

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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**Agenda Item 10**

**CX/NE 25/12/12**

July 2025

## **JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE NEAR EAST**

**Twelfth Session**

**Muscat, Oman**

**28 September - 2 October 2025**

### **NOMINATION OF THE COORDINATOR FOR THE NEAR EAST**

1. The procedures governing the appointment of a Coordinator, as amended by the 30th Session of the Commission (2007) and approved by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, are laid down in Rule IV of the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.
2. The amended Rule IV reads as follows:
  - IV.1 The Commission may appoint a Coordinator from among the Members of the Commission for any of the geographic locations enumerated in Rule V.1 (hereinafter referred to as “regions”) or for any group of countries specifically enumerated by the Commission (hereinafter referred to as “groups of countries”), whenever it may find, on the basis of a proposal of a majority of the Members of the Commission which constitute the region or group, that work for the Codex Alimentarius in the countries concerned so requires.
  - IV.2 Appointment of Coordinators shall be made exclusively on the proposal of a majority of the Members of the Commission which constitute the region or group of countries concerned. In principle, they shall be nominated at each session of the relevant Coordinating Committee established under Rule XI.1(b)(ii) and appointed at the following regular session of the Commission. They shall hold office from the end of this session. Coordinators may be reappointed for a second term. The Commission shall make such arrangements as may be necessary in order to ensure continuity in the functions of the Coordinators.
  - IV.3 The functions of the Coordinators shall be:
    - (i) to appoint the Chairperson of the Coordinating Committee where such committee has been set up under Rule XI.1(b)(ii) for the region or group of countries concerned;
    - (ii) to assist and coordinate the work of the Codex Committees set up under Rules XI.1(b)(i) in their region or group of countries in the preparation of draft standards, guidelines and other recommendations for submission to the Commission.
    - (iii) to assist the Executive Committee and the Commission, as required, by advising them of the views of countries and recognized regional intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in their respective regions on matters under discussion or of interest.
3. In accordance with Rule V.1 of the Rules of Procedure, as amended by the 28th Session of the Commission (2005), the Coordinators serve as members in the Executive Committee, together with the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons as well as seven further members elected on a geographic basis. The geographic locations enumerated in Rule V.1 are as follows: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East, North America and the South-West Pacific. The same Rule provides that no more than one delegate from any country shall be a member of the Executive Committee<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> This means that the Coordinators, during their appointment, cannot serve as members elected on a geographic basis.

4. At the time of writing, 17 Member countries of the Codex Alimentarius Commission belong to the Region of Near East:

|                            |                |                       |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Algeria                    | Kuwait         | Sudan                 |
| Bahrain                    | Lebanon        | Syrian Arab Republic  |
| Egypt                      | Oman           | Tunisia               |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | Qatar          | United Araba Emirates |
| Iraq                       | Saudi Arabia   | Yemen                 |
| Jordan                     | State of Libya |                       |

5. CAC46 (2023) re-appointed Saudi Arabia as Coordinator for Near East<sup>2</sup> for their second term. However, at CAC47 (2024), Saudi Arabia stepped down from the position of Coordinator for Near East, following the election of Mr Khalid Al Zahrani as Vice-Chairperson of CAC<sup>3</sup>.

6. Subsequently, CAC47 (2024) appointed Oman to serve as Coordinator for Near East, following nomination by the Members of the region<sup>4</sup>.

7. The Committee **is invited to nominate** a Coordinator for Near East (one of the Members on the list above) for appointment by the 48th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC48, 2025).

8. A full list of Coordinators for Near East since the establishment of CCNE is given in the table below.

#### Coordinators for Near East

| Coordinator               | Year of appointment | CAC Session | Duration appointment                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Egypt                     | 1999                | CAC23       | From end of CAC23 to end of CAC24              |
| Egypt                     | 2001                | CAC24       | From end of CAC24 to end of CAC26              |
| Jordan                    | 2003                | CAC26       | From end of CAC26 to end of CAC28              |
| Jordan                    | 2005                | CAC28       | From end of CAC28 to end of CAC30              |
| Tunisia                   | 2007                | CAC30       | From end of CAC30 to end of CAC32              |
| Tunisia                   | 2009                | CAC32       | From end of CAC32 to end of CAC34              |
| Lebanon                   | 2011                | CAC34       | From end of CAC34 to end of CAC36              |
| Lebanon                   | 2013                | CAC36       | From end of CAC36 to end of CAC38              |
| Iran, Islamic Republic of | 2015                | CAC38       | From end of CAC38 to end of CAC40              |
| Iran, Islamic Republic of | 2017                | CAC40       | From end of CAC40 to end of CAC43 <sup>5</sup> |
| Saudi Arabia              | 2020                | CAC43       | From end of CAC43 to end of CAC46 <sup>6</sup> |
| Oman                      | 2024                | CAC47       | From end of CAC47 to end of CAC48              |

<sup>2</sup> REP23/CAC, paragraph 224

<sup>3</sup> REP24/CAC, paragraph 239

<sup>4</sup> REP24/CAC, paragraph 246

<sup>5</sup> For a total of three years, due to the postponement of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees Meetings in 2018.

<sup>6</sup> For a total of three years, due to the delays in scheduling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.