRODUCTION (Items 1-3)**

In accordance with Rule V.2 of the Rules of Procedure, the first item on the Agenda is the Adoption of the Agenda. In accordance with Rule III.5 of the Rules of the Procedure the Executive Committee shall report to the Commission on the sessions of the Executive Committee held since the previous Regular Session of the Commission. The Commission at its 23<sup>rd</sup> Session (Rome, 1999) agreed that sessions of FAO/WHO (Codex) Regional Coordinating Committees should also report to the Commission.

### **PART II: PROCEDURAL MATTERS (Item 4)**

The Commission is invited to consider amendments to the Rules of Procedure transmitted to it by the Codex Committee on General Principles. The quorum required for the purpose of adopting amendments to the Rules of Procedure is the majority of the Members of the Commission, and such amendments require a two-thirds majority of votes cast for their adoption (Rule IV.6 and Rule XIII.1).<sup>1</sup> Such amendments come into force only upon the approval of the Directors-General of FAO and WHO (Rule XIII.1). The Commission is also invited to consider other amendments to the Procedural Manual transmitted to it by the Codex Committee on General Principles. The quorum required for such amendments is the normal quorum required for the transaction of business (Rule IV.6). They take effect upon the adoption of the report of the present session of the Commission.

### **PART III: CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS (Items 5-8)**

The Commission is invited to consider draft standards and related texts submitted to it for adoption by subsidiary Codex Committees and Task Forces; these include drafts submitted at Step 8 of the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards, drafts submitted at Step 5 with the recommendation to omit Steps 6 and 7, and drafts submitted at Step 5 of the Accelerated Procedure. The Commission is also invited to confirm the withdrawal or revocation of existing Codex standards and related texts, as recommended by Codex Committees and Task Forces. It is also invited to approve proposals to undertake the elaboration of new standards and texts (including the amendment or revision of existing texts).

### **PART IV: POLICY AND GENERAL MATTERS (Items 9-13)**

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Commission (Geneva, 1997) undertook an Action Plan on Risk Analysis that included, *inter alia*, the development of General Principles of Risk Analysis and specific methodologies of risk analysis used within the Codex framework<sup>2</sup>. The Commission is invited to consider proposals submitted by the Committee on General principles and other relevant Codex Committees, for incorporation into the Procedural Manual.

The 25<sup>th</sup> (Extraordinary) Session of the Commission, in expressing its views on the report of the Joint FAO/WHO Evaluation of the Codex Alimentarius and other FAO and WHO Work on Food Standards, agreed that the Secretariat would submit a series of papers, based on comments received from Members and interested international organizations, containing strategies and options for implementing certain recommendations contained in the Evaluation report. The same session of the Commission requested to be kept informed of the progress and operations of the FAO/WHO Trust Fund for Participation of Developing Countries in Codex Standard-Setting Procedures.

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<sup>1</sup> The current Membership of the Commission being 168 countries, the quorum for this purpose is 85 Members.

<sup>2</sup> Report of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, ALINORM 97/37, paras. 162-164.

The Commission will also be invited to consider matters referred to it by FAO and WHO and by its subsidiary Codex Committees and Task Forces.

### **PART V: PROGRAMME AND BUDGETARY MATTERS (Items 14-15)**

The Directors-General of FAO and WHO prepare an estimate of expenditure based on the proposed programme of work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, together with information concerning expenditures for the previous financial period. This estimate, with such modifications as may be considered appropriate by the Directors-General in the light of recommendations made by the Commission, shall subsequently be incorporated in the Regular Budgets of the two Organizations for approval by the appropriate governing bodies (Rule XI.1). The Commission is also requested to endorse the proposed schedule of Codex meetings for the forthcoming biennium.

### **PART VI: ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS (Items 16-18)**

The election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons and the election, on a regional basis, of Members of the Executive Committee is governed by Rules II.1 and III.1 respectively. Because of the sequential nature of the election process a specific timetable is followed. Regional Coordinators are appointed by the Commission in accordance with Rules II.4(a) and (b). A detailed explanatory note on the election procedure and voting is provided in document ALINORM 03/26/2.

In accordance with Rule IX.10 of the Rules of Procedure, the Commission is also required to designate those countries responsible for appointing the chairpersons of Codex Committees and Task Forces ("Host Countries")

### **PART VII: OTHER MATTERS (Items 19-20)**

In accordance with Rule V.5 of the Rules of Procedure, any Member of the Commission, and the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, may, after the dispatch of the Provisional Agenda, propose the inclusion of specific items in the Agenda with respect to matters of an urgent nature.

In accordance with Rule VIII.1 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure and established practice, the Commission shall adopt the report of its 26<sup>th</sup> Session, based on a draft provided by the Secretariat.

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#### **Provisional Timetable**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Items</b>
Monday, 30 June	1-5, 16
Tuesday, 1 July	5 (cont.), 6-8
Wednesday, 2 July	9, 10
Thursday, 3 July	11-13
Friday, 4 July	14-15
Saturday, 5 July	17-19
Monday, 7 July	20 (Adoption of report)