

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda items 4.1, 4.2 and 6

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Thirty-fourth Session

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COMMENTS OF IUFOST

The objective of this Conference Room Document (CRD) is to provide comments on behalf of the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFOST), an observer organization of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, on agenda items tabled at the 34th Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP34).

The International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFOST) represents the largest gathering of food science and technology scientists from around the world, made of over 300,000 scientists from more than 100 countries.

The International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFOST) recognizes the Codex Alimentarius Commission as the cornerstone of international food standards. As science and global food systems continue to evolve rapidly, IUFOST underscores the critical importance of ensuring consistency, transparency, and procedural robustness in Codex operations.

These values form the foundation for Codex to continue fulfilling its mandate of protecting consumer health and ensuring fair practices in the food trade.

Agenda item 4.1: Review of the Procedures in Section 3: Guidelines for Subsidiary Bodies

IUFOST supports the proposed changes to the document which uphold the objective of harmonization of terminology and remove inconsistencies.

IUFOST supports the efforts being made for the procedure to be clear in relation with the modalities of organization of meetings enabled by technology, such as virtual meetings.

IUFOST supports the clarity provided on the reservations or on the opposition not being recorded on behalf observers, considering their status as non-voting members.

Agenda item 4.2: Review of Inconsistencies in Language and Superseded Content (Excluding Section 3)

IUFOST supports all efforts aiming to remove inconsistencies related to the history of some Codex procedural texts and supports their update to reflect current practices and evolution in communication and information exchange tools and modalities.

Therefore, IUFOST supports the deletion of obsolete references and the adoption of wording that accounts for the rapid evolution of Information Technologies.

Agenda item 6: Proposed Amendment to the Principles Concerning the Participation of International NGOs in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

IUFoST supports the proposed addition of the new heading, as it helps clarify that the double representation rule applies equally to all Codex-accredited INGOs, regardless of their relationship with FAO or WHO, and encourage clear communication of this change to observer organizations.