

REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
FOR EUROPE

Rome, 20 October 1965

1. The meeting was opened by Prof. O. Högl (Switzerland) and attended by delegates and observers from the following Members of the European region: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany (Federal Republic), Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia. Observers from Canada, Tunisia, U.S.A. and from E.C.E., I.F.M.A. and the Liaison Committee of Glucose Manufacturers of EEC also attended the meeting.
2. The Chairman, after adoption of the Provisional Agenda of the meeting, reviewed the report of the first meeting (Berne, 1-2- July 1965, document ALINORM 65/4). The Chairman introduced Min. a.D. Dr. H. Frenzel who had been proposed by the Committee as the new Coordinator for Europe. 65/1
3. The internal organization of the Coordinating Committee.- The internal organization of the Coordinating Committee would be taken up at the next meeting in the light of consultations of the new Coordinator with the Chairmen of Codex Committees and Codex Contact Points in the region.
4. Progress report by the Coordinator.- The Chairman referred to the meetings of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis (Berlin, 23-24 September 1965) and of the Codex Committee on General Principles (Paris, 4-8 October 1965) and stressed the importance of the decisions of these Committees for the activities of the Coordinating Committee for Europe. The General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius confirmed the possibility of elaborating standards on a regional or group-of-country basis in which the Coordinating Committee would play an important role. With regard to Methods of Analysis the necessity of close cooperation between the Committee on Methods of Analysis and other international bodies working on sampling was confirmed at the Berlin meeting and this would also have to be considered by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.
5. Edible fungi.- The Committee had before it for consideration a document (No. SP 10/80) containing, in accordance with the request of the first meeting of the Coordinating Committee (document ALINORM 65/4, page 2, para 7), the comments of Poland on the standardization of edible fungi. The Committee was informed that the UNECE Working Party on Perishable Foodstuffs had undertaken work on the standardization of cultivated fresh fungi but <sup>had decided not to</sup> that <sup>that</sup> it had not considered that trade in wild mushrooms <sup>was</sup> sufficiently important <sup>to warrant the elaboration of standards for this product.</sup> The observer from ECE also mentioned that the finalization of a standard for cultivated mushrooms had run into unexpected difficulties which <sup>would</sup> delay its presentation to Governments. During the discussion, concern was expressed on the one hand that there might be the danger of insufficient coordination if various bodies were to be separately entrusted with this work, and on the other hand, that the UNECE Working Party on Perishable Foodstuffs was establishing standards for commerce which would not necessarily correspond to the general principles of the Codex Alimentarius. The Committee recognized that work on worldwide standards for processed fungi was being

undertaken by the Codex Committee on Processed Fruit and Vegetables under the Chairmanship of the USA. The Committee considered that no further action was required for the time being on cultivated mushrooms pending a clearer indication of the probable result of the work being undertaken by the UNECE Working Party on Perishable Foodstuffs. On the proposal of the United Kingdom, the Committee agreed that Poland should be invited to elaborate general minimum requirements for all types of fungi and specific standards for wild chanterelles and for all types of dry fungi. A questionnaire would be prepared by Poland and should be sent out by the Secretariat of the Commission to all Members of the Committee seeking their views on whether there were any other varieties of wild fungi for which standards were required and also asking any Member suggesting a further variety to state whether it was prepared to elaborate the first draft of the necessary standard. Poland was also asked to maintain a general oversight of the work on edible fungi so that any inconsistencies could be corrected. The Government of Poland would, if necessary, convene a small meeting of experts to deal with the subject and would present drafts of standards to the Committee in due course.

6. Dietetic foods.- As requested by the Coordinating Committee, the Federal Republic of Germany in collaboration with the U.K. had prepared a paper on the proposed Terms of Reference for the European Codex Committee on Dietetic Foods (SP 10/83-TR). In introducing this document the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany indicated that a European Codex Committee on Dietetic Foods would need to draw upon the advice of medical, nutritional and labelling experts. The European Codex Committee on Dietetic Foods would elaborate general guidelines for the individual commodity Codex Committees. The Committee then decided to recommend to the Commission that the Codex Committee on Dietetic Foods should as a first task examine the proposed definition of dietetic food. The document SP 10/83-TR the terms of reference of this Committee should for the time being serve as guidance except that the order of priority of the foods to be considered by the Codex Committee should as its first items be baby and dietetic foods. The Committee also recommended that point 1(a) of the terms of reference should be expanded to read "foods for nursing mothers, infants and the aged".

7. Broths and soups.- After receiving a progress report by the Swiss Government to which was attached an appendix prepared by the International Soup Manufacturers Association, the Committee agreed to a proposal of the Swiss Delegation that it would submit a further report on this subject in a year's time when the question of the establishment of a Codex Committee for these products could be re-examined.

8. Date and place of next meeting.- The Committee accepted an invitation of the Austrian Government to hold its third meeting in Vienna from 17 to 20 May 1966.

9. Other business

(a) Honey - On a proposal of the Austrian delegation it was agreed to recommend to the Codex Alimentarius Commission that the redraft of the European Standard for Honey prepared by the U.K. be taken as the document for the basis of the Commission's discussions on this subject.

- (b) Edible Ices - The Committee briefly discussed a proposal for the elaboration of regional standards for edible ices. In view of the work already in hand by the Joint FAO/WHO Committee of Government Experts on the Code of Principles concerning Milk and Milk Products for a standard for icecream and the difficulties regarding nomenclature of similar frozen products, the Swedish Delegation was requested to prepare a paper on this subject for consideration by the Committee at its third meeting.