

**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 as appropriate modification (- 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 language translation. A corrigendum itemizing the changes made is required for all corrections and included in the standard.

**Amendment:** Any modification that does not impact the scope or application. 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 and included in the standard.

**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, or addition or deletion of a footnote that changes the scope or application;
- the addition or deletion of a section or an appendix; and

- re-writes of entire section(s).

A justification for the new edition is required for all new editions and included in the standard.

Paragraph 26. The Commission has the final authority to determine whether a proposed modification constitutes an amendment or a new edition. Corrections, as described in paragraph 25 will be the responsibility of the Codex Secretariat.

Paragraph 27. 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.

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) agreed upon by a subsidiary body, and proposed to the Commission, 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.