

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 2

CX/CPC 00/2
July 2000

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON COCOA PRODUCTS AND CHOCOLATE

Eighteenth Session

Fribourg, Switzerland, 2 - 4 November 2000

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES

A. TWENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
(28 June - 3 July 1999, Rome; ALINORM 99/37)

1. STANDARDS FOR COCOA PRODUCTS (Appendix VII, Part 2)

The Commission adopted the Proposed Draft Standards for Cocoa Butters, for Cocoa (Cacao) Mass (Cocoa/Chocolate Liquor) and Cocoa Cake for the Use in the Manufacture of Cocoa and Chocolate Products, and for Cocoa Powders (Cocoas) and Dry Cocoa-Sugar Mixture at Step 5 as proposed and advanced them to Step 6.

2. MEDIUM-TERM PLAN 1998/2002 (paras 25-34, Appendix II)

The Commission adopted the Medium-Term Plan 1998-2002 as amended by the Commission. The following programme area is relevant to the work of the Committee:

Programme area	Medium-Term Objectives
Commodity standards	Finalization of revision/simplification of Codex Commodity Standards. Elaboration of specific Commodity Standards where justified.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Amendments to the Rules of Procedure (paras 59-66, Appendix III)

The Commission agreed to amend Rules II, III.1 and X as proposed by the Committee on General Principles or as proposed at the Session. The amendment to Rule X - Elaboration of Standards is to stress that every effort should be made to reach consensus.

Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities and Criteria for the Establishment of Subsidiary Bodies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (para. 67, Appendix IV)

The Commission adopted the amendments separating the criteria for work priorities from the criteria for establishing subsidiary bodies, which include provisions for the establishment of *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Forces operating for a limited period of time under closely defined terms of reference, but functioning in the same manner as established Codex Committees.

4. RELATIONS BETWEEN COMMODITY COMMITTEES AND GENERAL COMMITTEES: DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE FOOD HYGIENE PROVISIONS (para. 68 & Appendix IV)

The Commission adopted the amendment concerning the food hygiene provisions to be used in commodity standards as proposed. The Committee is invited to use the following wording¹ in the proposed draft and draft standards under consideration by this Committee:

- It is recommended that the products covered by the provisions of this standard be prepared and handled in accordance with the appropriate sections of the Recommended International Code of Practice - General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969, Rev 3-1997), and other relevant Codex texts such as Codes of Hygienic Practice and Codes of Practice.
- The products should comply with any microbiological criteria established in accordance with the Principles for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria for Foods (CAC/GL 21-1997).

B. THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS (22-26 March 1999, The Hague; ALINORM 99/12A)

1. ENDORSEMENT OF FOOD ADDITIVES PROVISIONS (paras 30-31)

The Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (CCFAC) at its 31st Session endorsed the food additives provisions in the Proposed Draft Standards for Cocoa Butters, for Cocoa (Cacao) Mass (Cocoa/Chocolate Liquor) and Cocoa Cake for the Use in the Manufacture of Cocoa and Chocolate Products², and for Cocoa Powders (Cocoas) and Dry Cocoa-Sugar Mixture, *except* following:

<i>Standard for:</i>	<i>Food Additive</i>	<i>Proposed level</i>	<i>Decision by CCFAC</i>
Coca Powders (Cocoas) and Dry Cocoa-Sugar Mixture	Potassium aluminium silicate (555)(anti-caking agent)	10 g/kg in cocoa-sugar mixtures	CCFAC withdrew this additive as no ADI has been allocated to it.

The Committee should accept the withdrawal of potassium aluminium silicate from the Standard for Cocoa Powders (cocoas) and Dry Cocoa-Sugar Mixture as decided by the CCFAC.

2. ENDORSEMENT OF CONTAMINANTS PROVISIONS (paras 84-88)

The CCFAC considered the contaminants provisions (maximum levels for lead at 2 mg/kg) in the Proposed Draft Standards for Cocoa Butters, for Cocoa (Cacao) Mass (Cocoa/Chocolate Liquor) and Cocoa Cake for the Use in the Manufacture of Cocoa and Chocolate Products, and for Cocoa Powders (Cocoas) and Dry Cocoa-Sugar Mixture.

The CCFAC decided to send back the above level to this Committee for further consideration. Opinions were expressed at the 31st Session of the CCFAC that:

- the maximum level for lead was too high;
- more information should be provided to the CCFAC to justify the maximum level of lead; and
- the level should be based on sound science and reflect what was technologically feasible

¹ Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual, Eleventh Edition, page 95.

² Pending the clarification of its function, glycerol (in square brackets; ALINORM 99/14, para. 39) was not sent to the CCFAC for endorsement.

C. FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES (19-23 April 1999, Paris; ALINORM 99/33A)

1. STATUS OF CODEX TEXTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE TBT AGREEMENT (paras 58-61)

The Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP) agreed that all Codex texts, including standards and their annexes, were covered by the definition for “standard” in the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and that distinctions based on Acceptance (under the Codex Procedures) were not relevant in the framework of the WTO.