



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Forty-fifth Session

FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy¹

21-25 November and 12-13 December 2022

APPOINTMENT OF THE COORDINATORS

BACKGROUND

1. The appointment of the Coordinators is regulated by the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) as contained in the Procedural Manual (see specifically Rules IV and V), as well as the FAO General Rules of the Organization (GRO) contained in Volume I of the FAO Basic Texts (2017 edition)². The present document offers explanatory notes on these rules.

REGIONAL COORDINATORS APPOINTED/REAPPOINTED AT CAC43

2. Rule IV.2 of the Codex Rules of Procedure states that “[i]n principle, [Coordinators] shall be nominated at each session of the relevant Coordinating Committee (...) and appointed at the following regular session of the Commission”.

3. In accordance with Rule IV.2 of the Codex Rules of Procedure, and on the basis of the nominations made by the relevant Coordinating Committees, CAC43 (2020) appointed Uganda (Africa), China (Asia), Fiji (North America and South-West Pacific), Saudi Arabia (Near East) and Ecuador (Latin America and the Caribbean) as Coordinators for their respective regions; and re-appointed Kazakhstan as Coordinator for Europe.

4. CAC43 agreed that the Coordinators were appointed/re-appointed “to hold office from the end of CAC43 until the end of the first regular session of the Commission following the next session of the relevant Coordinating Committee (...)”³.

5. Since CAC43, four Coordinating Committees have met, the Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO) (May 2022), the Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA) (September 2022), the Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA) (October 2022) and the Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC) (October 2022).

6. The Coordinating Committees for North America and South-West Pacific (CCNASWP) and the Near East (CCNE) are scheduled to hold their next session in 2023.

PROPOSED ACTION BY THE COMMISSION FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF COORDINATORS FOR AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

7. The Coordinating Committees for Africa (CCAFRICA), Asia (CCASIA), and Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC) have nominated the current Coordinators, namely Uganda, China and Ecuador respectively for re-appointment. Uganda, China and Ecuador, each having served only one term are eligible for re-appointment.

8. Accordingly, the Commission is invited to re-appoint Uganda, China, and Ecuador as Coordinators for the Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean regions, respectively.

9. The terms of the re-appointed of the Coordinators will begin at the end of CAC45 and run until the end of the first regular session of the Commission following the next session of the relevant coordinating committee. By that time these Coordinators will not be able to be re-appointed as they will have served for two terms.

¹ To be convened physically with the option of remote participation: Discussions on 21-25 November 2022, 10-13h and 15-18h CET; Adoption of the report on 12 and 13 December 2022, 12-15h CET will be held virtually only subject to confirmation of Codex Members.

² Available at http://www.fao.org/3/a-mp046e.pdf#P6_2

³ REP20/CAC, paragraph 164.

PROPOSED ACTION BY THE COMMISSION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COORDINATOR FOR EUROPE

10. The present Coordinator for CCEURO Europe (Kazakhstan) has already served two consecutive mandates and therefore is not eligible for nomination. CCEURO32 has recommended the appointment of Germany as the next Coordinator for CCEURO. Germany has agreed to the nomination (see REP22/EURO, paras 60 and 61).

11. Germany is currently also serving as the Member for Europe elected on a geographic basis to the Executive Committee. In this regard, Rule V.1 of the Codex Rules of Procedure states "*Not more than one delegate from any one country shall be a member of the Executive Committee*".

12. The Commission may therefore wish to invite Germany to confirm that it will step down from its current role as a Member elected on a geographic basis. Upon such confirmation, the Commission is invited to appoint Germany as the Coordinator for Europe for a first term, which would run from the end of CAC45 and until the end of the first regular session of the Commission following the next session of CCEURO.

CONSEQUENTIAL ACTIONS IN CASE OF APPOINTMENT OF GERMANY AS COORDINATOR FOR EUROPE

13. The appointment of Germany as Coordinator for Europe would leave a vacancy for the position of Member for Europe elected on a geographic basis.

14. Rule V.1 of the Codex Rules of Procedure provides that "*Members elected on a geographic basis shall hold office from the end of the session of the Commission at which they were elected until the end of the second succeeding regular session and shall be eligible for re-election if they have not served for more than two years in their current term, but after having served two consecutive terms shall be ineligible to hold such office for the next succeeding term*".

15. By the time of CAC45, Germany would have only served half of its second term as Member for Europe. The Commission should therefore invite nominations for the position of Member for Europe to complete the current term.

16. The nomination period for the election of the Member elected on a geographical basis for Europe would be opened at the CAC45 session on Wednesday 23 November 2022 at 10h CET and close on at 13h CET.

17. The potential election for the position of Member for Europe would only take place after completion of Agenda Item 11 (Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons), in order to give effect to Rule V.1 providing that "*Not more than one delegate from any one country shall be a Member of the Executive Committee*". If there is only one nomination, the election could be decided by clear general consent (Rule VIII.5 of the Codex Rules of Procedure; GRO Rule XII.10 (a) refers). Elections by secret ballot would take place on Wednesday 23 November 2022 at 3pm CET if there is more than one nomination for the position.