

# CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 6.2

CX/EXEC 17/74/7

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**  
**Seventy-fourth Session**

**APPLICATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**  
**FOR OBSERVER STATUS IN CODEx<sup>1</sup>**  
**(Prepared by the Codex Secretariat)**

## BACKGROUND

1. CCEXEC72 examined the document on the Applications from International Non-Governmental Organizations for Observer Status in Codex<sup>2</sup> and requested additional information from two NGOs, namely Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Studies (C4CCES) and Global Harmonization Initiative (GHI). CCEXEC72 agreed to discuss these applications during CCEXEC73 based on any new information provided<sup>3</sup>.
2. The Codex Secretariat contacted C4CCES and GHI asking for further information on the following issues:
  - C4CCES concerning the criteria of internationality;
  - GHI regarding its membership
3. The additional information provided for these applications is available in EXEC/73 CRD01 (C4CCES); EXEC/73 CRD/02 (GHI)<sup>4</sup>.
4. The following applications for Observer Status were received since CCEXEC72 (the additional information referenced for the applications will be made available in CRDs at the session):

Annex	Name
Annex 1	ESSNA
Annex 2	IFAAO

5. The representative of the Legal Counsels of WHO will provide information at the session, on any further research that may be necessary concerning some of the applicants and any conditions to be included in case of acceptance e.g. for reason of double representation.
6. The Directors-General of FAO and WHO will decide whether the applicant organizations are to be granted observer status, taking into account all relevant information received from the applicant and the CCEXEC advice.

## RECOMMENDATION

7. CCEXEC is hereby invited, in accordance with Rule IX.6 of the Rules of Procedure and the Principles Concerning the Participation of International Non-Governmental Organizations in the Work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, to provide advice regarding the above applications for Observer Status from the International Non-Governmental Organizations neither having status with FAO nor official relations with WHO.

<sup>1</sup> This document was included in the agenda of CCEXEC 73 as document CX/EXEC 17/73/13

<sup>2</sup> CX/EXEC 16/72/5

<sup>3</sup> REP 17/EXEC1, para. 44

<sup>4</sup> The original applications, (Annex 2 and Annex 5 to CX/EXEC 16/71/11), will be made available during the session.

**ANNEX 1: ESSNA  
Original language only****(a) Official name of the organization in different languages (with initials)**

English: The European Specialist Sports Nutrition Alliance (ESSNA)

French: l'Alliance Européenne des Spécialistes de la Nutrition Sportive

**(b) Full postal address, Telephone, Facsimile and Email, as well as Telex and website addresses as appropriate**

Address:

The European Specialist Sports Nutrition Alliance

305 The Metal Box Factory

30 Great Guildford Street

London SE1 0HS

United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7463 0689

Email: samuel.blainey@essna.com

Website address: <http://www.essna.com/>

**(c) Aims and subject fields (mandate) of organization, and methods of operation. (Enclose charter, constitution, by-laws, rules of procedures, etc.). Date of establishment**

ESSNA's mission:

- To ensure the development of an appropriate and balanced regulatory framework for the marketing of sport nutrition products
- To inform Members of legislative developments and provide regulatory advice to ensure compliance
- To promote reputable sport nutrition brands in the media
- To address the issue of non-compliant products tarnishing the reputation of the sector
- To promote initiatives and campaigns to inform consumers of the benefits of regular physical activity, healthier diets and responsible use of sport nutrition products.
- To support continued independent scientific research into sport nutrition and into issues relating to quality and safety;

To achieve these goals, ESSNA cooperates actively with the European Institutions and Agencies, national governments, trade bodies, consumer organisations, leading scientists and the media to ensure the fulfilment of its missions. The Alliance was launched formally on 2nd December 2003.

**(d) Member organizations (name and address of each national affiliate, method of affiliation, giving number of members where possible, and names of principal officers. If the organization has individual members, please indicate approximate number in each country. If the organization is of a federal nature and has International Non-Governmental Organizations as members, please indicate whether any of those members already enjoy observer status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission).**

At the beginning of the 2017 financial year, ESSNA had a total of 47 members. Roughly half of these members are based in the United Kingdom, with membership also including organisations from the Netherlands, Switzerland, Italy Hungary, France, Belgium, Ireland, Canada, the United States of America, Sweden, Denmark and Malaysia. Membership is renewed annually and is based on fees paid by members.

ESSNA's decision-making body for day-to-day operation is made up of a Chair and four Vice-Chairs:

**Chair:**

Dr Adam Carey

**Vice-Chairs:**

Suzane Leser

Mark Gilbert

Claudia Mucciardi

Stuart Shotton

**(e) Structure (assembly or conference; council or other form of governing body; type of general secretariat; commissions on special topics, if any; etc.).**

Decision for ESSNA's day-to-day activities are taken by the Alliance's officers, who are elected on an annual basis. Decisions on annual strategy and budgetary issues are taken at Members' meetings, which take place four times per year. The Alliance's day-to-day operations and the implementation of its annual strategy are supported by a Secretariat based in London and provided by The Whitehouse Consultancy.

ESSNA currently has four working groups, which address specific topics relating to food policy and nutrition:

- Nutrition and Health Claims
- Protein Labelling
- Tackling Inadvertent Doping
- Amino Acids

Participation to working groups is open to all members. Additional working groups can be formed as and when necessary to examine additional issues.

**(f) Indication of source of funding (e.g. membership contributions, direct funding, external contributions, or grants).**

ESSNA's activities are funded by membership fees. Under exceptional circumstances, an additional contribution can be requested for ad hoc work.

**(g) Meetings (indicate frequency and average attendance; send report of previous meeting, including any resolutions passed) that are concerned with matters covering all or part of the Commission's field of activity.**

Decisions taken usually refer to ESSNA's strategy on a range of food policy issues. Members' meetings take place four times per year and are usually attended by a minimum of 30 members.

**(h) Relations with other international organizations: - UN and its organs (indicate consultative status or other relationship, if any).**

None

**Other international organizations (document substantive activities).**

ESSNA enjoys a good working relationship with the European Union (and specifically its executive arm, the European Commission). ESSNA is a stakeholder on matters relating to food and nutrition policy and is actively participating and contributing to stakeholder meetings, public consultations and other initiatives seeking feedback on policy formulation from interested parties.

**(i) Expected contribution to the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme.**

As the representative organisation for the European Sports Nutrition sector (but with membership extending beyond Europe), ESSNA is uniquely positioned to provide insights and information on a range of aspects of food and nutrition policy. The diverse background and expertise of our members covers the areas of food composition, labelling, food safety (e.g. safeguards to minimize risks of product contamination), nutrition for specific dietary needs and others.

ESSNA bridges the gap between policy and practice, bringing together a deep understanding of food technology, nutrition and policy issues, with the practical realities of food manufacturing and consumer behavior. It has thus the potential to provide extremely useful insights to the Joint FAO / WHO programme, potentially leading to better informed policy recommendations.

**(j) Past activities on behalf of, or in relation to, the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme (indicate any relationship by national affiliates with the Regional Coordinating Committees and/or the National Codex Contact Points or Committees for at least the last three years preceding the application).**

None.

**(k) Area of activity in which participation as an observer is requested (Commission and/or Subsidiary Bodies). If more than one organization with similar interests is requesting observer status in any field of activity, such organizations will be encouraged to form themselves into a federation or association for the purpose of participation. If the formation of such a single organization is not feasible, the application should explain why this is so.**

- Contaminants in Foods
- Food Additives
- Food Hygiene

- Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems
- Food Labelling
- Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses
- Coordinating Committee for Europe

**(l) Previous applications for observer status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission, including those made by a member organization of the applicant organization. If successful, please indicate why and when observer status was terminated. If unsuccessful, please indicate the reasons you were given.**

This is the first application ESSNA has submitted.

**(m) Languages (English, French or Spanish) in which documentation should be sent to the International Non-Governmental Organization.**

English.

**(n) Name, Function and address of the person providing the information.**

Elias Papadopoulos, Member of the ESSNA Secretariat  
The European Specialist Sports Nutrition Alliance  
305 The Metal Box Factory  
30 Great Guildford Street  
London SE1 0HS  
United Kingdom  
elias@whitehouseconsulting.co.uk

**(o) Signature and date.**

On behalf of the ESSNA Secretariat

Elias Papadopoulos

6th January 2017

**ANNEX 2: IFAAO**  
**Original language only**

**(a) Official name of the organization in different languages (with initials):**

International Food Authenticity Assurance Organization (IFAAO)

**(b) Full postal address, Telephone, Facsimile and Email, as well as Telex and website addresses as appropriate**

373 Park Avenue South

6th Floor

New York, New York

10016

Tel: 347-448-2790

Fax: 347-584-4315

E-Mail: info@ifaaoo.org

Website: www.ifaaoo.org

**(c) Aims and subject fields (mandate) of organization and methods of operation. (Enclose charter, constitution, by-laws, rules of procedures etc.). Date of establishment.**

IFAAO is a United States 501(c)(3) Delaware Non-Profit Organization that was established on January 24, 2014 with the objective of convening international expertise to support food authenticity assurance worldwide, share experiences in the management of food integrity and prevention of food fraud, and disseminate information to international stakeholders concerned with maintaining food authenticity assurance. IFAAO was also formed to engender trust in the food supply and assure food consumers worldwide that their food is authentic, safe, qualitative and nutritious.

IFAAO is an international organization that has assembled expertise from Canada, the United States, Ireland, Northern Ireland, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Switzerland, Turkey, Egypt, Lebanon, Hong Kong and China. IFAAO's team will continue to expand geographically with the addition of each new molecular profile to its standard.

**(d) Member organizations (name and address of each national affiliate, method of affiliation, giving number of members where possible, and names of principal officers. If the organization has individual members, please indicate the number in each country. If the organization is of a federal nature and has Non-Governmental Organizations as members, please indicate whether any of those members already enjoy observer status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission)**

IFAAO is comprised of individuals from different companies, associations and institutions, as well as those acting in their own personal capacity. IFAAO's 19 Members are as follows:

**CANADA – 4 Members**

Leticia Halchuk  
101-7760 Moffatt Road  
Richmond, British Columbia  
V6Y 1X8

Laval University  
Dr. Samuel Godefroy  
Pavillion Paul-Comtois  
2425, rue de l'Agriculture  
Local 1312  
Université Laval  
Québec, Québec  
G1V 0A6

McGill University  
Dr. Lawrence Goodridge  
Associate Professor  
Ian and Jayne Munro Chair in Food Safety  
Department of Food Science and Agricultural  
Chemistry

Macdonald Campus  
University, 21,111 Lakeshore  
Ste Anne de Bellevue, Quebec  
H9X 3V9

Shantalla Inc.  
John Keogh  
628 Fleet Street,  
Suite 1714  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5V 1A8

**EGYPT – 1 Member**

Cairo University  
Dr. Baghat Mustafa Edrise  
9 Algemya  
Oula  
Giza  
Giza Governorate

**FRANCE – 1 Member**

Groupe Danone  
Yves Rey  
17 Boulevard Haussmann  
Paris  
75009

**HONG KONG – 1 Member**

Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
Dr. Terence Lau  
Hung Hom  
Kowloon  
Hong Kong

**IRELAND – 1 Member**

Food Safety Authority of Ireland  
John Coady  
Abbey Court  
Lower Abbey Street  
Dublin 1

**SWITZERLAND – 1 Member**

The Consulting Group AG  
Marc Schaedeli  
Combette 30  
Morat 3280

**UNITED KINGDOM AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
– 2 Members**

Queens University Belfast  
Dr. Christopher Elliott  
University Road  
Belfast  
BT7 INN

Ellis and Associates Ltd  
Michael Ellis  
Craythorne House,  
Burnside Mews,  
East Sussex  
TN393LE

**UNITED STATES – 7 Members**

Mitchell Weinberg  
295 Grandview Avenue  
Suffern, New York  
10901

University of California – Davis Robert Mondavi  
Institute for Wine and Food Sciences  
Dr. Clare Hasler  
RMI Sensory  
392 Old Davis Road  
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95616

Lisa J Lupo  
5811 Canal Road  
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1717 K Street Northwest  
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Phoenix, Arizona  
85013

Malvin Riggins+ Company PC  
Brian Deibler CPA, CGMA  
725 City Center Boulevard, Suite 200  
Newport News, Virginia  
23606

**(e) Structure (assembly of conference; council or other governing body; type of general secretariat; commissions on special topics, if any; etc.).**

The organization consists of a Board of Directors, Advisory Board and Management Team. The Board of Directors, Management team and the Advisory Board. The Management Team is responsible for staffing the Board of Directors but otherwise, the Board of Directors, Management Team and Advisory Board are autonomous units.

**(f) Indication of source of funding (e.g. membership contributions, direct funding, external contributions or grants).**

Funding comes from membership contributions, direct funding, external contributions and grants.

**(g) Meetings (indicate frequency and average attendance; send report of previous meeting, including any resolutions passed) that are concerned with matters covering all or part of the Commission's field of activity.**

Annual General Meetings are held in January of each year. IFAAO's most recent Annual Meeting was held in Washington DC on January 25, 2017 at which time it was suggested and decided that IFAAO apply for Observer Status with Codex Alimentarius. All IFAAO meetings are in line with the Codex mandate. They cover aspects related to food authenticity, integrity and the prevention / management of food fraud. The IFAAO mandate and associated meetings cover various aspects of food safety, nutrition and quality.

**(h) Relations with other international organizations: - UN and its organs (indicate consultative status or any relationship, if any). – Other international organizations (document substantive activities)**

IFAAO does not currently have formalized relations with the UN or its organs or other international organizations.

**(i) Expected Contribution to the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme**

IFAAO will contribute to Codex discussions associated with:

1. Finding ways to define, protect and promote Food Integrity and Food Authenticity;
2. Facilitating discussions around the prevention and management of food fraud, food safety and food quality issues.

**(j) Past activities on behalf of or in relation to, the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the Joint WHO/FAO Food Standards Programme (indicate any relationship by national affiliates with the Regional Coordinating Committees and/or National Codex Contact Points or Committees for at least the last three years preceding the application.)**

No such activities or relationships.

**(k) Area of activity in which participation as an observer is requested (Commission and/or Subsidiary Bodies). If more than one organization with similar interests is requesting observer status in any field of activity, such organizations will be encouraged to form themselves into a federation or association for the purpose of participation. If the formation of such single organization is not feasible, the application should explain why this is so.**

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling

Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Certification Systems

Codex Committee on Food Labelling

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food

Codex Committee on Spices and Herbs

Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils

Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products

**(l) Previous applications for observer status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission, including those made by a member organizations of the applicant organization. If successful, please indicate why and when the observer status was terminated. If unsuccessful, please indicate the reasons you were given.**

This is IFAAO's first application for observer status.

**(m) Languages (English, French or Spanish) in which documentation should be sent to the International Non-Governmental Organization.**

All communications should be sent in English.

**(n) Name, Function and address of the person providing the information.**

Mitchell Weinberg B.A., BCL., LL.B  
 Chairman of the Board  
 International Food Authenticity Assurance Organization  
 373 Park Avenue South, 6th Floor  
 New York, New York  
 10016  
 1.347.448.2790

**(o) Signature and date.**



May 11, 2017