

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
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**Agenda Item 3**

**CX/FFP 00/3-Add.1**

## **JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**

### **CODEX COMMITTEE ON FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS**

Twenty-fourth Session  
Ålesund, Norway, 5-9 June 2000

#### **INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL SPECIES IN THE STANDARDS FOR FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS CHILEAN LANGOSTINO**

#### **GOVERNMENT COMMENTS**

##### **SPAIN**

Among the options proposed in document CX/FFP 00/3 for the inclusion of the species *Pleuroncodes monodon* and *Cervimundia johni* in the Codex standards for shrimps and for lobsters, we consider that in principle, a standard should be elaborated for *Pleuroncodes monodon* and *Cervimundia johni*.

However the following has to be taken into account before taking a decision:

The data provided by Chile in Annex 4 of the document refers to landings of both species; the figures referring to exports should be available in order to determine the actual need for a standard.

The only reference to exports in the document appears as a bibliographical reference of Waldo L. Schmitt 91971) in page 11 of the Spanish version, indicating that the United States import 1.050.00 pounds, about 477 tons.

The name used in the document "Chilean Langostino" as derived from small langostinos is not acceptable since langostinos are included in the Codex standards for shrimps and are known in Spain under the following names:

*Penaeus kerathurus* - Langostino

*Penaeus japonicus* – Japanese langostino

Similarly lobsters are included in the Codex standard for lobsters, rock lobsters, true lobsters and they are known in Spain under the following names:

*Palinurus mauritanicus* – dark lobster

*Palinus regium* – green lobster or true lobster

*Palinurus vulgaris* – lobster

## PERU

With reference to the above subject, during the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Committee, the Delegation of Peru expressed its position against the name “Chilean langostino” proposed by the Government of Chile, as proposed in CRD 1.

The Government of Peru has established the following comments which should be included in the working documents for the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products with reference to Item 3 of the Agenda (CX/FFP 00/3) and to the document prepared by the National Fisheries Service (Servicio Nacional de Pesca) of the Chilean Government

- 1) Considering that to date no standard has been established to include langostino species of commercial value, in particular *Pleuroncodes monodon* and *Cervimundia johni*; and that not only these species have a great commercial importance but it is imperative to consider the high risks associated with consumers’ health; it is necessary to elaborate relevant standards.
- 2) It should be pointed out that *Pleuroncodes monodon* which is largely distributed on the Peruvian coasts is of great importance for the development of the fishery industry in Peru, since it is currently used as a fishery resource on the national and international markets.
- 3) In this perspective, the view expressed in the second conclusion calls for two remarks:
  - the first concerns the necessity of including these species in a Codex Alimentarius standard;
  - the second refers to the inclusion of these species under the name Chilean Langostinos

As regards the first we fully agree; however as regards the second, although it is substantiated in the reference document, it should be stressed that *Pleuroncodes monodon* is largely distributed on the Peruvian coast, and that an indication of origin is involved in the application of this name.

As regards the description of the above species as “langostinos”, the document prepared by the Chilean government is based on language criteria, and consequently their application may differ regionally or locally, with the understanding that such differences do not amount to an error in the name.

However, it should be recalled that Codex standardization work is based on scientific evidence and on the documentation generated by competent international organizations; in this instance the reference as regards classification is the FAO international catalogue of species.

In conclusion the indication of origin does not correspond to the geographical distribution of the species referred, and consequently these species should be included in Codex Alimentarius standards but not under the name “Chilean Langostino”

This opinion was prepared by the Ministry of Health with the cooperation of the member institutions of the Technical Commission on Fish and Fishery Products of the National Codex Alimentarius Committee.