



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
Seventy-ninth Session**

CRITICAL REVIEW¹ PART II

1. Procedural background for the Critical Review

1.1 According to the *Procedures for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts Part 2*. Critical Review in the Codex Procedural Manual, “An on-going critical review shall ensure that proposals for new work and draft standards submitted to the Commission for adoption continue to meet the strategic priorities of the Commission and can be developed within a reasonable period of time, taking into account the requirements and availability of scientific expert advice”. Furthermore, “The Commission decides, taking into account the outcome of the ongoing critical review conducted by the Executive Committee, that a standard should be elaborated and also which subsidiary body or other body should undertake the work”.

1.2 In line with this, CCEXEC is invited to critically review the work of the committees, taking into account the recommendations of the Secretariat and the comments of the chairs to:

- Review standards and related texts submitted to the Commission for adoption;
- Monitor the progress of standards development;
- Review proposals for new work or revision of standards.

2 Examining proposed standards before submission to the Commission for adoption

The critical review process shall ensure that draft standards submitted to the Commission for adoption have been fully considered at Committee level. The Executive Committee examines proposed standards from Codex committees before they are submitted to the Commission for adoption:

- for consistency with the mandate of Codex, the decisions of the Commission, and existing Codex texts;
- to ensure that the requirements of the endorsement procedure have been fulfilled, where appropriate;
- for format and presentation; and
- for linguistic consistency.

3 Monitoring progress of standards development

3.1 The Executive Committee reviews the status of development of draft standards against the timeframe agreed by the Commission and shall report its findings to the Commission. CCEXEC may propose an extension of the timeframe; cancellation of work; or propose that the work be undertaken by a Committee other than the one to which it was originally entrusted, including via the establishment of a limited number of subsidiary bodies, if appropriate.

3.2 Criteria to facilitate the conduct of monitoring progress of standards development²

3.2.1 When progress on a standard is delayed due to the need for scientific advice, the Executive Committee could encourage FAO and WHO to schedule an expert consultation to provide such advice in a timely manner, and recommend suspension of work until such time as scientific advice became available;

¹ This document addresses the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV), working by correspondence only, the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP), adjourned *sine die*, and the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR).

² CCEXEC58 (2006)

3.2.2 When scientific advice has been provided and a standard has been under consideration for more than five years, the Executive Committee should urge the Committee concerned to take action within a specified timeframe;

3.2.3 When an item has been considered for several sessions without any progress and there is no prospect of reaching consensus, the Executive Committee could propose suspension of work at a particular Step in the Elaboration Procedure for a specified period of time or discontinuation of work, or corrective action to be taken to achieve progress, fully taking into consideration the information provided by the subsidiary body concerned.

3.3 Discussion papers³

Discussion papers contribute to the workload of a committee and are important discussion tools for committees before requesting new work. A list of discussion papers is included for information purposes only, in order to present a complete view of the workload of each Committee, but will not be discussed as such.

4. Proposals to undertake new work or to revise a standard

4.1 Prior to approval for development, each proposal for new work or revision of a standard shall be accompanied by a project document, prepared by the Committee or Member proposing new work or revision of a standard. The decision to undertake new work or to revise standards shall be taken by the Commission taking into account a critical review conducted by CCEXEC.

4.2 The critical review includes:

- Examination of proposals for development/revisions of standards, taking into account the “*Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities*”, the strategic plan of the Commission and the required supporting work of independent risk assessment;
- Identifying the standard setting needs of developing countries;
- Advice on the need for coordination of work between relevant Codex subsidiary bodies;
- Advice on establishment and dissolution of committees and task forces, including *ad hoc* cross-committee task forces (in areas where work falls within several committees); and
- Preliminary assessment of the need for expert scientific advice and the availability of such advice from FAO, WHO or other relevant expert bodies, and the prioritisation of that advice.

4.3 The decision to undertake new work or revision of individual maximum residue limits for pesticides or veterinary drugs, or the maintenance of the General Standard on Food Additives (including methods of analysis and sampling), the General Standard on Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (including methods of analysis and sampling), the Food Categorization System and the International Numbering System, shall follow the procedures established by the Committees concerned and endorsed by the Commission.

5. Further development of the critical review

5.1 CCEXEC72⁴ welcomed a new structure for the Critical Review which consisted of one document instead of three documents and also agreed for the information to be delivered in instalments to ensure timely availability. CCEXEC72 also indicated that it would be useful to have more information and insights from the Chairpersons on committee work and that the Secretariat give more guidance to the Chairs as to the inputs needed to allow CCEXEC to be more effective in the Critical Review. The importance of maintaining a horizontal view of the work of committees and the interactions between committees was highlighted.

5.2 A slightly revised structure for the critical review of the work in Codex committees was piloted for the review undertaken by CCEXEC77. The revised structure aimed at improving readability and giving more prominence and emphasis on information and insights from the Chairpersons. As the feedback on the revised structure has been positive, this structure is being maintained.

5.3 The Codex Secretariat has also examined the Critical Review as part of the ongoing regular review of Codex work management. Further information on this can be found in documents CX/EXEC 19/77/5 and CX/EXEC 20/78/4.

³ CCEXEC63 (2009)

⁴ CCEXEC72 (2016), REP17/EXEC1 paras. 7-14

6. Structure of appendices

The work of the different Committee is addressed in separate appendices.

The structure of the appendices for each Committee is as follows:

1. General information on the Committee and Session
2. Overall comments (Secretariat / Chairperson)
3. Status of work items (Overview)
4. Specific comments on individual work items (Secretariat/Chairperson)

7. List of appendices

Appendix 1: Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV) (working by correspondence only)

Appendix 2: Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP) (adjourned *sine die*)

Appendix 3: Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR): Priority Lists of Pesticides for Evaluation by JMPR in 2021

Appendix 1

1. General

Committee	Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV) (working by correspondence only)		
Host	United States of America	Chairperson	Richard Boyd
Session reported on	CCPFV29	January-June 2020	

2. Overall comments

Secretariat's comments:

As agreed by CAC42, CCPFV29 worked by correspondence on the Codex online forum from January 2020 until end of June 2020.

CCPFV29, working via correspondence, followed the example of a physical meeting as far as possible. With the effective leadership of the Chairperson and the great contribution of the seven EWG chairpersons, CCPFV29 was a constructive and productive virtual session even though the agenda was substantial and it sometimes appeared difficult to reach consensus.

It was agreed that three proposed draft standards would be forwarded to CAC43 with a view to their adoption as Codex standards using the accelerated elaboration procedure. For the other two proposed draft standards, noting that substantial agreement had been achieved, CCPFV29 is in the process of final modifications with the aim of submitting these two standards to CAC43, which is envisaged to be held in September 2020, with a view to their adoption as Codex standards using the accelerated elaboration procedure.

Concerning matters from CCFA, CCPFV29 (i) agreed with the proposed amendments to the food additive provisions in various commodity standards; (ii) supported CCFA's alignment plan and recommended that CCFA conduct the alignment work and provide updates/reports to CCPFV; and (iii) agreed to provide the corresponding technological justifications to CCFA.

As for matters from CCMAS, CCPFV29 agreed that the free fatty acids (FFA) analysis would not be a quality requirement for quick-frozen French fried potatoes and recommended removing this requirement for analysis from the annex on French fried potatoes of *the Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables* (CXS 320-2015).

In response to the questions raised by CCFFV21, CCPFV29 provided clarification on the scopes covered by fresh dates and processed dates.

CCPFV29 was conducted under unique circumstance, and proved to be fruitful. CCPFV29 can be an example of a new way of working when holding physical meetings might not be possible. However, it should be recognized that this modality of working seems to be more time-consuming and more human resources-demanding as compared to a committee meeting physically.

Considering the exceptional situation, it is suggested that CCEXEC79 recommend that CCPFV29 continue its work on the two remaining draft standards during the next month so that they can be presented for possible adoption by CAC43.

For the way forward, consideration on how to deal with the two remaining new work proposals (i.e. cashew Kernels and dried sweet potatoes) endorsed by CAC40 (2017) should also be given.

Chairperson's comments:

CCPFV29 was the first instance when a full agenda and procedural steps for a committee plenary session were followed in a correspondence setting. There were registered participants from 27 member countries, one member organization, and three observer organizations. The format provided unique opportunities and challenges which the Committee responded to while seeking to ensure the core Codex values of inclusion, transparency, collaboration, and consensus-building. Additionally, CCPFV's 29th Session took place during the COVID-19 pandemic – thank you to the participants who, through their dedication and perseverance, contributed while weathering the effects of this unprecedented situation.

During the session's discussion of each agenda item, relevant document(s) were posted and CCPFV29 allotted a period of time for comments. If no response was received from a participant by the due date, their standing was interpreted as "not opposed" and considered supportive with respect to consensus. (This approach was established and communicated to participants at the start of CCPFV29). Each agenda item had two or more rounds of consultations, and several agenda items were worked on simultaneously. Once the comment period was completed and the designated rapporteurs provided summaries for their respective agenda items, the CCPFV29 Chairperson posted the final draft proposals for concurrence from CCPFV29 members.

CCPFV29 has agreed to recommend three proposed draft standards for adoption at step 5/8 by CAC43. In addition, CCPFV29 is continuing work to complete its last two proposed draft standards with the goal of providing them to CAC43 for adoption at step 5/8.

The following are observations regarding CCPFV's 29th session:

Benefits:

- Made progress on approved work without cost of travel and hosting venue resources.
- Allowed coverage of Committee agenda items.
- Successfully converted work done by 7 EWG's during 2019, to full committee work and 7 agenda items.
- Recommended three draft standards (Gochujang, Chili Sauce, and Mango Chutney) for adoption at Step 5/8.
- Plans include completing work on remaining two draft general standards with annexes (Dried Fruits and Canned Mixed Fruits) in time to recommend them for adoption at step 5/8 by CAC43.
- Developed full committee responses to matters for action referred by CCFA, CCFFV, and CCMAS, which included voluminous input on responses to CCFA regarding non-juice ingredients in fruit juices, and other topics.
- Made progress despite unanticipated challenges facing all participants due to coronavirus pandemic.
- Mechanism for determining consensus based on "no objections" was successful for non-controversial issues.
- Conversion of EWG Chairpersons as rapporteurs was effective and embraced by the involved delegations.
- A final report will be issued for the session documenting CCPFV29's results. More detailed information is available via postings on CCPFV29 on the Codex online forum.

Challenges:

- Slow process for progressing on agenda items (similar to time frame required for EWGs).
- Challenging to keep all comments from all sources for each agenda item organized for easy review by participants.
- Need for translations into three working languages of CCPFV caused delays.
- 28 registered members was low, with most input on Matters Referred from CCFA.
- Minimal participation from delegations not serving as rapporteurs.
- Delays in submittal of some comments from some delegations.
- Difficult to resolve certain issues due to inability to have interactive exchanges with full committee membership.
- Required establishing certain protocols for determining member concurrence with proposals.
- Under the "no objections" mechanism for determining consensus, the absence of objections did not provide information on the number of delegations falling under this category.
- Required extensive resources from the Chair, with assistance from the Secretariat, to establish framework for new "working by correspondence" process, and execute process.
- One-time situation (coronavirus pandemic) resulted in (1) delays in progress, and (2) uncertainty as to end-point for concluding meeting.
- Used a new approach to "General Standard with Annexes" (whereby the General Standard could apply to products not included in the Annexes) which was not discussed until late in the process. This resulted in delays in progress of the two draft standards involved. It is recommended that an agreed-upon standard layout for this approach be established prior to applying it.
- The combination of plenary meeting protocol with delayed translations and lack of a readily available means for interactive discussion among the full committee resulted in a relatively slow, and at times, labor-intensive process for the Secretariat and Chair.

- There was minimal noticable active participation among most participants during the standards review process.

Recommendation for CCPFV next steps:

(1) CCPFV29 continues work to finalize the last two standards for recommendation for adoption at step 5/8 by CAC43.

(2) Upon completion of its current session, CCPFV adjourns *sine die* with the understanding that the Committee may be re-activated in the future based on needs identified by members and sufficient priority workload.

Adjourning CCPFV *sine die* at this time is an appropriate endpoint for the Committee's activities which have recently been executed through the meeting-by-correspondence venue, in part to complete the work while mitigating meeting costs in light of low participation and low interest in CCPFV work. CCPFV has had low participation, i.e., 26 to 29 members, during the last four physical sessions. CCPFV29 also showed low participation with its 28 members. Re-activation of the Committee would depend on adequate participation and sufficient approved work to merit expenditure of Codex and member resources. Upon completion of its last two standards, CCPFV29 will have finished its agenda, with no draft standards remaining in the step process, and no requests for consideration of new work received from participants during the session.

CCPFV29 has demonstrated that a committee meeting by correspondence can achieve progress; however, this platform has unique challenges and some intrinsic disadvantages, including a lack of key collaborative tools such as committee-wide interactive discussion. In addition, neither physical nor correspondence meetings are appropriate when the work does not elicit enough participating members and when active participation is lacking in standards development by a large part of attendees. The experience of CCPFV29 showed that, despite avoidance of travel costs, meeting by correspondence did not improve the committee's low participation. Additionally, member involvement was low, as 21 of the 27 registered member countries did not comment on any of the five standards being elaborated.

Finally, it is necessary to consider the new work proposals approved in 2017 for cashew kernels and dehydrated sweet potato. These were considered low priority during CCPFV's member survey and assessment in 2018, and it would be appropriate to place them in a queue for consideration at a future time, pending adequate interest and sufficient workload to re-establish CCPFV.

Overall, by completing its current work and then adjourning, CCPFV will be adding to the array of Codex commodity standards, demonstrating an approach for conserving resources, and strengthening Codex for progress in areas where there is high member interest and opportunity for efficient and effective use of Codex resources.

Regarding links to work in other committees:

CCPFV29 prepared responses to matters referred from CCFA, CCFFV, and CCMAS. The response to CCFA was multi-faceted, and some of the topics have been passed between CCPFV and CCFA previously. In particular, the issue of non-juice ingredients (such as emulsifiers, stabilizers, and thickeners (ESTs)) in juices and how to categorize the juices containing these EST's has been an ongoing question. CCPFV29 provided numerous recommendations made by individual participants for ways forward, including modifications to food categories in the GSFA. CCPFV29 hopes that this response will help CCFA make progress on resolving the involved issues without need for follow-up input from CCPFV.

3. Status of work items

Topic	Job No.	Target year	Recommendation of the Committee
For decision by the Commission			
1. Conversion of the <i>Regional Standard for Gochujang</i> (CODEX STAN 294R-2009) into a worldwide standard	N17-2017	2021	5/8
2. Conversion of <i>Regional Standard for Chili Sauce</i> (CODEX STAN 306R-2011) into a Worldwide Standard	N14-2017	2020	5/8
3. Proposed revision to the <i>Standard for Mango Chutney</i> (CODEX STAN 160-1987)	N15-2017	2020	5/8
4. Proposed Draft General Standard for Dried Fruits (including dried persimmons)	N18-2017	2022	In progress toward 5/8 It is suggested that CCPFV continue to work in order to submit to CAC43 for final adoption
5. Proposed Draft General Standard for Canned Mixed Fruits (Revision of the Standard for Canned Tropical Fruit Salad (CODEX STAN 99-1981))	N19-2017	2022	In progress toward 5/8 It is suggested that CCPFV continue to work in order to submit to CAC43 for final adoption
6. Revision to the <i>Standards for Pickled Cucumbers</i> (CXS 115-1981), <i>Canned Bamboo Shoots</i> (CXS 241-2003), and <i>Jams, Jellies and Marmalades</i> (CXS 296-2009)	-	-	-
7. Revision to the annex on French Fried Potatoes of the <i>Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables</i> (CXS 320-2015)	-	-	-
For monitoring			
8. Standard for Dried sweet potato	N16-2017	2021 ⁵	Not adequate participation in CCPFV to justify continuation at this stage .
9. Standard for Cashew Kernels	N13-2017	2019 ⁶	Not adequate participation in CCPFV to justify continuation at this stage.
For Information			
Matters referred From CCFA, CCMAS and CCFFV	Relevant information will be provided to respective committees		

⁵ Not currently prioritized for new work; and no action taken. Therefore, "Target Year" is not appropriate

⁶ Not currently prioritized for new work; and no action taken. Therefore, "Target Year" is not appropriate

4. Specific comments

<p>1. Conversion of the <i>Regional Standard for Gochujang</i> (CODEX STAN 294R-2009) into a worldwide standard:</p>
<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>The work has progressed well and has completed ahead of the envisaged timeframe. The format and presentation as well as language is according to Codex style.</p> <p>CCPFV29 agreed to forward the proposed draft standard for Gochujang to CAC 43 for final adoption.</p> <p>The food additive, labelling and methods of analysis provisions will be forwarded to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS respectively for endorsement. The proposed draft standard for Gochujang will supersede the <i>Regional Standard for Gochujang</i>(CXS 294R-2009)</p>
<p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>Concur with the Secretariat's comments.</p>
<p>2. Conversion of the <i>Regional Standard for Chili Sauce</i> (CODEX STAN 306R-2011) into a Worldwide Standard:</p>
<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>The work has progressed well and has completed with the envisaged timeframe. The format and presentation as well as language is according to Codex style.</p> <p>CCPFV29 agreed to forward the proposed draft standard for Chili Sauce to CAC 43 for final adoption. The food additive, labelling and methods of analysis provisions will be forwarded to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS respectively for endorsement.</p> <p>The proposed draft standard for Chili Sauce will supersede the <i>Regional Standard for Chili Sauce</i> (CXS 306R-2011)</p>
<p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>Concur with the Secretariat's comments.</p>
<p>3. Revision of the Standard for Mango Chutney (CODEX STAN 160-1987)</p>
<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>The work has progressed well and has completed with the envisaged timeframe. The format and presentation as well as language is according to Codex style.</p> <p>CCPFV29 agreed to forward the proposed revision to the <i>Standard for Mango Chutney</i> (CXS 160-1987) to CAC43 for final adoption.</p> <p>The food additive, labelling and methods of analysis provisions will be forwarded to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS respectively for endorsement.</p>
<p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>Concur with the Secretariat's comments.</p>
<p>4. Proposed Draft General Standard for Dried Fruits</p>
<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>CCPFV29 noted that substantial progress had been made on the proposed draft General Standard for Dried Fruits. It is recommended that CCPFV continue to work on the draft standard, in particular on the annexes for dates and dried longans, with a view to its submission for final adoption by CAC43.</p>
<p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>CCPFV29 is finalizing the proposed draft General Standard for Dried Fruits with a view to recommend a final draft for adoption at step 5/8 by CAC43.</p>
<p>5. Proposed Draft General Standard for Canned Mixed Fruits (Revision of the Standard for Canned Tropical Fruit Salad (CODEX STAN 99-1981))</p>
<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>CCPFV29 noted that substantial progress had been made on the proposed draft general standard for Canned Mixed Fruits. It was recommended that CCPFV continue to work on the standard, in particular on the annex for canned tropical fruit salad/ mixed tropical fruit, with a view to its submission for final adoption by CAC43.</p>

<p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>CCPFV29 is finalizing the proposed draft General Standard for Canned Mixed Fruits with a view to recommend a final draft for adoption at step 5/8 by CAC43.</p>
<p>6. Revision to the <i>Standards for Pickled Cucumbers (CXS 115-1981), Canned Bamboo Shoots (CXS 241-2003), and Jams, Jellies and Marmalades (CXS 296-2009)</i></p>
<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>According to the recommendations from CCFA50 and CCFA51, CCPFV29 agreed with the proposed amendments to the food additive provisions in various commodity standards namely inclusion of tamarind seed polysaccharide (INS 437) in CXS 115-1981 and the revocation of provisions for several food additives (i.e. monosodium tartrate (INS 335(i)), monopotassium tartrate (INS 336(i)) and dipotassium tartrate (INS 336(ii)), sodium sorbate (INS 201)) in CXS 241-2003 and CXS 296-2009</p>
<p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>Concur with the Secretariat's comments.</p>
<p>7. Revision to the annex on French Fried Potatoes of the <i>Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables (CXS 320-2015)</i></p>
<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>When considering the request of CCMAS38 to recommend a method for fat extraction for testing for free fatty acids (FFA) in quick frozen French fried potatoes, CCPFV29 noted that the FFA analysis would not be a quality requirement for quick-frozen French fried potatoes and therefore proposed to remove the method for fat extraction for testing for free fatty acids (FFA) from the annex on Quick Frozen French Fries.</p>
<p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>Concur with the Secretariat's comments. As an added note, CCPFV29 observed that the basis for this change was that testing for FFA, when of interest, was performed on the cooking oil used for frying rather than performed on the food itself.</p>

Appendix 2

1. General

Committee	Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (adjourned <i>sine die</i>)		
Host	Norway	Chairperson	Bjorn Rothe Knudtsen

2. Overall comments

<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>The Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP) has been adjourned <i>sine die</i> since CAC39 (2016). The <i>Guide to the Procedure for the Amendment and Revision of Codex Standards and Related Texts</i> prescribes that, where Codex committees have been adjourned <i>sine die</i>, the Codex Secretariat is responsible for keeping under review its Codex standards and related texts and determine the need for any amendments. If the need for any amendments of substantive nature is identified, the Secretariat works in cooperation with the national secretariat of the adjourned Committee.</p> <p>A project document for a proposed amendment of <i>Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products</i> (CXS 94-1981) to include the fish species <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> (Bali Sardinella) under Section 2.1 was submitted by the Philippines to the Codex Secretariat early 2020.</p> <p>This work falls under the mandate of CCFFP. Accordingly, the Codex Secretariat has discussed the proposal with the Host country for CCFFP, Norway, based on the necessary requirements described in the Procedural Manual as set out in the <i>Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities</i>, the <i>Guide to the Procedure for the Amendment and Revision of Codex Standards and Related Texts</i> and section 2.1 of the <i>Procedure for the Inclusion of Additional Species in Codex Standards for Fish and Fishery Products</i>.</p> <p>A Circular Letter, CL 2020/28/OCS-CAC, with requests for comments on the proposed Amendment of the <i>Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products</i> (CXS 94-1981), was issued in March 2020, which closed on 31 May 2020. The comments have been compiled and published together with a document for CAC43 presenting the project document and the proposal for new work (CX/CAC 20/43/9 Add.1).</p> <p>In order to undertake the proposed new work, CCFFP has to be reactivated. Furthermore, consideration should be given to whether CCFFP, if reactivated, can work by correspondence. It should also be considered to set up an EWG to further the work. which will report back to the CCFFP that will consider the proposals from the EWG by correspondence.</p> <p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>The CCFFP has been adjourned since 2016, and there are no remaining issues for the Committee besides this particular new work proposal. In our view, consequently there is no justification for holding physical meetings of the whole CCFFP. As Host country for CCFFP, Norway would therefore suggests the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reactivate the CCFFP, chaired by Norway, to work by correspondence only and in English, with the aim to deal with this particular new work proposal. 2. Follow the Procedural Manual and the Procedure for the Inclusion of Additional Species in Codex Standards for Fish and Fishery Products and: establish an EWG, chaired by the Philippines, with the following mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The EWG will, according to the Procedure for the Inclusion of Additional Species in Codex Standards for Fish and Fishery Products in the Procedural Manual:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Respond to the question on whether the information provided is sufficient to allow for inclusion of the candidate species or not. And <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) If yes: Report to CCFFP and recommend to agree with the inclusion without further assessment being required. (The Committee may then forward the draft amendment for adoption. (2.2 (a))) b) If no: The EWG will continue its work with the mandate to oversee sensory evaluation of the product in accordance with the Procedure for the Inclusion of Additional Species in Codex Standards for Fish and Fishery Products in the Procedural Manual, in particular paragraphs 2.2 (b), 2.3, 3.3 and 4. b. Prepare a report to the CCFFP Host secretariat and Chairperson on its findings, conclusions and recommendations.

3. When the report is received, the reactivated CCFFP will consider it working by correspondence only.
4. In order to save time and resources, we would suggest that CCEXEC/CAC supports this approach as the working method for this new work and that the Codex secretariat circulates a CL to all member states with an invitation to register for the EWG.

3. Status of work items

Topic	Job No.	Target year	Recommendation of the Committee
For decision by the Commission			
Proposal for amendment of the <i>Codex Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-type products</i> (CXS 94-1981): inclusion of <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> (Bali Sardinella) in the list of <i>Sardinella</i> Species under section 2.1.	-	2024	1/2/3 (New work)

4. Specific comments

Proposal for the amendment of <i>Codex Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-type products</i> (CXS 94-1981): inclusion of <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> (Bali Sardinella) in the list of <i>Sardinella</i> Species under section 2.1.
<p>Secretariat's comments:</p> <p>A Circular Letter, CL 2020/28/OCS-CAC was issued in March 2020 requesting comments on; i) whether Codex should pursue this new work on amending the <i>Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products</i> (CXS 94-1981) with a view to include <i>S. lemuru</i>; and ii) whether the new work, if approved by CAC, could be undertaken electronically.</p> <p>The comments received can be found in CX/CAC 20/43/9 Add. 2</p> <p>Many Member countries were supportive of the proposal, while information regarding the volume of the stock present in the natural environment as well as fat content, taste and size of the proposed species was requested by some members.</p> <p>Two Member countries requested a sensory evaluation. However, according to the Procedural Manual, a sensory evaluation is not a requirement at this stage of the process and the Committee will decide whether it is needed after commencing the work, should it be approved.</p> <p>There was a general support that this proposed new work could be undertaken electronically.</p>
<p>Chairperson's comments:</p> <p>With reference to the comments received in response to CL 2020/28/OCS-CAC, we find it most likely that a sensory evaluation will be requested. If a sensory evaluation is deemed necessary, CCFFP has previously, with success, established a working group dealing with this issue. We would therefore prefer this working method also for this new work proposal, i.e. establishing a working group (electronic). In order to save time and resources, our suggestion would therefore be, to ask CCEXEC/CAC to clarify the possibility of establishing an EWG starting immediately after CAC with the mandate as suggested above.</p>

Appendix 3

1. General

Committee	Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)		
Host	China	Chairperson	Xiongwu Qiao
Session reported on	EWG/Priorities (Australia)	Works electronically between CCPR51 (April 2019) and CCPR52 (April 2022)	Karina Budd
Next Session	CCPR52	12-17 April 2021	
Report of the EWG/Priorities on the priority lists of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR	<u>CX/PR 20/52/19</u>		

2. Overall comments

**Schedules and priority lists for pesticides for the safety assessment by JMPR and the establishment of science-based MRLs for pesticides in/on food and feed by CCPR
Synchronization of work between JMPR and CCPR**

The schedules and priority lists of pesticides for evaluation by the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) corresponds to Step 1 of the Codex Step Procedure for the establishment of maximum residue limits for pesticides (MRLs) by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR). The Schedules and Priority Lists are prepared and maintained by the Electronic Working Group (EWG) on Priorities chaired by Australia. The EWG is re-established at each session of CCPR to submit a working document providing the schedules and priority list(s) for consideration and agreement by CCPR respectively. The document is discussed under a standing Agenda Item called "Schedules and Priority List(s) of Pesticides for Evaluation by JMPR". Following agreement of CCPR on the priority list, the same is reproduced as an Appendix to the report of its session for consideration by the Executive Committee (CCEXEC) under the Critical Review and approval by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) as new work.

The priority list as approved by CAC constitutes the agenda of JMPR for the year subsequent to the last session of CCPR. This is the so-called synchronization between JMPR and CCPR meetings, which is unique to these two bodies. The following is a description of this synchronization process for the cycle 2020-2021: The priority list recommended as new work by CCPR51 (April 2019) and approved by CAC (July 2019) will schedule the pesticides for evaluation by the JMPR meeting (September 2020) whose recommendations will be considered by CCPR (April 2021) for the establishment of MRLs. This cycle is a continuum that ensure workflow between JMPR/CCPR for the core work of CCPR on establishment MRLs for trade facilitation and consumer's health protection.

As CCPR52 has been rescheduled from April 2020 to April 2021, the Committee will not have an opportunity to consider the schedules and priority lists developed by the EWG/Priorities in 2020. In order to ensure work continuity between JMPR and CCPR, this year the Chair of the EWG/Priorities is submitting the two priority lists for the JMPR "extraordinary" meeting in May 2021 and the "regular" meeting in September 2021 to the Codex Secretariat for consideration by CCEXEC under the Critical Review. The lists have the agreement of the EWG members, the EWG Chair and the FAO/WHO JMPR Secretariats.

The lists are presented in such a way to allow flexibility for adjustments of compounds and/or evaluations by the FAO/WHO JMPR Secretariats for their meetings in 2021 taking into account the uncertainties surrounding the holding of physical meetings due to the COVID19 pandemic.

The above approach is proposed by the Codex Secretariat with the agreement of the EWG/Priorities Chairperson (Australia), the CCPR Chairperson (People's Republic of China) and the FAO/WHO JMPR Secretariats to ensure work continuity for JMPR and CCPR for the cycle 2021-2022.

Chairperson's comments:

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, there is a need to work creatively to ensure that CCPR continues performing its core work on the establishment of MRLs for pesticides in/on food and feed to protect consumers' health and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The proposed approach allows work continuity between JMPR and CCPR while keeping the process transparent and inclusive following the agreement of the EWG members, the EWG Chair and the FAO/WHO JMPR Secretariats. It is noted that the preparation of the schedules and priority lists by the EWG/Priorities follows a worldwide consultation by means of a circular letter distributed by the Codex Secretariat to request comments for scheduling of compounds and commitment for data submission in addition to comments provided by the EWG members. The schedules and priority lists are therefore the result of the work of the EWG and the findings of the consultation with all Codex member countries and observer organizations.

I therefore endorse the proposed approach for the approval of new work on the priority lists of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR for its meetings scheduled for 2021 to avoid work disruption on the establishment of MRLs by CCPR with the subsequent negative impact on availability of Codex MRLs for trade and agriculture production.

3. Status of work items

Topic	Job No.	Target year	Recommendation of the Committee
For decision by the Commission			
Priority lists of pesticides for evaluation by the 2021 JMPRs: JMPR "extraordinary" meeting (May 2021) JMPR "regular" meeting (September 2021)	ongoing	-	1/2/3 (New work)

4. Specific comments

Priority lists of pesticides for evaluation by the 2021 JMPR, CX/PR 20/52/19, Appendices I ("extraordinary" JMPR Meeting – May 2021) and II ("regular" JMPR meeting September 2021)

Secretariat's comments: The Chairperson of the CCPR EWG/Priorities agrees to forward the proposed priority lists for pesticides for evaluation by JMPR at its "extraordinary" and "regular" meetings in May and September 2021 to CAC for approval as new work for the cycle 2021-2022. The EWG, chaired by Australia, continues working on the schedules and priority lists under the Terms of Reference (TOR) established by CCPR51 (2019) and will report on their findings for the 2022 onwards schedules and priority lists to CCPR52 (2021). Further details of the work process can be found in CX/PR 20/52/19.

Chairperson's comments: I hereby encourage CCEXEC79 to recommend approval of new work on the priority list(s) of pesticides for evaluation by the "extraordinary" and "regular" meetings of JMPR in 2021. This will ensure the continuum synchronization cycle between JMPR and CCPR for the establishment of Codex MRLs for pesticides in/on food and feed for the year 2021 (JMPR evaluations / re-evaluations and recommendations) and 2022 (CCPR consideration of the recommendations for the establishment of new or revised MRLs for adoption by CAC).

The process ensures inclusiveness of Codex members and observers (EWG/Priorities has a vast membership of Codex members and observers and the CL allows all Codex members and observers to participate in the process of confectioning the priority lists) and transparency in the practices followed under this exceptional situation of pandemic that has not allowed the organization of the physical meeting of CCPR52 in 2020 (CX/PR 20/52/19 provides the detailed descriptions of the work process for clarity and transparency). This approach will so allow JMPR to have an agenda for 2021 whose findings will be considered by CCPR in 2022 with no interruption in the continuum cycle of synchronization between JMPR and CCPR.