

# CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

#### Forty-fourth Session

#### Guidance for voters

Voting to elect a candidate for the positions of chairperson and vice-chairpersons of the Codex Alimentarius Commission or Member elected on a geographic basis will only take place if needed, that is if there are more nominations for a position than vacancies available. In cases where the number of nominations for a position is the same as the number of vacancies, the election is decided by clear general consent/acclamation. In such cases physical in-person voting will not be required.

While the expectation is that voting will be required, the need for in-person voting by secret ballot can only be confirmed with the announcement of the confirmed nominations for each vacant position as follows. The announcements will be made as follows:

**Chairperson:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 12:00h with voting commencing at 15:00h if needed

**Vice-Chairpersons:** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 12:00h with voting commencing at 15:00h if needed

**Members elected on a Geographic basis:** Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 12:00h with voting commencing at 15:00h if needed

#### Voting venue

Voting will take place at: CENTRE DE CONFÉRENCE DE VAREMBÉ- (CCV), 9-11 Rue de Varembé, 1202 Geneva.

The voting facility will follow all local health requirements. Only one voting delegate per Member will be able to access the voting facility.

#### Registration for voting

All voting delegates must be registered for the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission as part of the delegation on who's behalf they are voting and additionally in INDICO (<https://indico.un.org/e/CAC44>) to facilitate access to the voting venue and communications during the election period.

#### **Registration desk**

Voting delegates and voting alternates can pick up their meeting badge at the registration desk in the CVV at the following times:

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November: 14:00h- 17:00h

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November: 08:00h – end of voting

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November: 08:00h – end of voting

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November: 08:00h – end of voting

Please bring a form of photo identification with you to the voting center.

## **Voting schedule**

Voting (if needed) will take place on the following days:

**Election of Chairperson:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Election of Vice-Chairpersons:** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Election of Members elected on a Geographic basis:** Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Voting will begin each day at 15:00h.

Voters are asked to present themselves to vote in the timeslot indicated in annex 1. If you have not already registered to vote your timeslot will be added to the end of the existing list. The timeslots are allocated to facilitate social distancing and for the health and safety of all voters and you are kindly asked to adhere to them.

In cases where more than one round of voting is required, these will take place as soon as practicable on the same day as the first round of voting and continue until vacancies are filled. In such cases an updated voting schedule will be sent to all voting delegates as soon as possible.

## **Electronic Recording devices**

All voters are asked not to bring any form of electronic recording device into the voting area. Electronic recording devices are defined as any device which could be used to record images, including but not limited to cameras, mobile phones or smartwatches. In case you have such a device with you, you will be asked to surrender the electronic recording devices, as per practice in secret ballot voting proceedings in FAO. Such devices will be in the temporary custody of security guards. Electronic devices will be returned after depositing your ballot.

## **Communications during elections**

All voting delegates will be alerted via email and SMS message when voting is confirmed and also in cases where additional rounds of voting are required. In case of any change of contact details please alert the Codex Secretariat as soon as possible at [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org).

You can also follow the proceedings of CAC44 via the webcast available in [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#) and [Russian](#). Announcements regarding the procedures for elections will begin at approximately 14.45h on election days.

## **Voting procedure**

After confirmation of identification each voter will collect a ballot paper and enter a booth where he or she will have to express his or her preference by marking with a cross the name of the selected candidate(s). When exiting the booth, the voter will fold the ballot paper and deposit it in the box at the exit of the voting area.

The number of votes to be cast should be the same as there are vacancies on the ballot paper. Any number lower or higher than the number of vacancies would invalidate the ballot paper.

**Example:** For the election of the Chairperson, the voting delegate should vote for **one** of the candidates on the ballot paper – considering there is only one vacancy for Chairperson. However, in the case of the Vice-Chairpersons, the voting delegate should cast the vote for **three** of the candidates in the first round – considering that there are three vacancies for Vice-Chairpersons. In case successive rounds of balloting are needed, then this number might change. For example if after the first round, one of the candidates is elected Vice-Chairperson and two vacancies remain, then the voting delegate would need to vote for two

of the candidates in that round. Clear voting instructions will be presented on the ballot papers. In addition, assistance on voting will be available before and during the voting procedure.

Blank papers or papers marked "abstention" will be treated as abstentions. In accordance with Rule XII-4(a) of the General Rules of FAO, "votes cast", for the purpose of calculating the required majority, means affirmative and negative votes and does not include abstentions or defective ballots.