

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 2

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

73rd Session

WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland

10 - 13 July 2017

COMMENTS ON THE CRITICAL REVIEW

CODEX COMMITTEE ON PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

(Comments of United States of America and International Fruit and Vegetable Juice Association)

United States of America

The United States appreciates the opportunity to respond to CL 2017/07-PFV.

The United States considers it unnecessary for the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV) to update the remaining 18 standards, because we are unaware of any practical problems that revision of these 18 standards would resolve. The United States likewise does not foresee a need to propose new work for the CCPFV.

- The United States recalls that the Secretariat circulated for the 27th CCPFV Session (2014) a solicitation for members to express interest to update the standards, and another solicitation was circulated before the 28th Session (2016). In both cases, no official responses were received to undertake the revision of these remaining 18 standards.
- The United States further notes the absence in reports of the World Trade Organization or other bilateral/regional trade agreements of any disruptions in the trade of commodities subject to standards relating to the CCPFV terms of reference.
- With the outcomes of the 28th Session (2016), there are no items in the Step Process for consideration by CCPFV.

The United States concludes that CCPFV should adjourn *sine die* until there is sufficient progress in the Step Process of new work proposals that have met critical review criteria and referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission to CCPFV.

The United States commends the Committee for its accomplishments during the 10 sessions since CCPFV resumed meeting in 1998, during which 28 standards for canned fruits and vegetables and quick frozen vegetables revised, including the consolidation of standards into groupings of like items (see Annex of CX/PFV 14/27/12), and 9 new standards were recommended for adoption.

International Fruit and Vegetable Juice Association

The International Fruit and Vegetable Juice Association (IFU) has been for more than sixty years the only representative of the worldwide fruit and vegetable juice and nectar industry. The members of IFU are producers of juices and related products, associations, traders, machinery and packaging producers, public and private scientific institutions from around the world.

The IFU would like to thank the codex secretariat for the request to propose new work on codex standards for the committee on processed fruits and vegetables. The IFU over many years has supported the work of the committee and participated in many meetings.

The IFU strongly recommends maintaining a physical meeting of the CCPFV especially as the issue on the addition of use of “emulsifiers, stabilizers, thickeners” and “xanthan gum” (INS 415) in food categories “14.1.2” Fruit and Vegetable Juices” and 14.1.3 “Fruit and Vegetable Nectars” remains outstanding and has been referred back to the committee by the 49th session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives CCFA for a more conclusive opinion. We would like to thank the Codex Secretariat for their consideration of this matter.