

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 3

CX/EXEC 20/79/3

July 2020

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Seventy-ninth Session

13-20 July 2020

APPLICATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR OBSERVER STATUS IN CODEX

(Prepared by the Codex Secretariat in collaboration with FAO and WHO)

1. The Executive Committee 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 applications for Observer Status from the International Non-Governmental Organizations neither having status with FAO nor official relations with WHO, as included in the Annexes.
2. The representatives of the Legal Counsel of FAO 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.
3. 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 advice of the Executive Committee.
4. This document contains the following applications:

Annex	Name
Annex 1	GFI
Annex 2	SGF International e. V.

5. CCEXEC77 recommended the Directors-General of FAO and WHO to grant the Natural Products Association (NPA)¹ with observer status, pending their acceptance of the following conditions to avoid double representation:

- At meetings where the International Alliance of Dietary/Food Supplement Associations (IADSA) is represented, NPA can only participate as part of the delegation of IADSA and cannot speak as NPA. NPA can submit written comments only on those issues for which IADSA does not submit any comments. NPA would only participate as such in Codex meetings when IADSA is not represented.

6. Following the communication from the Codex Secretariat, NPA further clarified that the organization was no longer a member of IADSA.

7. The Legal Counsels of FAO and WHO, considering the new information provided by NPA, noting that the conditions to avoid double representation at Codex meetings were no longer required, recommended to cease applying the conditions established by CCEXEC77.

8. CCEXEC79 is invited to note this recommendation.

¹ REP19/EXEC2, para 92 ii

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

The Good Food Institute (GFI)

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

The Good Food Institute (GFI)
2503 D. N Harrison St. #19
Arlington, VA 22207
United States
Telephone (GFI General line) : +1 866-849-4457
Email: brucef@gfi.org
Website address: <https://www.gfi.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

Date of establishment: 2016

Aims: The Good Food Institute is an international non-profit organization based in the United States with affiliates in Brazil, India, Asia-Pacific, Israel, and Europe that aims to build a sustainable, healthy, safe, and just food system by advancing the markets for plant based and cultivated meat. We believe that changing the way that meat is produced can address global problems related to human health, animal welfare, environmental degradation, and global poverty.

To advance this industry, we build collaborative relationships with the largest chain restaurants, grocery stores, and food services to maximize the availability, quality, quantity, and promotion of plant based meat. We also work with foundations, corporations, investors, and governments to encourage more investment and innovation in plant based and cultivated meat.

We analyze the state of the industry, identify top research opportunities, engage scientists and engineers from academia and industry, and mobilize funding to accelerate the industry. We also facilitate the founding of new companies and connect them to expertise and funding.

Finally, we work to secure research and development funding for alternative proteins from state and national governments. We also work closely with government officials and regulators to ensure a clear and efficient path to market for cultivated meat and ensure that plant based meat can compete on a level playing field with conventional meat.

(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).

Neither GFI, nor any of the independent international affiliate organizations enjoy observer status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Name: The Good Food Institute (GFI)
Principal officer: Bruce Friedrich
Number of members: 60
Address: 1380 Monroe Street, NW #229
Washington, DC 20010 USA

Name: GFI Europe
Principal officer: Richard Parr
Number of members: 4
Address: Drève du Pressoir 38, 1190, Forest, Belgium

Name: GFI Israel
 Principal officer: Nir Goldstein
 Number of members: 5
 Address: Brigg Street 4, Tel Aviv, Israel

Name: GFI APAC
 Principal officer: Elaine Siu
 Address: Room 503-9, Yu To San Building, 37 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong
 Number of members: 4

Name: GFI India
 Principal officer: Varun Deshpande
 Address: [Registered as Alternative Protein Solutions Private Limited] 505, 5th Floor, 123 Om Chambers, August Kranti Marg, Kemp's Corner, Mumbai 400036
 Number of members: 9

Name: GFI Brazil (Associação The Good Food Institute do Brasil)
 Principal officer: Gustavo Guadagnini
 Address: Av Paulista 807, 23º andar, conjunto 2315 – Bela Vista- CEP 01311-100 - São Paulo/SP
 Number of members: 9

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

GFI United States Teams: Policy, Science and Technology, Corporate Engagement. (see Bylaws)

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

GFI is funded entirely by private philanthropy. Supporters include individuals, who range from one-time donors to regular monthly donors, and grant making organizations focused on funding particular humanitarian and policy efforts, such as global health and development and land use reform.

[GFI Year in Review 2019.](#)

(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.

Global policy staff members meet every six weeks by teleconference to discuss ongoing policy work related to alternative protein policy in our six regions.

(h) Relations with other international organizations:

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

None.

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

Alternative protein is drawing the attention of scientists, corporations, investors and regulatory officials worldwide. Consumer demand for and acceptance of alternative protein products is expanding globally, through increased sales, government investment in research, and a growing number of companies entering the space.

Creating plant based alternatives to conventional animal products typically starts with crops possessing high protein content, such as soy, pulses, and other grains. Through careful selection of the ingredients and control over the formulation and manufacturing processes, foods with the familiar taste and texture of conventional animal foods can be made. Cultivated meat is produced through a novel application of tissue engineering technology to food. Cultivating meat requires a small sample of animal tissue to grow many pounds of meat in a bioreactor, similar to growing a plant from a cutting in a greenhouse. In the span of four to eight weeks,

depending on the type of meat being produced, animal meat can be produced without the need to grow and slaughter animals. Alternatively, microorganisms such as algae, fungi, and bacteria can be cultivated as protein sources. These microorganisms can also produce proteins and molecules – including recombinantly-expressed animal proteins – that can be isolated and purified for use as ingredients.

For plant based food, the current regulatory framework was designed for older generations of products. Important regulatory issues remain unaddressed, including those related to labeling and novel ingredients. For cultivated protein, regulations simply do not yet exist. Several countries are engaged in developing their own regulations, but all are at the very beginning of this process. GFI is actively involved with these initiatives in the USA, Canada, the European Union, Singapore, China, Japan, India, Brazil, Israel, Australia and New Zealand. In order to promote uniform standards and to create a global, pro-investment regulatory framework, the Codex Alimentarius Commission's leadership is essential.

Alternative proteins will play an important role in helping to sustainably nourish the world's burgeoning population. Every region of the world stands to benefit. India, with its large, biodiverse agricultural sector, thriving biopharmaceutical industry, and talented, affordable workforce, is well-placed to be a linchpin of innovation in the alternative protein sector. Moreover, India is projected to be the world's most populous country within a decade. Without robust food system innovations, India faces the prospect of greatly increased hunger and malnutrition. In building the alternative proteins sector from the ground up, India has the opportunity to lead the way in plant based, cultivated, and fermentation-based innovation globally, while increasing the availability of inexpensive, healthy alternative sources of protein for its growing population.

In addition, China, as the most populous country in the world, is projected to be responsible for 27% of global meat consumption by 2026. A safer, healthier, and more sustainable alternative to meat could substantially mitigate the environmental and health effects of this projected growth in meat demand, while providing valuable new profit lines for the legacy meat and fish industries. China spends billions of dollars annually on agricultural research, wants to be a leader on climate change, and has many world-class scientific institutions. Hong Kong is one of the major financial centers in the Asia Pacific region and is still the first-choice launchpad for global investors and corporations seeking to become active in this region. Singapore seeks to be a world leader in alternative protein development, supported by its funding for public alt protein research, aggressive policy development, and a vibrant startup and research and development landscape. Notably, Singapore is able to influence Southeast Asian markets, including Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand, because products routinely flow from Singapore into these markets.

Europe also presents enormous opportunities to advance the alternative proteins industry. It has a population more than twice that of the U.S., a GDP approximately equal to it, is home to much of the world's scientific and commercial talent, and is one of the biggest potential markets for alternative proteins. Moreover, Europe influences the world through trade, migration, diaspora communities, and thought leadership.

The Near East region has demonstrated its commitment to technological innovation. The United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, and Egypt are all leading the way in sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels. Moreover, with the region's food security challenges (90% of food consumed in the Gulf is imported), alternative proteins can be an important intervention to increase production efficiency without increased water and land use, reducing dependence on imports, and fueling robust domestic economic growth.

The burgeoning alternative protein industry also represents an opportunity to improve livelihoods and nutrition in sub-Saharan Africa. Africa's population is projected to double from 1.2 billion in 2016 to 2.5 billion in 2050. Without substantial food system innovations, Africa faces the prospect of greatly increased hunger and malnutrition over the next decades. By diversifying into high protein crops, African countries could substantially increase protein availability and nutrition across their populations. Moreover, participation in the growing alternative protein industry, through ingredients and finished products, could fuel robust economic growth across the subcontinent.

North American countries have already displayed impressive leadership in this area. The United States is home to a vast number of plant based and cultivated meat companies and has seen consistent and accelerating year on year growth of the sector, while the Canadian government is investing more than US\$150 million in an effort to secure Canadian leadership in the plant protein sphere.

In the South West Pacific, Australia and New Zealand's ripe local consumer markets, strong industry infrastructure, world class research capabilities, and \$100 billion food and beverage sector make that region a key location for the expansion of the alternative protein industry.

Latin America and Caribbean countries could boost current natural competitive advantages in this new market. The region can combine its strong agricultural and biotech expertise with its enormous crop production capacity to begin manufacturing high value-added ingredients and final products, both for the domestic market and for export. For countries in the region with large animal agriculture sectors, alternative proteins should be considered as an opportunity instead of a threat. The region could lead the way in developing the food of the future, cultivating the meat of terrestrial and marine animals using cellular multiplication in bioreactors.

As an observer, GFI would have the opportunity to contribute to the conversation about food safety standards for alternative protein products and ingredients. The following are some of the areas in which we could collaborate:

- The GFI Corporate Engagement team could share research, analysis and intelligence on the market for alternative proteins products, including market whitespaces and industry trends, from startups to large companies;
- The GFI SciTech team could share technical information on alternative protein processes, products, ingredients, and trends, including those involving whitespaces;
- The GFI SciTech team could share data from our Research Landscape Mapping (currently in progress), identifying groups and labs involved in alternative protein research;
- The GFI Policy team could share insights on the alternative protein regulatory work currently under way in the U.S. and in individual countries around the world.

(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).

On May 12 GFI sent Letters for the six Regional Coordinating Committees (CCASIA, CCEURO, CCNE, CCAFRICA, CCNASWP and CCLAC), introducing our organization, highlighting the regional competitive opportunities in the alternative protein market and asking for support in the current application. As of June 5, CCLAC, CCEURO, and CCNE have already sent positive responses to the Letter.

(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.

1. Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC , hosted in FAO [Rome] and WHO [Geneva]).
2. Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL , hosted in Canada).
3. Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL, hosted in US).

(for reference, see the list of Active Codex Committees).

(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.

No previous applications have been made.

(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.

Stephanie von Stein, Associate Director, International Engagement.

Oversees the day-to-day operations of all GFI international affiliates.

Email address: Stephaniev@gfi.org

(o) Signature and date.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Friedrich". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bruce Friedrich

June 11, 2020

ANNEX 2: SGF
Original language only**(a) Official name of the organization in different languages (with initials)**

SGF International e.V. (SGF)

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

SGF International e.V.
Am Hahnenbusch 14b
55268 Nieder-Olm
Germany
www.sgf.org
Phone +49 6136 9228 0
EU Transparency Register No. 289634819603-57

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

Founded in 1974, SGF International e.V. is seen as a pioneer for industrial self-control in the fruit juice industry. It serves as role model for other parts of the food industry. We are a registered association at Frankfurt/Germany district court. As a non-profit organization, SGF is carried and financed by member companies of the branch from nearly 60 countries worldwide. We see ourselves as a partner of the industry in all matters of safety and quality of fruit juices.

Our members stand for fair and free competition on the basis of authentic, safe and sustainable products leading to improved consumer protection. Therefore, we monitor worldwide business for juice, nectars and other products made from fruit and vegetables, throughout the whole supply chain by a voluntary systematic approach. This is done by auditing member companies, running of market surveys, product analyses and their evaluation. We require corrective actions to fulfill our statutory task. By this we protect the industry from unjustified attacks.

(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).

SGF has ordinary members (bottler and fruit/vegetable-processing companies [B2B]), extraordinary members (broker, transport companies, warehouses and tank cleaning stations) and supporting members. Details are mentioned in *Enclosure 1* (Statutes). Our member structure by country may be summarized as:

- Africa: 32
- Asia: 91
- Europe: 241
- North and Middle America: 37
- South America: 79

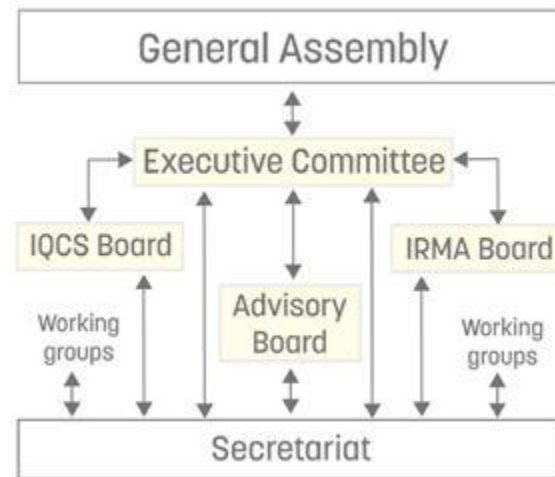
(e) Structure (assembly or conference; council or other form of governing body; type of general secretariat; commissions on special topics, if any etc).

The General Assembly is the association's highest organ. It is made up of the members and convened and held by the President of SGF. Any properly convened General Assembly, which normally takes place once a year, constitutes a quorum regardless of the number of members present.

The Board of Directors consists of three bodies: The Executive Committee, the IQCS Board and the IRMA Board. The members of the Executive Committee, the Boards and the other bodies entrusted with certain tasks by the Executive Committee or the General Assembly shall promote the objectives of the association to the best of their ability, carry out their obligations impartially and refrain from making any illicit use of the

business and trade secrets and all information regarding third-party companies coming to their knowledge while performing their activities.

The main departments cover the IRMA (fruit processors, broker, transport companies, tank cleaning stations) and IQCS (consumer products) controls, together with the department for research, development of new control procedures and special controls. The Secretariat is responsible for implementation of decisions taken by the General Assembly, Executive Committee and IRMA or IQCS Board as part of the daily work of the association.



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

Membership contributions as described in [Membership Fee Regulations](#)

(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.

- Yearly General Assembly; Minutes 2018 on request
- Meetings of the Executive Committee, IRMA Board, IQCS Board and Working Groups

(h) Relations with other international organizations:

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

Not applicable – no relations.

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

Working in the field of fruit and vegetable juice authentication we see our role as independent experts especially in the topic of fruit fraud. The objective of our mandate is to assure a fair, safe and sustainable market for the production chain from the first production step in which fruits and vegetables are processed until the distribution to the final customer.

(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).

Not applicable – no relations to CODEX

(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.

CCFICS Electronic Working Group (EWG) on Food Fraud

- (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.**

No further applications

- (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.**

SGF International e.V.
Att. Markus Jungen (Technical Manager)
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55268 Nieder-Olm
Germany
markus@sgf.org
Phone +49 6136 9228 26

- (o) Signature and date.**


Markus Jungen
Technical Manager