

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Items 2, 3, 4 and 6

GP31/CRD/04

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Thirty-first Session

Bordeaux, France, 11 - 15 March 2019

(Comments from Kenya)

KENYA

Agenda Item 2: MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE

GENERAL COMMENT

Kenya appreciates the information given therein for the update and took note for action where necessary.

Agenda Item 3: DISCUSSION PAPER ON PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE FOR COMMITTEES WORKING BY CORRESPONDENCE

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- Kenya supports the continuation of using committees working by correspondence for standard setting work, but with at least one physical meeting to finalize the documents and build consensus before submission of the documents to CAC.
- Kenya supports the position that CCGP should formulate guidelines on procedures and management of Committees working through correspondence to address the challenges identified in this document.
- Kenya supports the re-activation of the committees that were adjourned to facilitate some of the standards in the committees, if there are enough work however, the correspondence work should continue as long as there is one physical working group to build consensus before the standard is taken to CAC approval

JUSTIFICATION

The correspondence is preferred due to cost factors associated with several physical meetings compared to working through correspondence. The method of convening one physical group meeting also has the potential to promote a wider participation of the stakeholders for standard setting work.

Agenda Item 4: USE OF EXAMPLES IN CODEX STANDARDS

COMMENTS:

Kenya supports recommendations 6.1 and 6.2 in the discussion paper for the case by case inclusion of examples in Codex texts. CCGP should develop a guideline in the Procedural Manual to guide the committees for the inclusion of examples in all Codex texts. All examples in Codex texts should be clearly declared as informative. A disclaimer that the examples are not part of the standard, but additional information should be included.

JUSTIFICATION

Development of guidelines will standardize the procedure in development of Codex texts and put controls on terms of reference to the same.

Agenda Item 6: DISCUSSION PAPER ON EMERGING AND FUTURE ISSUES WITHIN THE REMIT OF THE CCGP

COMMENTS

Kenya's position is that items 2, 5 and 6 falls under the scope of CCEXEC; item 3 falls under the scope of CCFICS, and item 4 falls under CCFL. Only Items 1 and 7 falls under the terms of reference CCGP.

However, the form of presentation for the Procedural Manual is the responsibility of the Codex Secretariat.

JUSTIFICATION

It is important to differentiate between policy matters that are handled at CAC and CCEXEC and procedural matters which are the responsibility of CCGP. This will prevent duplication of effort and enhance efficiency.