



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE
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ALINORM 66/3(1)
November 1966
EXEC/66 - 9th Meeting

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAM
CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
Fourth Session, Rome, 7-14 November 1966

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Report of the Ninth Session, 4 November 1966, FAO, Rome

1. Introduction

The Executive Committee held its Ninth Session at FAO Headquarters in Rome on 4 November 1966. The Committee was presided over by the Chairman of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Prof. Dr. M.J.L. Dols, and in the presence of the three Vice-chairmen, Mr. J.H.V. Davies (United Kingdom), Mr. H.V. Dempsey (Canada) and Mr. G. Weill (France). The representation of the geographical locations was as follows: for Europe, Mr. J. Serwatowski from Poland; for the Southwest Pacific, Mr. I.H. Smith from Australia; for North America, Mr. G.R. Grange from the U.S.A.; for Latin America, Mr. D. Cantera from Cuba.

2. Amendments to the minutes of the Eighth Session

The following amendments were made to the minutes of the Eighth Session. Paragraph 10, line 15: "... to be met by FAO or WHO in other parts ...". Paragraph 13, 12 lines from the top of page 6: "... to suggest to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and to the Committee ...". Paragraph 17, add at the end: "The Executive Committee agreed to seek the advice of the Committee on Food Labelling as well as of governments as to whether or not item (g) of paragraph 15 of the Report of the First Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (ALINORM 63/12) should be included in the draft guidelines for Codex Commodity Committees." Paragraph 18, heading 'Soft Drinks', line 3: "It was noted that governments interested in these concentrates could submit ..."

3. Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

The Executive Committee took note of the Revised Statutes of the Commission as adopted by the Forty-seventh Session of the FAO Council. The Executive Committee, after briefly reviewing the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, recommended that a Working Party be established during the Commission's Fourth Session to study the proposed amendments and make recommendations to the Commission for the adoption of the Revised Rules. The Executive Committee considered that the Working Party should have a small but representative number of participants, and recommended a similar composition to that of the Working Party which considered the Rules of Procedure and Related Matters during the Second Session of the Commission. The Working Party would have before it document ALINORM 66/3(3).

4. Budget for 1968/69 and Program of Work

The Executive Committee considered document ALINORM 66/5(1) containing information regarding the proposed provisions to be included in the draft budget of FAO and WHO for approval by the governing bodies of the two Organizations. The total proposed income of the Program for 1968 was \$ 192,000, apportioned between the two Organizations as follows: FAO - \$ 150,000, WHO - \$ 42,000. The Executive Committee compared these provisions with the income available to the Program in the years 1966 and 1967 and noted that there would be an overall increase of \$ 55,000. The Executive Committee considered that in general the budget provisions was likely to be inadequate to meet the growth of the Program, should its present momentum be maintained. This view had also been expressed by the Program Committee of FAO. The Executive Committee recommended that in order that the Program might continue with reasonable efficiency within the limits of the budget a certain slowing down of activities would be necessary and a much more critical appraisal of priorities would be required from the Commission. The Executive Committee considered that the Program could be assisted if governments accepting responsibility for the chairmanship of Codex Committees were to undertake more of the work of translation and distribution of the working documents and reports of Codex Committees. The Executive Committee further considered that there should be a reduction in the number of meetings per annum of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission. In the light of the likely state of preparedness of work and the amount of time required to ensure the preparation of appropriate working documents for meetings, it was recommended that the following Committees should postpone their proposed meetings in 1967 until later: Dietetic Foods, Natural Mineral Waters, Meat and Meat Products, Edible Ices, and Coordinating Committee. The Executive Committee also proposed that the Secretariat should consult with the Economic Commission for Europe regarding the possibility of postponing the next meeting of Quick Frozen Foods until 1968. The Executive Committee further recommended that the next session of the Committee of Government Experts on the Code of Principles concerning Milk and Milk Products, the Coordinating Committee for Europe and the Codex Alimentarius Commission should be held in January 1968. The Executive Committee drew up a proposed timetable of meetings for consideration by the Commission (see Appendix I to this Report). The Executive Committee emphasized that in putting forward this proposed timetable it had taken fully into account the problems of travel and work load falling on government delegates. It further considered that this timetable, together with the postponement of the above-mentioned meetings, would afford opportunity for the preparation of sound draft standards for consideration by Committees.

5. Report of the ad hoc Working Group of the Codex Committee on General Principles

The Executive Committee accepted the Report of the ad hoc Working Group and recommended to the Commission acceptance of the Guidelines (ALINORM 66/3(2)) and definitions in the Report (ALINORM 66/9).

6. Acceptance of Codex Standards

Arising out of a discussion of the problem of food stuffs which were fit for human consumption, but substandard in respect of quality criteria, the Executive Committee briefly considered the meaning of acceptance of Codex Standards as contained in the General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius.

After an exchange among the members of the Executive Committee it was decided that some clarification of this part of the General Principles was required. The Executive Committee therefore recommended that this matter should also be considered by the proposed Working Party on Rules of Procedure and Related Matters which would meet during the Commission's Session.

7. Extent to which Codex Standards should include provisions relating to processing

The Executive Committee discussed this subject which had been raised by the Federal Republic of Germany. In principle, the Executive Committee concluded that the requirements as to processing should not be included in Codex Standards unless there was a specific reason for doing so. The Executive Committee thought that Codex Committees should judge this question in accordance with the particular circumstances of the food under consideration and include only such provisions relating to processing as were essential for the standard.

8. Terms of Reference

The Committee agreed that terms of reference for the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene comparable to those developed for other general subject Codex Committees should be established. The Committee recommended that the following terms of reference be submitted to the Commission:

- (a) To draft basic provisions on food hygiene applicable to all food.
- (b) (i) To consider, amend if necessary, and ratify provisions on hygiene prepared by Codex Commodity Committees and contained in Codex Commodity Standards.
or
(ii) To draft provisions on hygiene in respect of a particular food coming within the terms of reference of a Codex Commodity Committee at the request of that Committee.
- (c) To draft, where necessary, provisions on hygiene in respect of any food not assigned to any Codex Commodity Committee.
- (d) To consider specific hygiene problems assigned to it by the Commission.

The Executive Committee agreed that the terms of reference adopted by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling at its second meeting needed some slight revision. These will be introduced at the time the Commission considers the Report of this Committee.

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PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE FOR MEETINGS UP TO AND INCLUDING THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE
CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
	<u>April 1967</u>	
ECE/Codex Group of Experts on Fruit Juices (Fourth Session)	2nd week 10-14	Rome
Codex Committee on Sugars (Fourth Session)	3rd week 17-21	London
Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (Fourth Session)	4th week 24-28	London
	<u>May</u>	
Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate (Fifth Session)	1st week 3-5	Iugano
Executive Committee (Fifth Session)	2nd week 8-12	Rome
	<u>June</u>	
Codex Committee on Poultry (First Session)	1st week 5-9	Washington
Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (Fourth Session)	2nd week 12-16	Washington
Codex Committee on Processed Fruit and Vegetables (Fourth Session)	3rd week 19-23	Washington
Codex Committee on Food Labelling (Third Session)	4th week 26-29	Ottawa
	<u>September</u>	
Codex Committee on Food Additives (Fourth Session)	3rd week 18-22	The Hague
Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (Second Session)	4th week 25-29	The Hague
	<u>October</u>	
Subcommittee IV of Codex Committee on Meat and Meat Products (Second Session)	1st week 2-6	Copenhagen
Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (Second Session)	2nd week 9-13	Bergen
Codex Committee on General Principles (Second Session)	3rd week 16-20	Paris
Codex Committee on Methods of Sampling and Analysis (Third Session)	4th week 24-27	Berlin

Meetings

Date

Place

January 1968

Committee of Government Experts on the Code of Principles concerning
Milk and Milk Products (Tenth Session)

2nd week

8-12

Geneva

Executive Committee (Eleventh Session) and
Codex Alimentarius Commission (Fifth Session) and
Coordinating Committee for Europe (Fifth Session)

3rd and
4th week

15-19)
22-26)

Geneva