

## **MINUTES OF CCAFRICA MEETING HELD ON 2009-06-30**

**DATE:** 2009-06-30  
**VENUE:** ETHIOPIA ROOM, FAO, ITALY  
**TIME:** 08:30 – 09:30 HRS

### **1.0 MEMBERS PRESENT**

List attached

### **2.0 OPENING**

The Coordinator of CCAFRICA welcomed all present to the meeting. Members present introduced themselves.

### **3.0 MAIN BUSINESS**

#### **3.1 Preparations before the Commission Meeting**

The Coordinator encouraged countries to prepare country position papers for effective participation in codex activities. He admonished countries to share comments amongst themselves, come together and support one another when interventions were made. He mentioned that it was crucial for Africa to wake up with respect to Codex activities.

#### **3.2 Vice-Chair of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)**

The Coordinator informed members that Dr. Ben Manyindo of Uganda was vying for the position of Vice-Chair of the CAC. He had already completed his first term of office and was eligible for re-election for the second term. He urged members to support him for a second term. Members agreed to this recommendation

The Coordinator expressed his gratitude to all African countries for nominating Ghana as Coordinator for the Region for a second term of office.

### **3.3 Members elected on a geographic basis**

The Coordinator informed countries present that the Representative of Africa on the Executive Committee was Mali. Zambia and Morocco had been elected as Advisors. Members were informed they had all completed their first term of office.

The member countries agreed that the member elected on a geographical basis as well as his advisors be retained for a second term.

### **3.4 Highlights of the CCAFRICA Strategic Plan**

#### **3.4.1 Contact Details**

The Coordinator reminded countries of their obligation to provide the Coordinating Country with details of the Codex Contact Points in their respective countries on a regular basis. Countries were encouraged to inform the Coordinator of any changes regarding the details of their Codex Contact Point.

#### **3.4.2 Working Groups**

The Coordinator mentioned that it was essential to establish working groups to examine strategic aspects of Codex issues such as the Code of Ethics for International Trade in Foods which was relevant to all African countries present.

#### **3.4.3 Code of Ethics for International Trade on Foods**

The Coordinator informed members that the Codex Committee on General Principles is one critical committee that member countries should show interest. The next meeting will consider among other agenda items one that will involve the code of ethics in international trade on foods. Member countries were encouraged to study the documents and provide their inputs.

Members were asked to work towards the next session of the Codex Committee on General Principles and as many African countries should endeavour to participate in the meeting.

#### **3.4.4 Risk Assessment Bodies**

The Coordinator informed countries that there was the need to establish a regional risk assessment body as outlined in the CCAFRICA Strategic Plan. This body should be made up of Experts from all countries in the region. He asked members to identify all Experts in this area in their respective countries.

#### **3.4.5 Format for Report Writing**

Members were informed that they were expected to submit an annual report of activities undertaken in their countries using the annual report format developed for the Region. The deadline for submission is the end of July 2009.

#### **3.4.6 CCAFRICA Website**

The Coordinator stressed the importance of the CCAFRICA website. It was apparent that very few members had visited the website. The Coordinator gave members the website address ([www.codexafrica.org](http://www.codexafrica.org)) and asked each member to make it a point to use the website.

#### **3.4.7 Other Discussions**

- 1) Dr. Mosha suggested setting up Codex desks at the various Regional Economic Communities like COMESA, SADC etc. in order to win political support for Codex activities.
- 2) He also mentioned the need to plan for succession ie train younger people in our respective countries in Codex matters.
- 3) The delegate from South Africa suggested that African countries should meet a day before the start of meetings for Codex Commission meetings. However, Dr. Manyindo from Uganda suggested the use of e-mails to discuss issues before every Codex session instead of meeting a day before the commencement of Commission meetings.

- 4) The delegate from Zimbabwe commended Ghana for the work done and stated that he expects the Coordinator to take the lead role in the formation of regional positions and encouraged countries to strengthen their National Codex Contact Points.

#### **4.0 CLOSING**

The meeting ended at 09:30 hrs.

**LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT AT CCAFRICA MEETING HELD ON 2009-06-30**

<b>NO.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>E-MAILS</b>
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