



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA**

Twentieth session

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OTHER BUSINESS

**GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF CANDIDATURES FROM AFRICA
FOR POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY AT THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES
(Prepared by the Coordinator for the CCAFRICA)**

In view of the many difficulties noted for candidatures of African countries to the various positions of responsibility at the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), the Delegates of the member countries of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa asked its Coordinator to propose guidelines for the uptake of positions reserved for African countries at the CAC. The aim is achieve consensus within the CCAFRICA and to enable Africa to submit, for each position of responsibility, a single candidate who is fully qualified to discharge the responsibilities involved. The various positions concerned are:

1. Chair and Vice-Chair of the Codex Alimentarius Commission;
2. Coordinator of the CCAFRICA;
3. Elected Regional Representative on the Codex Executive Committee;
4. Two Advisors to the Elected Regional Representative on the CCEXEC.

Countries wishing to occupy a position of responsibility at the CAC must meet the following pre-conditions for all positions of responsibility:

- Have a National Codex Committee and/or Codex Contact Point established by government legislative instrument specifying the organization, composition and functioning of the structure in question;
- Have undertaken Codex-related activities for at least the previous three (03) years. Annual activity reports and a record of the country's participation in Codex international work will serve as elements of evaluation;
- Have participated during this period in at least 50% of the work of Codex technical committees, intergovernmental groups and electronic or physical working groups.

In addition to the above criteria, countries and/or candidates of those countries must meet the following specific conditions of eligibility, depending on the position involved:

1- Chair and Vice-Chair of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

Candidates for these positions will need to meet the following additional criteria:

- past membership or office in a position of responsibility within the Codex structure of their country;
- past office as Elected Regional Representative on the Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC), or past office as CCAFRICA Coordinator;
- an appropriate academic and professional profile;
- ability to communicate in at least one of the two main languages used in the CCAFRICA.

2- Coordinator of the CCAFRICA

Countries meeting the following conditions are eligible for this position.

In addition to the existence and functioning of a Codex structure as described above, the country must have occupied the position of Elected Regional Representative on the Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC).

3- Regional Representative on the Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC)

Countries meeting the following conditions are eligible for this position.

In addition to the existence and functioning of a Codex structure as described above, the country must have occupied the position of Advisor to the Elected Regional Representative on the CCEXEC.

4- Advisors to the Regional Representative on the CCEXEC

For this position, candidate countries must substantiate the existence of a National Codex Committee and/or Codex Contact Point as described above, and regularly participate in international activities of the Codex Alimentarius.

Members of the CCAFRICA should concentrate on consensus when designating their potential candidates for competitive positions. The serving Coordinator should actively facilitate the procedure.

When distributing positions, it is important to consider a balance between the different sub-regions of Africa and the three major languages of the CCAFRICA (English, French and Portuguese).

To be valid, a candidature must be supported by an administrative instrument issued by the competent authorities of the country seeking the nomination.