

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



JOINT OFFICE: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 ROME Tel: 39 06 57051 www.codexalimentarius.net Email: codex@fao.org Facsimile: 39 06 5705 4593

**CX 4/10**

**CL 2009/26-GP**  
**September 2009**

**TO:** Codex Contact Points  
Interested International Organizations

**FROM:** Secretary, Codex Alimentarius Commission, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, 00153 Rome, Italy

**SUBJECT:** **Proposal to amend the section on consensus in the *Guidelines to Chairpersons of Codex Committees and Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Forces***

**DEADLINE:** 15 December 2009

At the 25th Session of the Committee on General Principles (CCGP), the Delegation of Malaysia had proposed to include in the Guidelines to Chairpersons of Codex Committees and Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Forces in the section on consensus in front of the paragraph starting with the words “ The chairperson should also consider...” the following new paragraph:

“Where there is justified sustained opposition to substantial issues the chairperson should ensure that the views of concerned members be taken into consideration by reconciling conflicting arguments before deciding that a consensus has been reached”.

There was no consensus on this question at the CCGP (ALINORM 09/32/33, paras 83-86). The Commission decided to ask the Secretariat to issue a circular letter to all members of the Commission on the Malaysian proposal, soliciting comments which would be compiled and forwarded to the CCGP for further deliberation (ALINORM 09/32/REP, paras 212-218).

Governments and international organizations wishing to submit comments on the above proposal should do so in writing, preferably by E-mail to the Secretary, Codex Alimentarius Commission, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy (Email: [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org), fax : +39 06 57054593) **before 15 December 2009.**