

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



JOINT OFFICE: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00100 ROME Tel: 39 06 57051 www.codexalimentarius.net Email: codex@fao.org Facsimile: 39 06 5705 4593

**Agenda Item 4**

**CX/MPH 03/4 Add...**

## **JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

**Fifty-first (Extraordinary) Session  
Geneva, Switzerland, 13-15 February 2003**

### **INDIA'S COMMENTS**

**Trust Fund for Participation of Developing Countries and Countries in Transition in  
the Work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission**

### **FAO/WHO PROJECT AND FUND FOR ENHANCED PARTICIPATION IN CODEX PROGRESS REPORT**

#### **GOAL AND OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT**

A review of the revised goals and objectives of the Project and Fund, its structure and progress report indicates that the goal of the Project has been enlarged so as to incorporate the goal of furthering the improvement of global public health and food security by promoting the provisions of safer and more nutritious food and contributing to reduction in food borne diseases and the approach is by helping regulators and food experts from all areas of the world to participate in international standards- setting work in the framework of Codex and enhancing their capacity to establish effective food safety and quality standards and fair trade practices in food trade, both in the framework of Codex and in their own countries.

Similarly, the revised main objectives will include strengthening of capacity of developing countries and countries with economic in transition to build strong and compatible food control system through exchanges, knowledge transfer and professional development through Codex and to help all Codex members benefit from the knowledge base and control systems that will emerge as a result of activities of the Project.

These revised goals and objectives are totally in deviation from the original goals, objectives and the purpose for which this Trust Fund was conceived and hence defeat the very purpose. The main objective for which the developing countries have been requesting for setting up of a separate Trust Fund was to provide support and enhance the capacity of the developing and least developed countries to participate in the Codex work, may it be the meetings of the CAC or its Committees or the Task Forces or Working Groups for increased credibility and legitimacy of the Codex process.

Considering the needs in this regard, enhancing the goals and objective for **extending the support to all areas of world to participate in international standards- setting work in the framework of Codex and enhancing their capacity to establish effective food safety and quality standards and fair trade practices in food trade, both in the framework of Codex and in their own countries** or strengthening of capacity of developing countries and countries with economic in transition to build strong and compatible food control system through exchanges, knowledge transfer and professional development through Codex **and to help all Codex Members** benefit from the knowledge base and control systems that will emerge as a result of activities of the Project, which requires huge budget, will substantially reduce the proportion of the funds that could be available to the developing countries for participation in Codex work and hence, **India strongly opposes the revised goals and objectives and urges that the propose enlarged goals and objectives should be deleted and this should be restricted to the basis objective for supporting the developing and least developed countries for participation in the Codex work and process and the support for capacity building and other activities should be totally excluded.**

*In this context, attention of the CAC is invited to the Para 10 of the Report of the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Coordinating Committee for Asia, held in September 2003, wherein it was emphatically recommended that the Project should focus on its core objective, that is to enable developing countries to attend meetings rather than extending to capacity building activities in the project since these activities are already carried out by FAO, WHO and other international organizations under their existing programmes.*

#### **Governance and daily management of the Project**

In the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the RAC, which considered the “Concept Paper on Trust Fund”, it was also recommended that National Governments should have the prerogative to identify beneficiaries of the project, and for this reason the relevant section in the concept paper should be revised and also that the operation of the fund should be flexible to meet specific needs of the developing countries. However, these have not been taken into consideration. **India would, therefore, urge that to make the Trust Fund to meet its objective, the recommendations of the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of RAC should be suitably incorporated.**

#### **Annex I**

The Terms of Reference of the FAO/WHO Consultative Group should also be modified in the light of the above comments.

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### INDIA'S COMMENTS

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

#### PROGRESS REPORT

#### STATEMENT

#### A. GOAL AND OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

India strongly opposes the revised goals and objectives and urges that the proposed enlarged goals and objectives should be deleted and this should be restricted to the basic objective for supporting the developing and least developed countries for participation in the Codex work and process and the support for capacity building and other activities should be totally excluded.

*In this context, attention of the CAC is invited to the Para 10 of the Report of the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Coordinating Committee for Asia, held in September 2003, wherein it was emphatically recommended that the Project should focus on its core objective, that is to enable developing countries to attend meetings rather than extending to capacity building activities in the project since these activities are already carried out by FAO, WHO and other international organizations under their existing programmes.*

#### B. GOVERNANCE AND DAILY MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT

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