

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



JOINT OFFICE: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 ROME Tel: 39 06 57051 www.codexalimentarius.net Email: codex@fao.org Facsimile: 39 06 5705 4593

Agenda Item 2

CX/MAS 10/31/2

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

Thirty-first Session

Budapest, Hungary, 8 - 12 March 2010

MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES

A. DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Proposed Amendment to the *Working Instructions for the Implementation of the Criteria Approach in Codex*

Consequential Amendment to the *General Criteria for the Selection of Methods of Analysis (terminology)*

1. The Commission adopted both amendments as proposed.

Draft Guidelines for Settling Disputes on Analytical (Test) Results

2. The Delegation of Brazil expressed the view that section 4 “Analysing Reserve Samples” in the Draft Guidelines resulted in unequal treatment between the importing and the exporting countries, in favour of the importing country, and indicated that the comments in LIM 12 described simulations using the critical difference delta mentioned in section 4 in order to illustrate the difficulties related to that section. The Delegation therefore proposed to return the Draft Guidelines to Step 6 for further discussion in the Committee, in order to ensure that the Guidelines met the concerns both of importing and exporting countries. This position was supported by other delegations.
3. Several other delegations supported the adoption of the Guidelines as they provided important guidance for settling analytical disputes in international trade and had been carefully considered by experts in this area in the Committee.
4. The Delegation of Hungary, speaking as the Chair of the Committee, pointed out that the Draft Guidelines were technically sound; however some expressions were ambiguous and could be interpreted in different ways. The Delegation also noted that Brazil had expressed a reservation in the Committee in general terms but had not made specific proposals at that time.
5. The Commission adopted the Draft Guidelines and noted that the issues raised in LIM 12 could be reconsidered by the Committee after countries had gained some experience in the use of the Guidelines. The Delegations of Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico and Thailand expressed their reservation on this decision.

Draft Guidelines on Analytical Terminology

6. The Commission adopted the Draft Guidelines and noted that they superseded the section on Analytical Terminology in the Procedural Manual, which would be deleted, and would be published as independent Guidelines.

B. MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER COMMITTEES:

COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES

Calculation of energy and methods for vitamin B6

7. As regards the request from the CCMAS to clarify the reference to calories and to consider the establishment of relevant conversion factors for kilojoules, the Committee, after some discussion, agreed to change “calories” to “energy” as the name in the provision in the table and in the title of footnote 2.

8. The Committee had considered how the calculation of energy from disaccharides should be addressed. The Committee noted the clarification from the FAO that disaccharides should not have the same energy conversion factor as monosaccharides because the latter include additional water due to hydrolysis as compared to higher carbohydrate polymers including disaccharides. Since additional water is included in the monosaccharide value, the energy conversion factor for monosaccharides is smaller, and the Committee agreed that the calculation of energy from disaccharides should be covered by (b) carbohydrates.

9. The Committee also agreed to add an additional column for conversion factors for kilojoules, as requested by the CCMAS, and added section (g) to clarify that the energy contribution of carbohydrate (b) should not include the contribution of monosaccharides (d) to read:

Footnote 2: Section 9 Energy by Calculation – Section 9.2 Conversion Factors*

(a) Protein: 4 kcal per g - 17 kJ per g

(b) Carbohydrate: 4 kcal per g -17 kJ per g

(c) Fat: 9 kcal per g - 37 kJ per g

(d) Monosaccharides determined as such where known to be present): 3.75 kcal per g - 16 kJ per g

*Food energy -methods of analysis and conversion factor. FAO Food and Nutrition Paper 77, Rome, 2003.

(e) Specific food ingredient See “Energy and Protein Requirements” (FAO Nutrition Meeting Report Series No. 52 or WHO Technical Report Series No. 522)

(f) Other specific energy conversion factors may be used where the formulation of the food and the nutrient content are known and where such specific conversion factors are physiologically more meaningful than the factors listed above

(g) The energy contribution of (b) carbohydrate should not include the energy contribution of (d) monosaccharides.

10. As regards the CCMAS request for whether determination of vitamin B6 the AOAC and CEN microbiassay methods should be retained or replaced with more modern methods, the Committee noted that these microbiassay methods were useful because they measure the biological activity of the vitamin and therefore agreed to retain them (ALINORM 10/33/26, paras. 11-14).