

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 7

CX/GP 10/26/7-Add.1

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES
Twenty-sixth Session
Paris, France, 12 - 16 April 2010**

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE

Replies to CL 2009/37-GP

(Brazil, United States)

Brazil

Brazil considers that the examination of the economic impact of standards should be retained and proposes to add the following sentence as part of the Terms of Reference of CCGP:

- to evaluate any economic impact statements submitted by governments concerning possible implications for their economies of some of the individual standards or some of the provisions thereof.

United States

General Comments

The United States is supportive of the Secretariat's proposal, with minor modifications.

Specific comments:

The United States believes that the reference to defining the purpose and scope of the Codex Alimentarius, which is in the current TORs, should be retained in CCGP's TORs. There have been instances, e.g. proposals for new work, in which the work has been determined to be outside the scope of Codex. If there are questions about proposed Codex work in relation to the scope of the Codex Alimentarius, we believe that a specific body should have responsibility for a determination.

Therefore, we propose the following language:

*“To deal with procedural and general matters, **including the purpose and scope of the Codex Alimentarius**, referred to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission or one of its subsidiary bodies.”*

The United States believes that the fourth statement is too prescriptive, and could have unintended consequences. First, the absence of a document on this list may prevent CCGP from reviewing it, or alternatively, the committee may believe that they have to amend the TORs for CCGP every time they decide to work on a new core concept type of document. Therefore, we suggest the following, more general wording:

“To keep under review all standards and related texts of Codex.”