

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 15

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

*Twenty-eighth Session, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy, 4 – 9 July 2005*

## FAO/WHO PROJECT AND TRUST FUND FOR ENHANCED PARTICIPATION IN CODEX

*Annual Report for 2004*

### A. Introduction

1. This report covers the first calendar year of implementation of the FAO/WHO Project and Fund for Enhanced Participation in Codex (hereafter referred to as the "Codex Trust Fund"). The report is comprised of a technical section and a financial section, and should be read in conjunction with the third and fourth progress reports of the FAO/WHO Consultative Group for the Project and Fund submitted to the Codex Executive Committee and the Codex Alimentarius Commission<sup>1</sup>. These reports provide additional information on the criteria for eligibility of countries and the management of the Project and Fund in general.

2. The Codex Trust Fund became operational in March 2004, after the agreed minimum threshold amount of US\$ 500,000 had been reached (February 2004). During the March to December 2004 period, a total of 83 participants from 75 countries attended 14 separate Codex meetings, utilizing US\$ 561,297 of funding from the Codex Trust Fund. As of 31 December 2004, nine national governments and the European Community had contributed a total of US\$ 1,543,090. Thus, the Codex Trust Fund is in a strong financial position for implementation of activities in 2005.

### B. Technical Section

3. The main objective of the Codex Trust Fund is to enhance participation of Codex Member States, especially least developed countries, in the work of Codex Alimentarius. It has been recognized that active

<sup>1</sup> Third Progress Report, CX/EXEC 04/53/3, 2003;

Fourth Progress Report, ALINORM 04/27/10F, 2004;

Both reports are also available on: <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/codex/trustfund/en/>

participation of Member States in Codex significantly enhances the countries' ability to further develop their food safety systems, and thereby their capacity to protect the health of their citizens as it relates to food and to promote food trade, nationally and internationally.

4. The Codex Trust Fund is administered by the World Health Organization (WHO), on behalf of WHO and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). A Consultative Group on the Trust Fund (CGTF) comprised of senior WHO and FAO staff was established in 2003, and is responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the Codex Trust Fund.

5. During the period March to December 2004, a total of 83 persons from 75 countries attended 14 separate Codex meetings, including the Codex Alimentarius Commission meeting held in June-July 2004. All 83 participants were funded entirely by the Codex Trust Fund and most were government officials from Least Developed Countries (LDCs). The breakdown of participants was: 60% from LDCs and other lower income countries; 29% from lower middle income countries; and 11% from upper middle income countries.

#### ***Application and Participation***

6. In response to the call for applications for 2004, applications were received from 75 eligible countries. In view of the level of funding that was available in early 2004, the CGTF decided that all applicants meeting the criteria would obtain their first priority request. Any remaining funds would allow for the granting of second priority requests only from Least Developed Countries.

7. Table A of the Annex shows the countries which attended the respective meetings. In Table B of the Annex, beneficiary countries are grouped according to the Codex regions.

#### ***The role of Codex Contact Points***

8. The 2004 call for applications was circulated to countries through the Codex Secretariat and through the formal channels of FAO and WHO to Ministries of Agriculture and Ministries of Health. In addition, the regional and national representatives of both parent organizations were informed.

9. In several cases the use of different channels to inform eligible countries about the Codex Trust Fund has resulted in more than one application from a given country (usually representing different entities within the government). This was an unsatisfactory outcome, also in the light of basic criteria applied to review applications, namely that coordination between governmental entities should be demonstrated. Too often, the information provided by applicants on the coordinating mechanism in their country was either insufficient or unclear, which resulted in a delay of the review of the application or in non-acceptance of the application. Therefore, the 2005 call for applications (which was issued in mid-2004 with a 31 October 2004 deadline for submission of applications), was primarily circulated through the Codex Contact Points, reflecting suggestions from the Codex Executive Committee<sup>2</sup> and the Codex Alimentarius Commission<sup>3</sup>.

10. The active involvement of regional and country representatives of FAO and WHO in the application and updating process has proven to be very useful and their involvement should be further stimulated. Unfortunately, full contact details often are not available for Codex Contact Points, which is a significant impediment for smooth communication with beneficiary countries. As efficient operating Codex Contact Points are in the mutual interest of both the Codex Trust Fund and the Codex Secretariat, steps are being taken to actively share updated information in order to achieve this objective.

#### ***Reports of Beneficiary Countries***

11. Beneficiary countries funded in 2004 had an obligation to report back to the Administrator of the Codex Trust Fund. Such a report was also a prerequisite for these countries to be considered for further funding in 2005. A format has been provided. In order to meet the deadline for applications of 31 October 2004, countries were requested to submit a report covering participation at meetings funded by the Trust Fund up to and including the meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in June/July 2004. Reporting on subsequent meetings (up to and including the Codex Alimentarius Commission in mid-2005) will be expected to constitute a prerequisite for considering applications for funding for 2006.

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<sup>2</sup> ALINORM 04/27/4, paras 94-103, Report of the Fifty-fourth Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

<sup>3</sup> ALINORM 04/27/41, paras 188-196, Report of the Twenty-seventh Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

12. As of 31 December 2004, a total of 24 reports were submitted by beneficiary countries. The quality of the reports was generally satisfactory. Several countries provided detailed information on the structure and functioning of their national Codex infrastructure, such as a Codex Contact Point and a National Codex Committee or equivalent structure, and the way they used this infrastructure to prepare the application and the actual participation in Codex meetings.

13. Several beneficiary country delegates stated that they participated for the first time in a Codex meeting and that their countries still had a long way to go, not only due to a lack of experience in the work of Codex, but also because of the relative weakness of national food legislation and related institutions, constraints regarding available budgets and capacities, the lack of political awareness of the relevance of Codex standards in relation to international trade, and the limited capability to implement Codex standards.

14. The reporting of several other countries clearly indicated an already considerable understanding of and involvement in the work of Codex. Support provided by the Trust Fund had resulted in broader participation of a government and an improved level of coordination of country positions.

15. The support provided by regional and national representatives of FAO and WHO, particularly in preparing the applications, was generally seen as adequate. Several countries also reported active involvement of FAO and WHO in debriefing and follow-up work.

16. Detailed review of the reports submitted will guide the CGTF in further assisting beneficiary countries in their Codex endeavours through activities eligible under the Trust Fund. It also will provide useful information for FAO and WHO regarding their Technical Cooperation Programmes and regular capacity building work in the area of food safety and quality.

## **C. Financial Section**

### ***Summary***

17. During the period from January 2003 through December 2004, a total of US\$ 1,543,090 was received in contributions from nine Member States and the European Community.

18. As stated above, a total of 83 persons from 75 countries were financed by the Codex Trust Fund during 2004. The total expenses incurred in 2004 were US\$ 561,297. This amount was allocated to:

- (a) Support to beneficiary countries -- covering 100 percent of all participants' travel and per diem costs associated with their attendance at Codex meetings (US\$ 461,297);
- (b) Project Management and Administration (US\$ 100,000).

The total available balance on 1 January 2005 was US\$ 981,793.

### ***Contributions to the Codex Trust Fund (2003-2004)***

19. The first contribution to the Codex Trust Fund was provided in January 2003 (by the Government of Switzerland). Contributions and pledges are continuing on an ongoing basis, and the objective is to ensure adequate financial resources for the entire duration of this project (12 years) by mobilizing financial resources throughout the 12-year period.

20. The funds utilized for the activities undertaken during the period March - December 2004 (totalling US\$ 561,297) were allocated from the US \$ 797,379 in contributions received from January 2003 through January 2004. (See the grey shaded area of Table 1). Funds remaining from those contributions (US\$ 236,082), combined with the US\$ 745,711 in additional funding received during the period February 2004 to December 2004 (see the white section of Table 1 on the following page), will be utilized to finance 2005 activities.

21. For activities in future years (2006 and beyond), it is anticipated that funds received or pledged up to the month of October in a given year will finance activities undertaken in the subsequent year. For example, contributions received on or before 31 October 2005 will be allocated to the budget for 2006 activities. This timeline is necessary in order to be able to determine the budget available prior to allocating resources to recipient countries. Allocations will be finalized in November of each year, which will allow for travel arrangements to be made on a timely basis for the first Codex meetings held in the following year (usually in February).

22. Table 1 below provides a breakdown of the US\$ 1,543,090 in contributions received during the period January 2003 to December 2004.

**Table 1. Codex Trust Fund -- Contributions Received (2003-2004)**

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Amount Received (in contribution currency)</b>	<b>Amount Received (in US\$)</b>	<b>Date Received</b>
Switzerland	CHF 50,000	US\$ 35,971	January 2003
Canada	Cdn \$ 50,000	US\$ 34,014	April 2003
United States	US\$ 168,000	US\$ 168,000	November 2003
Norway	US\$ 100,000	US\$ 100,000	December 2003
Ireland	EUR 50,000	US\$ 60,824	December 2003
Netherlands	US\$ 50,000	US\$ 50,000	December 2003
European Community	EUR 280,250	US\$ 348,570	January 2004
Canada	Cdn \$ 166,666	US\$ 125,287	February 2004
Australia	AUD 40,000	US\$ 27,906	August 2004
Sweden	SEK 2,000,000	US\$ 281,960	November 2004
Netherlands	US\$ 50,000	US\$ 50,000	November 2004
Ireland	EUR 30,000	US\$ 39,788	December 2004
New Zealand	US\$ 35,770	US\$ 35,770	December 2004
Norway	US\$ 100,000	US\$ 100,000	December 2004
United States	US\$ 85,000	US\$ 85,000	December 2004
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED</b>	<b>US\$ 1,543,090</b>	

**Note:** The seven (7) contributions (in grey shade) represent contributions used to finance 2004 activities. The others represent contributions to be utilized to finance 2005 activities.

***Pledges received in 2003-2004 covering Future Activities***

23. The following pledges have been received from donors:

- (1) Canada -- According to Canada's 3-year pledge for the 2004-2006 period (signed in January 2004), Canada will contribute an additional Cdn\$ 166,666 per year in 2005 and 2006.
- (2) Netherlands -- The 4-year Agreement (2003-2006) signed in November 2003 stipulates that the Netherlands will contribute an additional US\$ 50,000 annually in 2005 and 2006.
- (3) European Community -- A second Agreement was signed in November 2004, and the European Community will provide an additional EUR 295,000 in 2005. (Note: EUR 280,250 of this amount was received in February 2005.)
- (4) Germany -- In December 2004, an Agreement was signed with the Government of the Republic of Germany, which provided for a contribution of US\$ 50,000. (Note: The US\$ 50,000 contribution was received in January 2005.)
- (5) Sweden -- Further to its 2004 contribution, in December 2004 the Government of Sweden indicated its intention to provide an additional contribution of SEK 3,000,000 (approximately US\$ 425,000) per year for the three-year period 2005-2007.

***The Situation for 2005***

24. Table 2 provides an overview of key aspects of the Codex Trust Fund for 2004, as well as a summary of the situation for 2005. The table shows that the total amount expected to be spent during 2004 and 2005 is US\$ 2,529,079 (incurred expenses 2004 plus budgeted expenses 2005). The total amount received in 2003 and 2004, plus the amount already pledged for 2005, is US\$ 2,591,450. Therefore, the Codex Trust Fund will have sufficient funding for all activities undertaken in 2005, as well as a "contingency" amounting to at least US\$ 62,371. This contingency amount, combined with any additional funds received during 2005, will constitute the Codex Trust Fund's total available balance on 1 January 2006.

**Table 2. Financial Overview 2004/2005**

<b>Incurring expenses 2004</b>	<b>Number of participants funded by the Trust Fund during 2004</b>	<b>Budgeted expenses 2005</b>	<b>Number of participants to be funded by the Trust Fund during 2005</b>	<b>Total amount received in 2003-2004, plus amount pledged for 2005 contributions</b>
US\$ 561,297	83 persons from 75 countries	US\$ 1,967,782	307 persons from 102 countries	US\$ 2,591,450

***Additional Information***

25. Further information can be found on the website of the Codex Trust Fund:

<http://www.who.int/foodsafety/codex/trustfund/en/>

26. The Administrator of the Codex Trust Fund can be contacted through the following e-mail address:

[codextrustfund@who.int](mailto:codextrustfund@who.int)

## ANNEX

**Table A: Countries funded by the Codex Trust Fund in 2004: distribution of participants according to meetings of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Codex Subsidiary Bodies**

Committees/Commissions	Countries	Remarks
Codex Committee on Food Hygiene 29 March-3 April 2004 (Washington, USA)	1. Indonesia 2. Papua New Guinea	
Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues 19-24 April 2004 (New Delhi, India)	1. Ghana	
Codex Committee on General Principles 3-7 May 2004 (Paris, France)	1. Burundi* 2. Congo DR* 3. Tonga 4. Uganda*	
Codex Committee on Food Labelling 10-14 May 2004 (Montréal, Canada)	1. Burundi* 2. Cameroon	
Codex Alimentarius Commission 28 June-2 July 2004 (Geneva, Switzerland)	1. Bhutan* 2. Botswana 3. Chile 4. China 5. Congo, Republic of 6. Costa Rica 7. Côte d'Ivoire 8. Cuba 9. India 10. Jamaica 11. Lesotho* 12. Mali* 13. Mauritania* 14. Morocco 15. Niger* 16. Paraguay 17. Samoa* 18. Solomon Islands* 19. Sudan* 20. Syria 21. Tanzania* 22. Tunisia 23. Uganda* 24. Uruguay 25. Vanuatu* 26. Viet Nam 27. Zimbabwe	
FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia , 7-10 September 2004 (Jeju City, Republic of Korea)	1. Sri Lanka	Participation of LDCs and Mongolia funded by Korea
Codex Committee on Processed Fruit and Vegetables 27 Sept.-1 Oct. 2004 (Washington, USA)	1. Rwanda*	

Committees/Commissions	Countries	Remarks
Ad Hoc Intergovernmental. Task Force on Fruit and Vegetable Juices 11-15 October 2004 (Fortaleza, Brazil)	1. Guatemala	
FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for North America and South West Pacific 19-22 October 2004 (Apia, Samoa)	1. Cook Islands 2. Micronesia 3. Solomon Islands*	
Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods 26-29 October 2004 (Washington, USA)  Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods of Analysis and Sampling, 25 October 2004	1. Burkina Faso* 2. Dominican Republic 3. Mongolia 4. Peru 5. Poland	
Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses 1-5 November 2004 (Bonn, Germany)	1. Bolivia 2. Cambodia* 3. Niger	
Codex Committee on General Principles 8-12 November 2004 (Paris, France)  Working Group on Proposed Draft Working Principles for Risk Analysis, Saturday, 6 November 2004	1. Cambodia* 2. Kazakhstan 3. Kyrgyzstan 4. Laos* 5. Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 6. Nepal* 7. Rwanda* 8. Samoa* 9. Togo 10. Zambia*	
FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean 29 November- 3 December 2004 (Buenos Aires, Argentina)  Regional Workshop on Food Control Systems, Martinez, Buenos Aires, 28 November 2004	1. Belice 2. Colombia 3. Ecuador 4. El Salvador 5. Haiti* 6. Nicaragua 7. Panama	
Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems 6-10 December 2004 (Melbourne, Australia)	1. Bhutan* 2. Burkina Faso* 3. Gabon 4. Haiti* 5. Honduras 6. Iran 7. Jordan 8. Liberia* 9. Lithuania 10. Nepal * 11. Sudan *	

\* Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

**Table B: Countries funded by the Codex Trust Fund in 2004: distribution of beneficiary countries according to Codex regions**

<b>Codex Region</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Codex Region</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>Africa</b>	Benin*	<b>Europe</b>	Kazakhstan
	Botswana		Lithuania
	Burkina Faso*		Moldova
	Burundi*		Poland
	Cameroon		Serbia and Montenegro
	Congo, Republic of		Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
	Cote d'Ivoire	<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b>	Belize
	Congo DR*		Bolivia
	Ethiopia*		Chile
	Gabon		Colombia
	Ghana		Costa Rica
	Guinea*		Cuba
	Guinea-Bissau*		Dominican Republic
	Lesotho*		Ecuador
	Liberia*		El Salvador
	Mali*		Guatemala
	Mauritania*		Haiti*
	Morocco		Honduras
	Mozambique*		Jamaica
	Niger*		Nicaragua
	Nigeria		Panama
	Rwanda*		Paraguay
	Swaziland		Peru
	Togo*		Uruguay
Uganda*	<b>Near East</b>	Iran	
Tanzania*		Jordan	
Zambia*		Kyrgyzstan	
Zimbabwe		Sudan*	
		Syria	
<b>Asia</b>	Bhutan*		Tunisia
	Cambodia*	<b>South-West Pacific</b>	Cook Islands
	China		Micronesia
	India		Papua New Guinea
	Indonesia		Samoa*
	Laos*		Solomon Islands*
	Mongolia		Tonga
	Nepal*		Vanuatu*
	Sri Lanka		
	Viet Nam		

\* LDCs (Least Developed Countries)