

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda item 9

GP/34 CRD03
Original Language Only

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Thirty-fourth Session

Lille, France

2–6 June 2025

PROPOSAL FOR CENTRALISED CODEX GLOSSARY

(Prepared by the United Kingdom)

Introduction

1. The UK invites CCGP34 to consider initiating work to consolidate the existing glossaries from across Codex Committees into a single, centralised glossary. This resource would enhance consistency, support broader understanding of Codex terminology, and strengthen engagement by Members, Observers, and external stakeholders.

Definition

2. The term glossary refers to a unified list of terms with definitions, designed to ensure clarity and support the coherent application of Codex standards and related texts.

Rationale

3. Enhanced Accessibility and Amplified Impact of Codex standards: The proposal directly supports **Strategic Goal 4 of the upcoming strategic plan: Maximize the impact of Codex by increasing the visibility and use of standards**. A consolidated glossary would make Codex terminology more accessible, reducing entry barriers for users and strengthening the use and recognition of Codex standards in national and international contexts.
4. Empowering New and Multidisciplinary delegates – Aligned with **Strategic Goal 2 of the upcoming strategic plan: Enhance Codex work management systems and practices that support the effective and efficient development of standards and related texts**. A centralised glossary would be a valuable resource for new delegates or those covering multiple fields or Codex committees, by helping them familiarise themselves with Codex terminology quickly and enabling more effective participation across all levels of Codex work. A centralised glossary could also support the Codex working groups as it could help pre-empt definitional inconsistencies and reduce duplication across committees.

Discussion

5. We welcome the views of CCGP34 on the merits of requesting the Codex Secretariat to compile existing glossaries into a centralised glossary of terms, and discussion as to whether it is best placed within the existing glossary section of the Procedural Manual or managed as a living information document with periodic updates.

Recommendation

6. Subject to the support of CCGP34, the Codex Secretariat be invited to explore options for compiling a centralised glossary of terms, drawing on existing committee glossaries, and report back for further discussion at CCGP35.