

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 6.1

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES

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GUIDELINE FOR THE PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY AND PRIORITIZE NEW WORK FOR CCNFSDU

(Comments by Burundi, Panama, Thailand)

Burundi

Position: Burundi supports the adoption by CCNFSDU of prioritization mechanisms of its work.

Rationale: The draft guideline for the preliminary assessment to identify and prioritize new work for CCNFSDU as presented has been improved taking into consideration the discussions and recommendation of CCNFSDU43. In particular, the draft has been fully aligned to the Codex procedural manual as evidenced by steps 5 to 6 as well as amendment of the questions in decision tree such as question 1 that requires support of a Codex Member for any work to be initiated.

Panama

Panama expresses its appreciation for the publication of the guidelines for the preliminary evaluation and determination of priorities for new work within the framework of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU). We believe that this mechanism is crucial to effectively address emerging challenges in nutrition and public health, especially in the context of the variability of the needs of member countries.

Panama stresses that it is important to incorporate an impact assessment component for each new work submitted. This assessment should specifically consider how each proposal will address current challenges in nutrition and public health. We believe that this will not only facilitate a better justification of each proposal, but will also ensure that the prioritized works are truly relevant and useful for our countries and their populations.

It is critical that each new proposal be adequately justified in terms of its relevance and feasibility in the current context. Justifications should be supported by scientific data and practical considerations that demonstrate the urgency or necessity of the proposed work. This will ensure that efforts and resources are focused on areas that have a direct impact on public health and nutrition.

We look forward to establishing a system of continuous review of priorities to adjust proposals and work based on new evidence and changes in the global context. This flexible approach will enable CCNFSDU and members to react efficiently to emerging needs and ensure that regulations and guidelines are aligned with scientific developments and contemporary challenges.

It is important that each new project is adequately justified, and that its relevance and viability in the current context is assessed. This will help to prioritise those issues that are of greatest importance to our countries.

Panama supports the development of revised guidelines and considers that the implementation of an impact assessment system, a solid justification of each work, a continuous review and an inclusive approach will significantly contribute to the effectiveness and relevance of the work of the CCNFSDU.

Spanish:

Panamá expresa su agradecimiento por la publicación de las directrices para la evaluación preliminar y determinación de prioridades de nuevos trabajos en el marco del Comité del Codex sobre Nutrición y Alimentos para Regímenes Especiales (CCNFSDU). Creemos que este mecanismo es crucial para abordar de manera efectiva los desafíos emergentes en nutrición y salud pública, especialmente en el contexto de la variabilidad de las necesidades de los países miembros.

Panamá subraya que es importante la incorporación de un componente de evaluación de impacto para cada nuevo trabajo presentado. Esta evaluación debe considerar específicamente cómo cada propuesta abordará los desafíos actuales en nutrición y salud pública. Consideramos que esto no solo facilitará una mejor

justificación de cada propuesta, sino que también garantizará que los trabajos priorizados sean realmente relevantes y útiles para nuestros países y sus poblaciones.

Es fundamental que cada nueva propuesta se justifique adecuadamente en términos de su relevancia y viabilidad en el contexto actual. Las justificaciones deben estar respaldadas por datos científicos y consideraciones prácticas que demuestren la urgencia o la necesidad del trabajo propuesto. Esto asegurará que los esfuerzos y recursos se enfoquen en áreas que tienen un impacto directo en la salud pública y nutrición.

Confiamos en que establecer un sistema de revisión continua de las prioridades para ajustar las propuestas y trabajos en función de nuevas evidencias y cambios en el contexto global. Este enfoque flexible permitirá al CCNFSDU y a los miembros reaccionar de manera eficiente a las necesidades emergentes y asegurar que las normativas y directrices estén alineadas con la evolución científica y los desafíos contemporáneos.

Es importante que cada nuevo trabajo se justifique adecuadamente, y que se evalúe su relevancia y viabilidad en el contexto actual. Esto ayudará a priorizar aquellos temas que sean de mayor importancia para nuestros países.

Panamá apoya el desarrollo de directrices revisadas y considera que la implementación de un sistema de evaluación de impacto, una justificación sólida de cada trabajo, una revisión continua y un enfoque inclusivo contribuirán significativamente a la efectividad y relevancia de los trabajos del CCNFSDU.

Thailand

General comments

1. We agree in principle with this document that has been gradually improved, providing clearer and more comprehensive information for the impact assessment of proposed new work, based on prioritization criterion to identify and prioritize new work.
2. The use of a scoring system allows submitters to perform the impact assessment of proposed new work more precisely and thoroughly.

And, we would like to emphasize that the submitters' impact justification for each criterion (as high/medium/low/neutral with positive or negative points) should be accompanied by supporting information, including detailed rationale, available scientific evidence, and other validated data to support the ad hoc Working Group's rating process for prioritization of new work.

3. The use of a scoring system is only one step in a decision-making process, while it is necessary that the final judgment should consider intermediate and long-term impact of proposed new work.

Specific comments

Prioritization Criterion in a Table under Paragraph 8

- Impact on public health

It should be read "Impact on public health in the human life cycle", as there are increasingly more products related to the human life cycle, such as those for the elderly.

- Global Impact

In addition to addressing worldwide nutrition problem, global Impact should additionally consider "planet health", since consumers are increasingly concerned about this issue.