

# CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda item 6

GP34/CRD08

Original Language Only

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEx COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Thirty-fourth Session

Lille, France

2–6 June 2025

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WORK OF THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

(Comment of Indonesia, Kenya South Africa and Thailand)

#### Indonesia

Indonesia supports the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

#### Kenya

Kenya supports the proposed amendment to the *principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs)* in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The clarification introduced by inserting a new heading—“*Relations between international non-governmental organizations holding observer status with Codex*”—is both timely and necessary. It strengthens the integrity and transparency of Codex deliberations by ensuring that all INGOs, regardless of their affiliation with FAO or WHO, are subject to the same rules on representation. This is consistent with Kenya’s national food safety goals to promote fairness, reduce bias, and ensure equitable participation in global standard-setting processes.

Moreover, Kenya views this clarification as essential to maintaining the credibility of Codex outputs. Eliminating potential for double representation helps safeguard the scientific objectivity and consensus-based nature of Codex decisions, which are critical to guiding national regulatory frameworks and protecting consumer health.

#### South Africa

**SA Comments:** South Africa take note of the work done by the Codex Secretariat, in relation with the representation of INGO as observers in the work of codex

SA also note that Section VII of the PM is clear that the status of observers is conditional and require review by the Secretariat, but it is quiet when in come to the period of review. The review will enable the Codex Secretariat to ensure that there is no double representation and that the Observers are still relevant to the work of Codex

**Rationale:** The proposed Review is meant to reflect on the current work and participation of Observers in relation to Codex work

#### Thailand

Thailand agrees with the proposed amendment to the principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission by inserting a separate heading entitled “Relations between international non-governmental organizations holding observer status with Codex” above paragraph 24.