

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
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Agenda Item 2(a)

CX/FFV 11/16/2-Add.1

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

16<sup>th</sup> Session  
Mexico City, Mexico, 2 – 6 May 2011

Comments submitted in reply to CL 2010/35-FFV on the need for an international Standard for Fresh Fungus “Chanterelle”: Possible extension of the territorial application of the Codex Standard for Fresh Fungus “Chanterelle” (European Regional Standard CODEX STAN 40-1981): Argentina, Cuba, European Union, Jamaica and the United States of America

### ARGENTINA

According to the need for evaluating an International Standard for the Fresh Fungus “CHANTARELLUS”, Argentina considers that it would not be appropriate to continue with this work based on the following findings:

- i. Limited and unequal consumption worldwide: This fungus is spread out over the Northern Hemisphere, being Europe the main point of consumption. In contrast, this fungus is not well known nor consumed fresh or preserved in the Southern Hemisphere. Furthermore, it would not exist today a growing trend of global consumption;
- ii. Concentration of production in specific areas: Its collection has some relevance in Spain and France so it can be commercialized within Europe. Additionally, only Mexico has a small production exported especially to the United States;
- iii. Limited and outdated data of trade interchange: To date, there is not updated information about the international trade of this fungus. This would reduce the “international” justification of the standard. In this sense, it could be supposed that the international market of the product is underdeveloped and has a little economic value all over the world.

In view of the foregoing, Argentina considers appropriate to maintain the “regional” standard of these fungus and recommends collecting more information regarding trade and consumption of this fungus at a global level.

### CUBA

Cuba agrees to start work on an international standard for fresh fungus “Chanterelle” at the 16th Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, as part of the Committee’s standardization work. It is recommended to work based on the existing regional Codex Standard and the UNECE Standard.

### EUROPEAN UNION

In view of the fact that trade in fresh chanterelle appears to be mainly concentrated in Europe, the European Union and its Member States (EUMS) do not see a need for a worldwide standard for fresh chanterelle. The recently adopted UNECE Standard for Chanterelles (UNECE STANDARD FFV-55) provides up-to-date and useful guidance for trade. The EUMS take note that CCEURO in its last session decided to propose new work on the revision of the existing Codex regional standard chanterelles (European Regional Standard CODEX STAN 40-1981) taking into account the UNECE standard.

### JAMAICA

Jamaica does not support the conversion of the Regional Codex Standard for Fresh Fungus “Chanterelle” to an international standard.

Chanterelle is a regional European product and the volume traded does not require a Codex Standard. It is more appropriate to produce a regional standard.

**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The United States expresses its appreciation to the Codex Alimentarius for its standardization activities while acknowledging the importance of these Codex standards globally. The United States continues to support the activities of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and recognizes its eminent role in the international consumer protection and trade of these commodities. For this reason, the United States appreciates the opportunity to provide the following comments in response to the Circular Letter 2010/35-FFV.

**Specific Comment**

The United States strongly recommends that the CCFFV does not convert the Regional Codex Standard for Fresh Fungus "Chanterelle" (European Regional Standard CODEX STAN 40-1981) (CL 2010/35-FFV) to an international standard for the following reasons:

- I. Fresh Fungus "chanterelles" is mainly traded commercially in Europe among a few countries, therefore only a regional standard is appropriate; and
- II. The amount of Fresh Fungus "chanterelles" currently traded does not meet the volume threshold to warrant a Codex Standard. Therefore, this work does not necessitate the expenditure of Codex's limited resources.