

Overview of CCGP34

2025/06/02 – 2025/06/06

Lille, France

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the 2025 Asia Codex and Food Regulatory Forum

2025/08/18-2025/08/20

1. Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)

Terms of reference

To deal with such procedural and general matters as are referred to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, including:

- the review or endorsement of procedural provisions/texts forwarded by other subsidiary bodies for inclusion in the *Codex Procedural Manual* of the Codex Alimentarius Commission; and
- the consideration and recommendation of other amendments to the *Codex Procedural Manual*

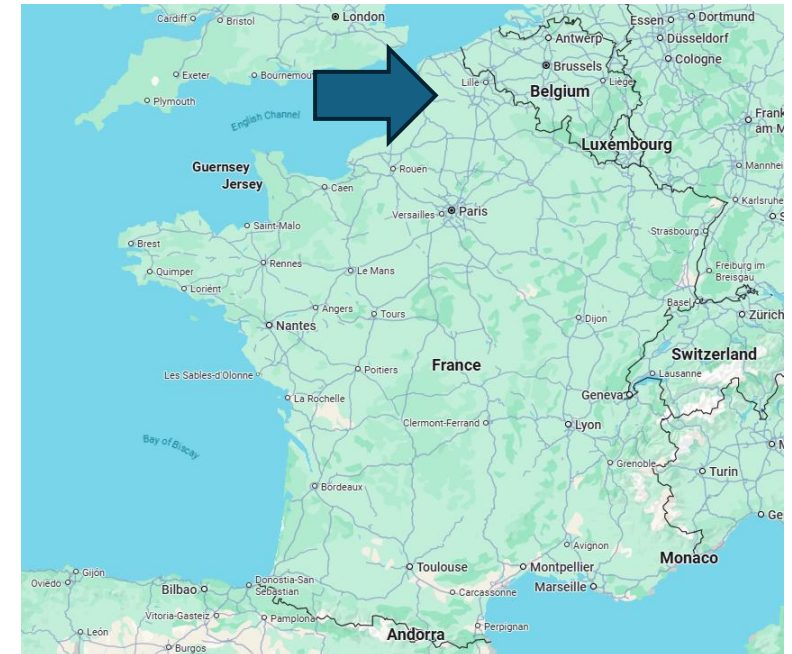
Host

France

CCGP34

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2. Key Agenda Items

Changes to the *Codex Procedural Manual*:

- ◆ Review of the procedures in Section 3: Guidelines for subsidiary bodies (**agenda item 4.1**)
- ◆ Review of inconsistencies in language and superseded content, apart from Section 3 (**agenda item 4.2**)
- ◆ Update to the Guide to the procedure for the amendment and revision of Codex standards and related texts (**agenda item 5**)
- ◆ Amendment to the Principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations (**agenda item 6**)
- ◆ Review of the application of the Criteria and procedural guidelines for Codex committees and ad hoc intergovernmental task forces working by correspondence (**agenda item 8**)

Other issues:

- ◆ Review of the potential use of existing provisions to promote more resource-efficient practices in the review of new-work proposals which do not fall within the remit of an active Codex committee(**agenda item 7**)
- ◆ Proposal for Centralised Codex Glossary(**agenda item 9**)
- ◆ Proposal for “reservation” in Codex proceedings(**agenda item 9**)



3. Key Discussions and Conclusion (agenda item 4.1)

Changes to the *Codex Procedural Manual*.

◆ Review of the procedures in Section 3: Guidelines for subsidiary bodies

(agenda item 4.1)

- CCGP34 discussed this agenda based on GP34/CRD18 which was prepared by the United States and France.
- CCGP34 agreed to forward the proposed changes to Sections 3.1-3.3 to CAC48 for adoption.

Regarding Virtual meeting modalities,

- CCGP34 recommended that CAC48 further consider the need for clarity and transparency on the interpretation of current procedures and practices while recognizing the complexities and challenges of revising and interpreting the *Codex Procedural Manual*.
- CCGP34 noted the willingness of Uruguay together with Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Senegal and the United States of America to prepare a discussion paper on virtual meetings for further consideration by CAC.

Regarding Sections 3.5 and 3.6,

- CCGP34 agreed to continue their review through an EWG.



3. Key Discussions and Conclusion (agenda item 4.2)

Changes to the *Codex Procedural Manual*:

- ◆ Review of inconsistencies in language and superseded content, apart from Section 3 (agenda item 4.2)
 - CCGP34 discussed this item based on working document which was prepared by the Codex Secretariat.
 - CCGP34 agreed to forward the proposed changes to Sections 2.1, 2.11, 6.1 and 7.2, of the *Codex Procedural Manual* to CAC48 for adoption.
 - New Zealand with the support of the United States of America would prepare a discussion paper to address whether the references to the International Dairy Federation (IDF) in the Step 2 of the uniform procedure for the elaboration of Codex standards and related texts are still relevant.
 - CCGP 34 agreed to forward the comments from CL 2024/27-GP related to Section 4.8 “Risk analysis principles applied by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues” to CCPR for their consideration.



3. Key Discussions and Conclusion (agenda item 5)

Changes to the *Codex Procedural Manual*:

- ◆ Update to the Guide to the procedure for the amendment and revision of Codex standards and related texts (**agenda item 5**)
 - CCGP34 considered the working document prepared by the Codex Secretariat based on the discussion already held at CCGP33.
 - CCGP34 agreed to forward to CAC48 for adoption the proposed amendments to paragraph 8, paragraph 12 and Part 7 of Section 2.1 Procedures for the elaboration of Codex standards and related texts.
 - Examples of correction, amendment, and revision were presented as follows:
 - ▣ Correction
The value for fatty acid C16:1 for pistachio oil in the *Standard for named vegetable oils (CXS 210- 1999)* had been corrected to ND –2.0 from of ND –0.2 in 2023.
 - ▣ Amendment
Four simultaneous amendments were made to the *Standard for canned sardines and sardine-type products (CXS 94-1981)* in 2024.
 - ▣ Revision
Revision which were made to the *Standard for olive oils and olive products (CXS 33-1981)* in 2024.



3. Key Discussions and Conclusion (agenda item 6)

Changes to the *Codex Procedural Manual*:

- ◆ Amendment to the Principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations (**agenda item 6**)
 - CCGP34 considered the working document prepared by the Codex Secretariat.
 - CCGP34 agreed to recommend that CAC48 adopt the proposed change to the “Principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission” of the Codex Procedural Manual.
 - CCGP34 requested the Codex Secretariat to consider, in collaboration with the legal offices of FAO and WHO, the proposals for further amendments of the double representation clause and present a review for consideration by a future session of CCGP.



3. Key Discussions and Conclusion (agenda item 8)

Changes to the *Codex Procedural Manual*:

- ◆ Review of the application of the Criteria and procedural guidelines for Codex committees and ad hoc intergovernmental task forces working by correspondence **(agenda item 8)**
 - CCGP34 considered the working document prepared by the Codex Secretariat.
 - CCGP34 agreed to forward for adoption by CAC48 the proposed changes to Section 3.4.

Main changes

- the Chairperson, in consultation with the Codex Secretariat, may exceptionally propose that a specific issue be discussed by simultaneous virtual presence of participants.
- The addition of a new paragraph to reinforce that a CWBC would address only the task(s) assigned by the CAC.



3. Key Discussions and Conclusion (agenda item 7)

Other issues:

- ◆ Review of the potential use of existing provisions to promote more resource-efficient practices in the review of new-work proposals which do not fall within the remit of an active Codex committee (**agenda item 7**)
 - CCGP34 discussed the working document prepared by the Codex Secretariat.
 - CCGP34 noted that the existing provisions of the *Codex Procedural Manual* could promote resource-efficient practices in the review of new work proposals, including those for which there may not be a relevant existing or active committee that might undertake their technical review.
 - CCGP34 noted the importance of CLs as a mean for gathering views of Members and Observers on new work proposals
 - CCGP34 recommended that CCGP continue the discussion on this issue based upon an updated document from the Codex Secretariat taking into account the proposals and feedback from delegates at CCGP34.

3. Key Discussions and Conclusion (agenda item 9)

Other issues:

◆ Proposal for Centralised Codex Glossary(**agenda item 9**)

Prepared by The United Kingdom

CCGP34 agreed to continue the conversation around this proposal informally between the Codex Secretariat and interested Members to explore the scope and its potential benefit. UK indicated its willingness to continue discussing the potential way forward of this proposal with the Codex Secretariat.

◆ Proposal for “reservation” in Codex proceedings(**agenda item 9**)

Prepared by Oman, Egypt and Tunisia

The Codex Secretariat recalled that previous discussions on reservations, documented in Codex archives, provided extensive elaboration on their use and interpretation, and encouraged Members to review these archives to gain insights into past practices.

CCGP34 agreed that initial discussions on the use of reservations could be held informally among committee chairpersons to exchange experiences before reverting to CCGP.

4. Next Steps

Adopting by CAC48

- ◆ Section 3.1-3.3 of the *Codex Procedural Manual*
- ◆ Section 2.1, 2.11, 6.1, 7.2 of the *Codex Procedural Manual*
- ◆ Paragraph 8, paragraph 12 and Part 7 of Section 2.1 of the *Codex Procedural Manual*
- ◆ the “Principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission” of the *Codex Procedural Manual*
- ◆ Section 3.4 of the *Codex Procedural Manual*, “Criteria and procedural guidelines for Codex committees and ad hoc intergovernmental task forces working by correspondence”

Consideration by CAC48

- ◆ The need for clarity and transparency on interpretation of current procedures and practices of virtual meeting modalities

Willingness countries prepare a discussion paper on virtual meetings for further consideration by CAC.

4. Next Steps

Continuing the review through EWG and consideration by future session of CCGP

- ◆ Section 3.5 and 3.6 of the *Codex Procedural Manual*

Review or consideration by the Codex Secretariat and consideration by future session of CCGP

- ◆ Harmonization of the terminology related to “proposed draft” and “draft” standards in the *Codex Procedural Manual*.
- ◆ Further amendments of double representation clause.

Consideration by a future session of CCGP

- ◆ Discussion on the issue how to review new work proposal which do not fall within the remit of an active Codex committee, based upon an update document from the Codex Secretariat.
- ◆ CCEXEC monitor the application of part 7 of Section 2.1 of the *Codex Procedural Manual* in the critical review process, and if needed request CAC to refer the issue back to CCGP for further consideration.

Thank you