

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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World Health
Organization

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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FAO/WHO SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO CODEx: REPORT ON ACTIVITIES BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

(Prepared by FAO and WHO)

PART II: FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MATTERS

PART III: FAO/WHO Joint costed plan for JMPR 2026-2028: needs and gaps

PART II: FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MATTERS

1. The budget requirements presented here are based on the requests for scientific advice from several Codex subsidiary bodies. This section provides a summary of cost for the provision of scientific advice to Codex in 2024-2025 by FAO and WHO based on budgeted expenditures. The final information on 2026-2027 expenditure will become available in early 2028.

WHO budget

2. In the WHO, most of the funds for the activity and staff costs related to providing scientific advice in food safety and nutrition are provided through specified contributions from Member States and other donors. Part of the staff costs are covered through assessed and unspecified voluntary contributions. Within the WHO's Department of Nutrition and Food Safety, the Standard and Scientific Unit provides scientific advice on food safety and nutrition to Codex.
3. For the biennium 2024-25, the costs for activities and staff focused on scientific advice in food safety and nutrition amounted to USD 6.5 million. In addition to the voluntary contributions, the activities of the WHO scientific advice program mainly depend on extra-budgetary resources. During the biennium 2024-2025, this cost was covered with grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, European Union, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture of Germany, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, Nanyang Technological University of Singapore, Public Health Agency of Canada, Resolve to Save Lives, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the United States Food and Drug Administration.
4. In 2025, there was a notable decline in donor contributions for scientific advice activities. This decline is due in part to the United States of America's decision to withdraw from the WHO, and in part to other donors not renewing their commitments. The reduced contribution affected several meetings planned for 2025, resulting in their postponement or shortening. The collaboration between the WHO and the FAO remains critical in reducing the negative impact on the scientific advice program.
5. For 2026-2027, the total cost for activities and staff working on scientific advice is USD 4.3 million. Staff costs allocated to scientific advice are USD 3.5 million, including flexible funds (25%) and voluntary contribution (75%). Regarding the activities, the budget available for the WHO scientific advice activities is USD 0.8 million. However, at the WHO, there is still a gap of USD 0.6 million for this biennium to cover scientific advice activities, particularly for JMPR. The donors that are contributing to the scientific advice activities in the biennium 2026-2027 are Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the European Union, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, Nanyang Technological University of Singapore, Public Health Agency of Canada, and Resolve to Save Lives.

FAO budget

6. In FAO, funds to support the activities and staff costs related to the provision of scientific advice to Codex are budgeted in FAO's regular Programme of Work and Budget and through extra-budgetary resources. Food Safety Scientific Advice to Codex is supported by a number of units within FAO including the Divisions of

Agrifood Systems and Food Safety, Plant Production and Protection, Fisheries and Aquaculture. Scientific advice on nutrition, when requested, is provided by the Division of Food and Nutrition.

7. For the 2024-25 biennium, activity and staff costs for scientific advice to Codex amounted to USD 5.7 million in food safety and USD 0.35 million in nutrition.
8. In the 2024-25 biennium, 100% of staff costs and 70% of the costs of activities actually implemented, amounting to USD 4.9 million, were supported by FAO's Regular Programme Budget, including the USD 1 million increase in the PWB 2020-21 (CL 163/3 para 30 and CL 164/3 para 59) for scientific advice and standard setting. This reflects the complete utilization of the resources budgeted for this purpose under the Regular Programme in 2024-25¹.
9. Further to the recommendation of the 179th FAO Council² an additional amount of USD 0.33 million, to be utilized in line with the conclusions of the 48th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission³, has been equitably distributed among the FAO/WHO scientific bodies to Codex Alimentarius to increase the output of JECFA, JEMRA, JMPR and JEMNU. Accordingly, for the biennium 2026-27, USD 5.4 million are budgeted for activity and staff costs related to scientific advice to Codex, including USD 5.1 million in food safety (staff costs: USD 2 194 000 and activity costs: USD 2 892 000) and USD 0.35 million in nutrition (staff costs: USD 268 000 and activity costs: USD 82 000). In the 2026-27 biennium, approximately 90 percent of the budget, amounting to USD 4.9 million, represent allocations from FAO's Regular Programme budget. The remaining 10 percent is funded from extra-budgetary contributions from Ireland, Canada, the United States of America and Australia. Additional extra-budgetary resources are anticipated in the current biennium.
10. The recognition of key scientific advice meetings and consultations that support the standard setting work of Codex (such as JECFA, JEMRA, JMPR and JEMNU) as Corporate Technical Activities in FAO's Programme of Work and Budget has ensured budgetary security for non-staff activities in the current biennium and is gratefully acknowledged.
11. Despite the decline in extra-budgetary resources, FAO remains committed to identifying and pursuing avenues that will ensure the joint work continue to meet the needs and requests of its Members.

Conclusion

12. As indicated above, the way in which the provision of scientific advice is currently funded is different between WHO (heavily dependent on voluntary contributions) and FAO (mainly covered by assessed contributions).
13. Overall, the contribution of FAO and WHO to the provision of scientific advice equals to approximately USD 9.7 million for the biennium 2026-27. To ensure the ability of the joint scientific advice programme to be able to deliver at the current rate, it will be of paramount importance to ensure this level of stable and predictable funding continue to be made available to both organizations.

¹ [CAC/47 INF/2 paragraph 38](#)

² [CL 179/REP paragraph 9 g\)](#)

³ [REP25/CAC paragraph 161](#)

Part III: FAO/WHO Joint costed plan for JMPR 2026-2028: needs and gaps

Background

1. The Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) is an expert ad hoc body administered jointly by FAO and WHO to harmonize requirements and risk assessments for pesticide residues. The JMPR has met annually since 1963 to conduct scientific evaluations of pesticide residues in food, review residues and analytical aspects of pesticides, estimate maximum residue levels (MRLs), review toxicological data, and establish health-based guidance values (HBGV) such as Acceptable Daily Intakes (ADIs) and Acute Reference Doses (ARfDs) for pesticide residues under consideration.
2. The JMPR consists of recognized experts from different regions of the world, who serve in a strict personal capacity, independent of their governments or institutions. The output of JMPR constitutes the essential basis for Codex MRLs for food and agricultural commodities in international trade, while also providing Reports and Monographs that benefit the governments of member countries and regions.
3. FAO and WHO place great importance on the scientific advice for Codex. In FAO, JMPR relies on the regular budget program to ensure its independence, integrity and continuity. At WHO, scientific advice is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions, and reductions in contributions from some donors have significantly impacted the budget for these activities. Although WHO cooperates closely with FAO and shares financial and human resources as much as possible, sustaining this function at WHO is essential to ensuring the sustainability, continuity, quality, and global relevance of JMPR's scientific work.
4. This document presents a costed plan for FAO and WHO support to JMPR and related activities over 2026–2028, outlining the principal cost elements, the current funding position, and the remaining funding gap to facilitate transparency and discussion by Member States.

2. Overview of the workplan

5. The work over 2026–2028 is organized as a multi-year sequence of interconnected activities, including calls for data, annual JMPR-related milestones, publication-related milestones, and relevant Codex meetings. Alongside these activities, several supporting functions are essential to ensure the program's sustainability. Ad hoc meetings and expert consultations may be convened as needed to address emerging scientific challenges, resolve methodological questions, and ensure consistency in evaluation practices. Guidance documents, covering toxicological evaluation, residue assessment, and dietary risk assessment, are also periodically reviewed and updated. Finally, the Secretariats are responsible for recruiting new experts and organizing training workshops for new evaluators and monographers following each call for experts and subsequent roster updates.
6. The current workplan reflects all the planned activities, with tentative meeting locations (e.g., JMPR 2026 in Rome, JMPR 2027 in Geneva), and covers WHO and FAO support across JMPR-related activities (JMPR and ad hoc meetings, and workshops), summary reports, reports and monographs, CCPR-related travel for the JMPR Secretariat, and JMPR Secretariat support (staff and consultants).

3. Summary of estimated costs and timeline

7. The image below shows the timeline for the JMPR Secretariat work from 2026 until 2028. Similar schedules for JMPR are expected for the following years.

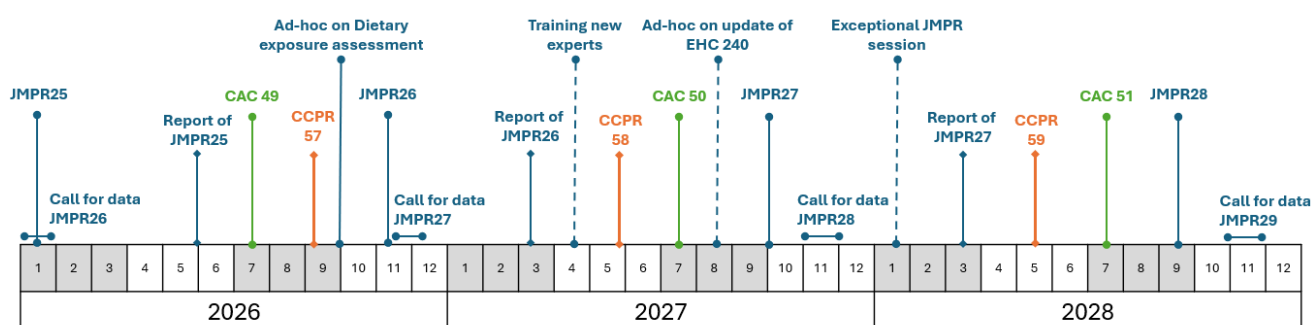


Figure 1: JMPR Workflow timeline for 2026, 2027 and 2028 cycles (activities with dotted lines not yet confirmed)

To fulfill the activities above, the estimated costs and gaps are presented in table 1.

Table1.

Year	Activities	Estimated WHO cost (USD)	Funding gap WHO (USD)	Estimated FAO (USD)	Funding gap FAO (USD)
2026	JMPR 2026	147,551.77	-	237,500.00	-
	CCPR57 2026	16,000.00	-	8,000.00	-
	JMPR Secretariat	147,527.50	59,600.00	160,000.00	-
	Ad Hoc meeting on dietary exposure assessment	-	-	76,000.00	-
Total 2026		311,079.27	59,600.00	481,500.00	0.00
2027	JMPR 2027	234,891.00	228,891.00	259,000.00	-
	CCPR58 2027	18,000.00	18,000.00	8,000.00	-
	JMPR Secretariat	150,000.00	150,000.00	160,000.00	-
	Ad hoc meeting to update EHC240/NAMs (within JMPR and JECFA scope)	68,800.00	-	-	-
	In-person expert training for new JMPR experts	65,000.00	65,000.00	-	-
Total 2027		536,691.00	461,891.00	427,000.00	0.00
2028	JMPR 2028	262,600.00	262,600.00	294,000.00	-
	Extra JMPR 2028	-	-	300,000.00	300,000.00
	CCPR59 2028	20,000.00	20,000.00	8,000.00	-
	JMPR Secretariat	153,000.00	153,000.00	160,000.00	-
Total 2028		435,600.00	435,600.00	762,000.00	300,000.00
Total (2026-2028)		1,283,370.27	957,091.00	1,670,500.00	300,000.00

Current funding picture

8. While some elements of the plan are covered, several components remain partially funded or unfunded. The largest funding gaps are shown under the WHO, including the staff and consultant for 2026-2028 in the JMPR Secretariat (USD 362,600), and for activities planned for 2027 (USD 461,891) and 2028 (USD 435,600). JMPR is the least funded activity in the scientific advice area within WHO. For FAO, the only gap is an additional JMPR meeting fully covered to address the backlog (USD 300,000.00), with no other gaps anticipated.

Conclusion

9. The costed plan shows a structured sequence of annual JMPR-related milestones and linked Codex milestones over 2026-2028, together with the estimated WHO support requirements for the period. The total estimated WHO cost is USD 1,283,370.27, of which USD 957,091.00 remains to be financed in the period 2026-2028. The total estimated cost for FAO is USD 1,670,500, of which USD 300,000 remains to be financed.
10. Members are invited to take note of the joint costed plan for FAO and WHO, and to address the current funding position and the remaining funding gap through voluntary contributions and resource mobilization to ensure its continuity within 2026-2028 JMPR activities.