

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

GP/32 CRD/14

Original language only

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Thirty-second Session

Virtual, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15 and 17 February 2021

Comments of China

Agenda item 4: Procedural guidance for Committees Working by Correspondence

China would like to thank the work of the EWG chaired by New Zealand and co-chaired by Germany, Japan and the United States of America. The criteria and procedural guideline will be very useful to improve the work of committees working by correspondence (hereinafter CWBC).

It is recalled that the CAC43 and CCEXEC 80 had already discussed and addressed the issue of virtual meetings. We are of the view that virtual meeting is an alternative of physical meeting when it is hard to convene physical meetings, e.g. during the pandemic. Therefore it is beyond the scope of guidelines for CWBC.

On the other hand, holding virtual meeting can be a technic to advance the work of CWBC when it is not able to progress. In light of this, we would like to recommend to add “/virtual” after “physical” in section 9, bullet i of the draft criteria and procedural guideline of CWBC in the Annex, which will read: “Convene a physical/virtual session of the original committee”.