

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 10

**CX/LAC 06/15/12
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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

15th Session

Mar del Plata, Argentina, 13-17 November 2006

NOMINATION OF THE COORDINATOR

1. The procedures governing the appointment of a Coordinator, as amended by the 29th Session of the Commission (2006) and to be approved by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, are laid down in Rule IV of the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

2. The amended Rule IV) reads as follows:

"IV.1 The Commission may appoint a Coordinator from among the Members of the Commission for any of the geographic locations enumerated in Rule III.1 (hereinafter referred to as "regions") or for any group of countries specifically enumerated by the Commission (hereinafter referred to as "groups of countries"), whenever it may find, on the basis of a proposal of a majority of the Members of the Commission which constitute the region or group, that work for the Codex Alimentarius in the countries concerned so requires.

IV.2 Appointment of Coordinators shall be made exclusively on the proposal of a majority of the Members of the Commission which constitute the region or group of countries concerned. In principle, they shall be nominated at each session of the relevant Coordinating Committee established under Rule XI.1(b)(ii), and appointed at the following regular session of the Commission. They shall hold office from the end of this session. Coordinators may be reappointed for a second term. The Commission shall make such arrangements as may be necessary in order to ensure continuity in the functions of the Coordinators.

IV.3 The functions of the Coordinators shall be:

- (i) to assist and coordinate the work of the Codex Committees set up under Rules XI.1(b)(i) in their region or group of countries in the preparation of draft standards, guidelines and other recommendations for submission to the Commission.
- (ii) to assist the Executive Committee and the Commission, as required, by advising them of the views of countries and recognized regional intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in their respective regions on matters under discussion or of interest.

3. At the 29th Session of the Commission, the Representative of the FAO Legal Counsel informed the Commission that the amendments to Rule IV.2, following approval of the Directors-General, should apply to the elections to be held at the 30th Session in 2007 and provided the following clarification:

4. As regards the eligibility for election in 2007 of the various members of the Executive Committee (i.e. the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons, the members elected on a geographic basis and the Coordinators), it was proposed that the matter be handled in light of the spirit and purpose of the new provisions. The purpose of the new scheme was that assuming re-election of members of the Executive Committee, and regardless of the frequency of sessions – either annual or biennial – members would serve up to between three and four years. Also for the sake of convenience and fairness it was proposed that the period of office served under the current rules should be taken into consideration at the 30th Session in 2007 when deciding on the eligibility of members holding office at that point in time. Therefore, at the 30th Session in 2007, members having served in their respective positions for 3 years or more would not be eligible for re-election for the same positions. Members having served for less than this period of time would be eligible for re-election. This solution would apply “*across the board*” to all categories of members of the Executive Committee, i.e. the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons, the members elected on a geographic basis and the Coordinators.

5. The Commission **agreed** to proceed as proposed by the Representative of the FAO Legal Counsel.¹

6. In accordance with Rule V.1 of the Rules of Procedure, as amended by the 28th Session of the Commission (2005), the Coordinators serve as members in the Executive Committee, together with the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons as well as seven further members elected on a geographic basis. The geographic locations enumerated in Rule V.1 are as follows: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East, North America and the South-West Pacific. The same Rule provides that not more than one delegate from any one country shall be a member of the Executive Committee.

7. At the time of writing, 33 countries in the Region of Latin America and the Caribbean are members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. These countries are:

Antigua and Barbuda	Dominican Republic	Paraguay
Argentina	Ecuador	Peru
Bahamas	El Salvador	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Barbados	Grenada	Saint Lucia
Belize	Guatemala	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Bolivia	Guyana	Suriname
Brazil	Haiti	Trinidad and Tobago
Chile	Honduras	Uruguay
Colombia	Jamaica	Venezuela
Costa Rica	Mexico	(Bolivarian Republic of)
Cuba	Nicaragua	
Dominica	Panama	

8. The Commission, at its 28th Session (2005), appointed the Argentine Republic as Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean to serve for its second term (ALINORM 05/28/41, para. 241). Argentina, having served for two terms, four years by July 2007, will not be eligible for appointment.

9. The Committee **is invited** to nominate a Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean (one of the Member countries on the list above) for appointment by the Thirtieth Session of the Commission (Rome, 2-7 July 2007).

¹ ALINORM 06/29/41, paras. 19-21.