



Criteria for selection of FAO Reference Centre

An institution recommended for designation as an FAO Reference Centre should have previously collaborated with FAO for a minimum of two (2) years (or less under special circumstances to be justified by the relevant technical unit) in carrying out jointly planned activities and demonstrated the following:

- a) attainment of scientific, technical and policy standing, and active engagement in fields of expertise relevant to the FAO's mandate;
- b) contributions to the implementation of FAO's programmatic priorities and a commitment to strengthening capacity development in areas relevant to FAO's mandate (e.g. collaboration with FAO on specific programmes or projects);
- c) the ability to carry out one or several of the following functions:
 - i. standardization of technology, technology transfer, therapeutic and other substances, and of methods/procedures;
 - ii. provision of reference substances and services such as quality control and quality assurance;
 - iii. participation in collaborative research of a scientific, technical or policy nature;
 - iv. contribution to capacity development through, *inter alia*, the provision of training; and
 - v. coordination of activities carried out by other institutions;
- d) a willingness to use its own resources to implement joint collaborative activities, with the understanding that FAO is not a funding organization and limited in the financial support it can provide; and
- e) the submission of a "Declaration of Interest", to be completed by the head of the concerned institution.