

Web-story, FOS

Kazakhstan as first-ever Russian-speaking to be nominated as Coordinator of Codex Coordinating Committee for Europe

The 30th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO) was successfully held from October 3rd–7th 2016 in Astana, Kazakhstan. The Session, which was the first CCEURO Session ever to be held in Central Asia, was chaired by the current Coordinator the Netherlands and hosted and co-chaired by the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Session was attended by 35 Member countries, 1 Member Organization (EU), 1 Observer country (USA) and 1 Observer organization (OIE).

A keynote address on AMR from a food safety and Codex perspective preceded a good discussion on country experiences and views on addressing AMR in the area of food safety and in relation to Codex. CCEURO Members were encouraged to actively and collaboratively participate in the new Codex Task Force on AMR.

The Session also extensively discussed critical and emerging issues in regard to food safety, a topic which will be a standing item in future CCEURO and Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) meetings. In addition to AMR, food fraud, globalization of food trade and new distribution channels, in particular e-commerce of food, were highlighted.

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the CAC40 that will meet in July 2017 in Geneva that Kazakhstan be appointed as Coordinator for CCEURO, to follow the current Coordinator the Netherlands that will end its second term as Regional Coordinator after CAC40.

The CCEURO session was preceded by a successful FAO/WHO side event on the new Codex Trust Fund (CTF2), where countries could learn more about what CTF2 is and does, and how to prepare and submit application for support for 3 year projects. Nine countries in the Region are eligible for support, and so far Kyrgyzstan is the only country in the European Region that has succeeded in obtaining support from CTF2, while the other eight have possibilities during the coming 12 years.

More on Codex Alimentarius: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/roster/detail/en/c/444896/>

More on Codex Trust Fund: http://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas_work/food-standard/codextrustfund/en/