

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 9

CX/FH 07/39/9 - Add.1
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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE

Thirty-ninth Session

Hyatt Regency, New Delhi, India

COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK AND/OR REVISION OF EXISTING STANDARDS

Submitted by:

Costarrica, Islamic Republic of Iran, Mexico, Peru, and Philippines

GENERAL

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Additional suggested criteria for prioritization of proposals:

1. Work done, and information available, on the subject so far.
2. The approximate size of the population and/or age/sex groups (number of the countries,...) most affected, or likely to be affected, by the problem.
3. Urgency of the problem.
4. Ease of tackling/solving the problem.

PERU

Peru appreciates the opportunity to express its views regarding the information requested.

From our country's perspective, we are interested in the existence of regulations regarding food safety assurance along the entire chain. At the industrial level, one of the points that we consider a priority is the traceability of products; therefore, we are interested in the **“Proposed Draft Principles for the Implementation of Traceability/Product Tracing in the Context of Food Inspection and Import and Export Certification Systems.”**

Also, the development itself of regulations of interest at the regional level is important in order to offer needed advice and support to countries in order to be able to improve the different aspects of food quality and safety systems.

One of these subjects of interest at the regional level is the case of the “quinua,” “culantro,” among others, a subject considered at the 15th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC).

The work undertaken should take the initiative to improve the present problem of food safety in the region and the need to strengthen and link the surveillance of food borne diseases with the systems that monitor contaminants in food. This should conclude with the need to strengthen all the aspects of the national food safety systems in order to provide the basis for an integrated surveillance of food borne diseases, and for the monitoring of contaminants in food.

Recommendations

Members may review the two proposals for new work with regard to their completeness and prioritise them;

COSTARICA

Costa Rica is in agreement with the provisional Agenda of the Ad-Hoc Working Group to be held a day before 39th meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene. Also, in relation to the two proposals of new works, it is considered that both proposal are complete and fulfill the established (Committee) procedure. Our country wishes to indicate that it considers to be of priority to develop commodity specific annexes for the Code of Hygienic Practices for Fruits and Vegetables. Also one is in agreement with the recommendations given by the special Work group, on the retention of the projects, until decisions can be taken. Nevertheless, it is considered that before including new works, it is necessary to work a new list taking in consideration the proposals that had considered with the previous procedure

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

We think that the proposal on Code of Hygienic Practices for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables should be priority No. 1, because there are presently strong international recommendations to increase fruit and vegetable consumption, and partly because of this, statistics show that the consumption is actually increasing in many countries.

MEXICO

We consider that for the meantime, it is important to not revise the existing Codes, and to include as a priority:

1. The Codes of Hygienic Practice for *Vibrio* spp. in Seafood, and
2. The annexes to the Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

PHILIPPINES

We support the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group to the CCFH to undertake new work on the Code of Hygienic Practice for *Vibrio* spp. in Seafood because of the importance of this commodity in trade and of *Vibrio* contamination in the product. Information on on *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* in Shrimps in the ASEAN region is available and can support the development of the Code. (ASEAN-Australia Food Safety Project on Strengthening ASEAN Risk Assessment Capability to Support Food Safety Measures, 2006)

**ANNEX I ITERATIVE PROCESS BETWEEN THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD
HYGIENE AND FAO/WHO FOR THE CONDUCT OF MICROBIOLOGICAL RISK
ASSESSMENT**

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Page 7:

1. All the paragraphs should be retained.
2. The last paragraph, line 1:

Delete the word *discontinue*, because the problem may
persist and, therefore, something should be done about it.

ATTACHMENT 1

CODE OF HYGIENIC PRACTICE FOR *VIBRIO* SPP. IN SEAFOOD

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Page 9, last part-Relevance to Codex...:

In the first line, six Codex strategic objectives are referred to, but only 5 are explained in the following paragraphs; the missing one should be added.

A general point about ATTACHMENTS 1 and 2: The titles of the six strategic objectives are worded differently in the 2 attachments. We feel that it would be much better to use the same wordings to avoid possible confusion, *although the explanation of each objective is, and should be, different.*

ATTACHMENT 4

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Considering every thing, we feel that the order of priority should be as follows:

Priority in Table	Our suggestion
1	6
2	2
3	9
4	1
5	10
6	11
7	7
8	8
9	3
10	12
11	4
12	5