

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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## Proposed updates to the Codex Procedural Manual, section 2

### Elaboration of Codex standards and related texts; Procedures for the elaboration of Codex standards and related texts

(Clean version)

#### Introduction

Paragraph 8. It will be for the Commission itself to keep under review the modification of Codex standards. The procedure for modification should, *mutatis mutandis*, be that laid down for the elaboration of Codex standards. The Commission may decide to omit steps of that procedure where, in its opinion, a modification proposed by the subsidiary body concerned, or the Codex Secretariat or Member of the Commission where the subsidiary body concerned is not in existence or has been adjourned *sine die*, is in line with relevant guidance outlined in part 7 - Guide to the procedure for the correction, amendment and new editions of Codex standards and related texts.

#### Part 2. Critical review

##### Proposals to undertake new work or to modify a standard

Paragraph 12. Prior to approval for development, each proposal for new work or modification (as appropriate - see Part 7) of a standard shall be accompanied by a project document, prepared by the Committee or Member proposing new work or modification of a standard detailing: .....

#### Part 7. Guide to the procedure for the modification (corrections, amendments and new editions) of Codex standards and related texts

Paragraph 24. The procedure for modification of Codex standards and related texts is laid down in paragraph 8 of the introduction of Section 2: [Procedures for the elaboration of Codex standards and related texts](#). This guide provides more detailed guidance on the procedure for modifying Codex standards and related texts, which includes corrections, amendments and new editions.

Paragraph 25. For the purpose of this guide:

**Correction:** Apply to editorial errors including incorrect spelling, incorrect bold or italics, other incorrect formatting of text, an incorrect transcription, an incorrectly numbered or located footnote, or errors in translation. A corrigendum itemizing the changes made is required for all corrections.

**Amendment:** Any modification that does not impact the scope. In particular, amendments address:

- technical errors or incorrectly reported numbers;
- partial re-writes or partial deletions of sections when there is no new data or information introduced;
- explanatory footnotes;
- alignment of provisions consequential to the adoption, or modification of Codex standards and related texts of general applicability, including the provisions in the Procedural Manual when there is no new data/information introduced;
- finalization or updating of methods of analysis and sampling; and
- replacement of content with a reference to another Codex text when there is no new data or information introduced.

An explanation of the changes made to the text is required for all amendments.

**New edition:** Any modification, regardless of the length, not covered by a correction or amendment, including:

- any new data or information added to the text that impacts its application;
- any modification to a footnote or the addition or deletion of a footnote that changes the scope;
- the addition or deletion of a section or an appendix; and
- re-writes of entire section(s).

A short justification for the new edition is required for all new editions.

Paragraph 26. When the Commission has decided to amend or develop a new edition of a Codex standard or related text, the existing text will remain the applicable Codex text until the amendment or the new edition has been adopted by the Commission. Corrections, as described in paragraph 25 will be the responsibility of the Codex Secretariat.

Paragraph 27. The Commission has the final authority to determine whether a proposed modification constitutes an amendment or a new edition.

Paragraph 28. Proposals for amendments or new editions of Codex standards and related texts should be submitted to the Commission by the subsidiary body concerned. Where the subsidiary body concerned is not in existence or has been adjourned *sine die*, the proposal for an amendment or new edition should be submitted to the Commission by the Secretariat or a Member of the Commission. In the latter case, proposals should be received by the Secretariat in good time (not less than three months) before the session of the Commission at which they are to be considered. The proposal should be accompanied by a project document (see Part 2 of the elaboration procedures) unless the Executive Committee or the Commission decides otherwise.

Paragraph 29. Taking into account the outcome of the ongoing critical review conducted by the Executive Committee, the Commission decides whether the proposed amendment or new edition of a standard is necessary. If the Commission decides in the affirmative, one of the following courses of action will be taken:

- a) In the case of a modification (amendment or new edition) proposed and agreed upon by a subsidiary body, it will also be open to the Commission to adopt the modification at Step 8 of the uniform procedure (see Part 3 of the elaboration procedures).
- b) In other cases, the Commission will approve the proposal as new work and the approved new work will be referred for consideration to the appropriate subsidiary body, if such body is still in existence. If such body is not in existence, the Commission will determine how best to deal with the new work.

Paragraph 30. Where Codex subsidiary bodies have been abolished, dissolved, or adjourned *sine die*, the Secretariat keeps under review all Codex standards and related texts elaborated by these bodies and determines the need for any corrections, amendments or new editions, in particular those arising from decisions of the Commission.

- If the need for corrections is identified, then the Secretariat makes the corrections.
- If the need for a modification (amendment or new edition) is identified, the Codex Secretariat, in cooperation with the host secretariat of the adjourned committee if applicable, should prepare a working paper containing the reasons for proposing a modification and the wording of such modifications as appropriate, and request comments from Members of the Commission: a) on the need to proceed with such a modification and b) on the proposed modification itself.
  - If the majority of the replies received from Members of the Commission is affirmative on both the need to modify the standard, and the suitability of the proposed wording for the modification or an alternative proposed wording, the proposal should be submitted to the Commission for consideration and adoption.
  - In cases where replies do not appear to offer an uncontroversial solution then the Commission should be informed accordingly, and it would be for the Commission to determine how best to proceed.

## Proposed updates to the Codex Procedural Manual, section 2

### Elaboration of Codex standards and related texts; Procedures for the elaboration of Codex standards and related texts

(Tracked changes version)

#### Introduction

Paragraph 8. It will be for the Commission itself to keep under review the ~~revision update modification~~ of Codex standards. The procedure for ~~revision a new edition modification~~ should, *mutatis mutandis*, be that laid down for the elaboration of Codex standards, ~~except that~~. The Commission may decide to omit ~~any other step or~~ steps of that procedure where, in its opinion, a ~~modification amendment or new edition~~ proposed by ~~a Codex the committee or subsidiary body concerned, or the Codex Secretariat or Member of the Commission where the subsidiary body concerned is not in existence or has been adjourned sine die, the Codex Secretariat is~~ is in line with relevant ~~the criteria~~ guidance outlined in part 7 - Guide to the procedure for the correction, amendment and new editions of Codex standards and related texts. ~~is either of an editorial nature or of a substantive nature but consequential to provisions in similar standards adopted by the Commission at Step 8.~~

#### Part 2. Critical review

##### Proposals to undertake new work or to ~~revise update revimodify~~ a standard

Paragraph 12. Prior to approval for development, each proposal for new work ~~or modification (as appropriate - see Part 7) or revision a new edition~~ of a standard shall be accompanied by a project document, prepared by the Committee or Member proposing new work or ~~modification revision a new edition~~ of a standard detailing: .....

#### Part 7. Guide to the procedure for the ~~modification (corrections, amendments and revision new editions)~~ of Codex standards and related texts

Paragraph 24. The procedure for ~~amending or revising updating modification of a~~ Codex standards and related texts is laid down in paragraph 8 of the introduction of Section 2: Procedures for the elaboration of Codex standards and related texts. This guide provides more detailed guidance on the ~~existing~~ procedure for ~~updating modifying of~~ Codex standards and related texts, which includes ~~the~~ corrections, amendments and ~~revision new editions of Codex standards and related texts~~.

Paragraph 25. ~~When the Commission has decided to amend or revise a develop a new edition of a Codex standard or related texts, the unrevised existing standard text will remain the applicable Codex standard text until the amendment to the standard text or the revised new edition of the standard text has been adopted by the Commission. Corrections, as described in paragraph 26, will be the responsibility of the Codex Secretariat, who will inform the subsequent Commission of any corrections made to Codex standards since its previous session.~~

Paragraph ~~226-5~~ For the purpose of this guide:

**A eCorrection:** ~~means Apply to editorial fixes errors and includinges incorrect spelling mistakes, incorrect bold or italics, other incorrect formatting of text, an incorrect footnote, or an incorrect value or symbol transcription, or an incorrectly numbered or located footnote, or errors in translation. Omit steps 1-7 when making a correction :~~

A corrigendum itemizing the changes made is required for all corrections.

**An aAmendment:** ~~to an existing standard or related text refers to any any change to the standard that updates modifiesmAny modification of the existing information and but that does not impact the scope of the standard. means any addition, change or deletion of text or numerical values in a Codex standard or related text, may be editorial or substantive, and concerns one or a limited number of articles in the Codex~~ text.

~~In particular, amendments of an editorial nature may include address~~ **but are not limited to:**

- ~~fixing a technical inaccuracy errors or an incorrectly reported numbers;~~
- ~~partial re-writesing or partial deletions of existing sections or sub-sections when there is no new data or information introduced;~~
- ~~inserting or updating of an explanatory footnotes; and~~
- ~~updating of references and other relevant content of Codex texts alignment of provisions consequential to the adoption, amendment or new edition revision or modification of other Codex standards and other related texts of general applicability, including the provisions in the Procedural Manual when there is no new data or information introduced; and~~

~~replacing content with a reference to another Codex text when there is no new data introduced; and~~

- ~~Paragraph 27 finalization or updating of methods of analysis and sampling; when there is no new data introduced, as well as alignment of provisions, for consistency, to those in similar standards or related texts adopted by the Commission may be handled by the Commission in the same manner as amendments of an editorial nature, as far as the procedure described in this guide is concerned and~~
- ~~replacement of content with a reference to another Codex text when there is no new data/information introduced.~~

An explanation of the changes made to the text is required for all amendments.

~~Paragraph 28. Revision means any changes to a Codex standard or related text other than those covered under "amendment" as defined above. **New edition:** applies to any change Any modification, regardless of the length, to an existing standard or related text standard made in the spirit of order to updating the content, and for anything not covered by a correction or amendment, including:~~

- ~~any new data or information data/provision addition ed to the text, that impacts its application; regardless of how small the change;~~
- ~~any modification to a footnote or the addition or deletion of a footnote that changes the scope;~~
- ~~the addition or deletion of a section or or an end matter (appendix); and~~
- ~~changing titles of sections or sub-sections; and~~
- ~~re-writes of entire section(s), regardless of length.~~

~~A short sentence justificationing the reason for the new edition is required for all new editions.~~

~~Paragraph 26. When the Commission has decided to amend or a develop a new edition of a Codex standard or related texts, the existing text will remain the applicable Codex text until the amendment or the new edition has been adopted by the Commission. Corrections, as described in paragraph 25 will be the responsibility of the Codex Secretariat.~~

~~Paragraph 27. The Commission has the final authority to determine whether a proposed modification made constitutes an amendment or a revision new edition. , and whether an amendment proposed is of an editorial or substantive nature.~~

~~Paragraph 28. Proposals for an the amendments to or for a revision new editions of Codex standards and related texts should be submitted to the Commission by the subsidiary body concerned, by the Secretariat, or a Member of the Commission ~~W~~ where the subsidiary body concerned is not in existence or has been adjourned *sine die*, the proposal for an amendment or new edition should be submitted to the Commission by the Secretariat or a Member of the Commission. In the latter case, proposals should be received by the Secretariat in good time (not less than three months) before the session of the Commission at which they are to be considered. The proposal for a new edition should be accompanied by a project document (see Part 2 of the elaboration procedures) unless the Executive Committee or the Commission decides otherwise. However, if the amendment proposed is of an editorial nature, the preparation of a project document is not required.~~

~~Paragraph 29. Taking into account the outcome of the ongoing critical review conducted by the Executive Committee, the Commission decides whether the proposed amendment or revision new~~

edition of a standard is necessary. If the Commission decides in the affirmative, one of the following courses of action will be taken:

~~In the case of an amendment of an editorial nature, it will be open to the Commission to adopt the amendment at Step 8 of the uniform procedure (see Part 3 of the elaboration procedures).~~

a) In the case of a modification (n-amendment or new edition) proposed and agreed upon by a subsidiary body, it will also be open to the Commission to adopt the amendment modification at Step ~~5~~8 of the uniform procedure (see Part 3 of the elaboration procedures).

b) In other cases ~~of a new editions~~, the Commission will approve the proposal as new work and the approved new work will be referred for consideration to the appropriate subsidiary body, if such body is still in existence. If such body is not in existence, the Commission will determine how best to deal with the new work.

Paragraph ~~3230~~. Where Codex subsidiary bodies have been abolished ~~or~~ dissolved, or ~~Codex committees have been~~ adjourned *sine die*, the Secretariat keeps under review all Codex standards and related texts elaborated by these bodies and determines the need for any corrections, amendments or new editions, in particular those arising from decisions of the Commission.

- ~~If the need for corrections of an editorial nature is identified, then the Secretariat should prepare proposed amendments for makes the corrections and informs consideration and adoption by the Commission accordingly.~~
- ~~If the need for amendments or a new edition~~ a modification (amendment or new edition) a substantive nature is identified, the Codex Secretariat, in cooperation with the national host secretariat of the adjourned committee if applicable, should prepare a working paper containing the reasons for proposing a amendments modification and the wording of such amendments modifications as appropriate, and request comments from Members of the Commission: a) on the need to proceed with such a modification n-amendment and b) on the proposed amendment modification itself.
  - ~~If the majority of the replies received from Members of the Commission is affirmative on both the need to modify amend the standard or make a new edition, and the suitability of the proposed wording for the amendment or new edition modification or an alternative proposed wording, the proposal should be submitted to the Commission for consideration and adoption.~~
  - In cases where replies do not appear to offer an uncontroversial solution then the Commission should be informed accordingly, and it would be for the Commission to determine how best to proceed.