

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda item (5)

CX/FFV 06/13/11

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**

*13<sup>th</sup> Session, Mexico City, Mexico,  
25 - 29 September 2006*

***PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE PRIORITY LIST FOR THE STANDARDIZATION OF  
FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES***

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**SOUTH AFRICA**

## **PREPARATION OF A PROJECT PROPOSAL ON STANDARDIZATION ON YAMS**

During the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFFV, South Africa requested work to be carried out with respect to standardization of Yams, and following that request a project document was to be prepared and presented on 13<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFFV.

Unfortunately South Africa will however no longer pursue the preparation of a project proposal as agreed but rather request that this proposal be suspended due to an agreement (informal) arrived at with the Tonga delegation on this proposal. Thus far no major problems were experienced with respect to export as well as import quality of yams and it would therefore not be necessary to have standards develop for yams when there far more important project that the CCFFV can focus on at present. It is also understood that yams are presently inspected against phytosanitary matters and that has not so far proved difficult for exporting countries to comply with.

Our retraction from this issue does not of course discount any effort from either exporting or importing countries to launch a similar proposal in future.

Thank you in anticipation.

Yours Sincerely

Mr. B.M. Makhafola  
Assistant Manager: Agronomy and Vegetables

**AUSTRALIA****1. Proposals for Amendments to the Priority List for the Standardization of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables**

The 28 CAC recommended that new work should commence on a Standard for Bitter Cassava. With regard to the remaining commodities on, or commodities that are suggested for addition to, the CCFFV Priority List, Australia believes that there should be a review in accordance with the criteria applicable to commodities in the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities in the Codex Procedural Manual.

These criteria are:

- a) Consumer protection from the point of view of health and fraudulent practices.
- b) Volume of production and consumption in individual countries and volume and pattern of trade between countries.
- c) Diversification of national legislations and apparent resultant or potential impediments to international trade.
- d) International or regional market potential.
- e) Amenability of the commodity to standardization.
- f) Coverage of the main consumer protection and trade issues by existing or proposed general standards.
- g) Number of commodities which would need separate standards indicating whether raw, semi processed or processed.
- h) Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field.

Key amongst these criteria is the protection of public health followed by facilitation of free trade (criterion a).

As Codex commodity standards are used as benchmarks for international trade Australia believes it is important that a review take into account any market access or trade difficulties that have been encountered by member countries (criterion c), and the volume of trade of that commodity (criterion b).

Priority should be given to those commodities that have or continue to impact on consumer health, those that encounter trade difficulties or are in dispute, and are traded in significant quantity.

Australia believes those commodities that are low in these criteria should be removed from the list. Australia believes that in this way the relevance and efficiency of the work of CCFFV will be improved.