

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 6

CAC/39 CRD/23

Original Language Only

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

39th Session

FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy, 27 June – 1 July 2016

PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK

(COMMENTS OF INDIA)

CCNFSDU: PROPOSED GUIDELINE FOR READY TO USE THERAPEUTIC FOODS (RUTF)

1. India does not support the current proposal due to lack of sufficient scientific data in favour of using Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) in the management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in community settings. The delegation of India had marked its reservation on this issue in the 37th Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) and informed the Committee that the review from WHO on the safety and efficacy of using this product is still awaited. In the absence of the WHO review, the decision on the current proposal to develop guidelines on RUTF would not be acceptable.
2. Further, use of RUTF is more suited to the situations where there is complete collapse of civic infrastructure and in conflict situations. However, it may not be an ideal food to be given to all those children whose anthropometric cut off is below the defined normal, given the fact that larger number of SAM Children can be managed with modified therapeutic foods, frequent feedings and other local measures.