

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 2.2

CX/EXEC 22/83/2 Add.1  
October 2022

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**  
**Eighty-third Session**

**CRITICAL REVIEW - PART II<sup>1</sup>**

**Note:** For general information about the critical review and the critical review for CCPR53, CCCF15, and CCFFV22, please see CX/EXEC 21/82/2.

**Structure**

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<sup>1</sup> This document addresses CCSCH6, CCEURO32, and CCAFRICA24

## Appendix 1

## 1. General

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Codex Committee on Spice and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)</b>		
<b>Host</b>	India	<b>Chairperson</b>	Dr Sudharshan
<b>Session reported on</b>	CCSCH6	26 September - 3 October 2022	
<b>Next Session</b>	CCSCH7	2024 (TBC)	
<b>Report</b>	<u>REP22/SCH</u>		

## 2. Overall comments

**Secretariat's comments:**

CCSCH6 was successfully conducted as a virtual session and had high participation, both in number of delegations and number of participants. Having representatives of the Codex Secretariat physically together with the Chairperson and the Host Secretariat was conducive for the smooth conduct of the Session. The conduct of virtual working groups meetings on specific topics just prior to the session was also important for the successful outcome.

CCSCH6 was constructive and most productive as all agenda items were thoroughly discussed and very good progress made; three draft standards were forwarded for final adoption and two for adoption at Step 5. One of the latter two (Step 5) is the group standard on spices derived from dried fruits and berries, apart from one spice (vanilla) which was returned to Step 2/3 for redrafting. It was noted that development of spices and culinary herbs (SCH) standards was still in a pilot phase, and a lot of lessons being learnt that would inform future decisions or work. Progression was also done on the template for SCH standards. No new work proposals were received for this session and Members were encouraged to submit new work proposals in response to the forthcoming call for such proposals.

**Chairperson's comments:**

This was the second time the Committee met virtually. Some of the shortcomings noted in the first virtual session were addressed well in advance, and hence no major challenges and obstacles were encountered. The physical presence of the Codex Secretariat helped improving the efficiency of the work. Good progress was made, and all the work items of the Committee are on track. The few standards which had required extension of the deadline following CSH5, were completed, while others are delivered on time. The agenda was full, but nevertheless CCSCH6 could thoroughly discuss all the agenda items. No major impediments were noted, and consensus could be achieved after several rounds of discussions on most of the issues. Lack of active participation in the electronic working groups (eWGs) of the Committee is a matter of serious concern. However, participation in the virtual working groups (vWGs) was satisfactory.

The Committee managed to progress three draft standards for final adoption and two proposed draft standards for adoption at step 5. Discussion on the pilot work of the Committee on developing group standard and its future, gave lot of useful insight to the Committee on the way forward with group standards; Overall, the accomplishments were very good, lots of lessons were learnt, and the Committee showed that when encountered with challenges, it could reach compromises and solve the issues.

The increase in the number of participating Member countries and the increasing constructive and productive interventions by delegations indicate a strong interest in the work of CCSCH.

**3. Status of work items**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Job No</b>	<b>Target year</b>	<b>Recommendation of the Committee</b>
<b>For decision by the Commission</b>			
1. Draft standard for dried saffron	N06-2017	2022	Adoption at Step 8
2. Draft standard for dried seeds - nutmeg	N07-2017	2022	Adoption at step 8
3. Proposed draft standard for dried or dehydrated chilli peppers and paprika	N03-2017	2022	Adoption at Step 5/8
4. Proposed draft standard for small cardamom	N01-2021	2025	Adoption at Step 5
5. Proposed draft standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries (Part A - Allspice, Juniper berry, Star anise)	N03-2021	2025	Adoption at Step 5
6. Amendments to the labelling provisions of non-retail containers in the eight existing spices and culinary herbs (SCH) standards	-	-	Adoption
<b>For monitoring</b>			
7. Proposed draft standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries (Part B - Vanilla)	N03-2021	2025	Step 2/3
8. Proposed draft standard for dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs - turmeric	N02-2021	2025	Step 2/3
<b>For information</b>			
9. Update to the template for the spices and culinary herbs (SCH) standards	Continuous, and as need arise		

#### 4. Specific comments

<b>1. Draft standard for dried saffron, Paragraph 39, Appendix III</b>
<p><b>Status:</b></p> <p>CAC44 (2021) adopted the draft standard at Step 5 and extended the deadline for completion of work to CCSCH6.</p> <p>CCSCH6 had a constructive discussion on the outstanding issues and agreed to retain the product style “Extra Class” and endorsed the proposal for the mandatory declaration of country of harvest noting one and three reservations respectively to these decisions.</p> <p>CCSCH6 agreed to forward the draft Standard for dried floral part - saffron to CAC45 for adoption at Step 8. CCSCH6 furthermore agreed to forward the provisions on labelling and methods of analysis to CCFL and CCMAS, respectively, for endorsement.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson’s comments:</b></p> <p>Two provisions which had lacked consensus, were discussed thoroughly. Noting that there was general consensus in progressing the draft, the draft standard was recommended for final adoption. Saffron being the most expensive spice, having a few production centers and a large consumption sector, generated a lot of discussion. As the eWG and vWGs had not been able not resolve the outstanding issues, the plenary had to spend quite some time in resolving the issues. Lack of active participation in the eWG is a matter of concern. However, there was general agreement and consensus in the plenary to progress this work in the step process.</p>
<b>2. Draft standard for dried seeds - nutmeg, Paragraph, 59, Appendix IV</b>
<p><b>Status:</b></p> <p>CAC44 (2021) adopted the draft standard at Step 5 and extended the deadline for completion of work to CCSCH6.</p> <p>CCSCH6 had a constructive discussion resolving all the outstanding issues. CCSCH6 agreed to forward the draft standard for dried seeds - nutmeg to CAC45 for adoption at Step 8. CCSCH6 furthermore agreed to re-submit the methods of analysis to CCMAS for endorsement considering the new changes that had been introduced.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson’s comments:</b></p> <p>The eWG and vWG had resolved most of the issues and hence progression of this standard was smooth. However, a few physical parameters added during the vWG had to be discussed and agreed upon by the plenary. The work could be completed within the extension of time provided by CCEXEC81, until CCSCH6.</p> <p>Concerns on the effect of nutmeg and mace on human health was raised by one delegation. The Codex Secretariat advised to raise such concerns in response to the Circular Letter issued by the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods. The Committee noted that both nutmeg and mace are produced, traded and consumed worldwide without specific health concern.</p>
<b>3. Proposed draft standard for dried or dehydrated chilli peppers and paprika, Paragraph 80, Appendix V</b>
<p><b>Status:</b></p> <p>CAC44 (2021) agreed to extend the deadline for completion of work, which at that time was still at step 2/3, to CCSCH6.</p> <p>CCSCH6 had a constructive discussion and managed to update the proposed draft standard and resolved all the outstanding issues. CCSCH6 agreed to forward the proposed draft standard for dried or dehydrated chilli pepper and paprika for adoption by CAC45 at Step 5/8. CCSCH6 furthermore agreed to forward the provisions for food additives, labelling and methods of analysis to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS, respectively, for endorsement.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson’s comments:</b></p> <p>This topic has been one of the most discussed in the committee, probably due to the fact that chilli peppers and paprika are produced in many parts of the world under diverse agro-climatic conditions resulting in differences in chemical and physical characteristics, the products are consumed in all parts of the world,</p>

and there are diverse expectations. The eWG and vWG had resolved most of the outstanding issues and the rest were resolved in the plenary. CCSCH6, after thorough discussions, found convergence on diverse views and with general agreement and consensus recommended the proposed draft standard for final adoption at step 5/8.

This is one big achievement for the Committee and also indicates that the Committee is capable of considering very divergent views and find convergence/consensus in order to make progress.

#### **4. Proposed draft standard for small cardamom, Paragraph 107, Appendix VI**

##### **Status:**

CAC44 (2021) had approved this new work as proposed by CCSCH5. The eWG had spent the time effectively and had presented a well-developed proposed draft standard to CCSCH6. Following a constructive discussion, CCSCH6 agreed to forward the proposed draft standard for dried small cardamom to CAC45 for adoption at Step 5. CCSCH6 also agreed to forward the provisions on food additives, labelling and methods of analysis to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS, respectively, for endorsement.

##### **Chairperson's comments:**

This item was well prepared by the eWG and no vWG on this item was held. Most of the issues were resolved in the plenary while a few issues require more time to consider. Hence, the document is forwarded to CAC for adoption at step 5. The work is progressing well and can be delivered in time. There have been no major impediments or consensus issues, and there are no other concerns.

#### **5. Proposed draft standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries (Allspice, Juniper berry, Star anise), Paragraph 121(i), Appendix VII Part A**

##### **Status:**

CAC44 (2021) had approved the new work on developing a group standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries (Allspice, Juniper berry, Star anise, and Vanilla) as proposed by CCSCH5. It is to note that the group standard approach, is in line with the decision taken to seek to develop group standards on spices and culinary herbs when possible, so as to develop standards on these products more efficiently.

Following a constructive discussion, CCSCH6 agreed to forward to CAC45 the provisions for the proposed draft group standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries - Allspice, Juniper berry, and Star anise for adoption at Step 5. The vanilla part was returned to Step 2/3 as it needed more work. CCSCH6 also agreed to forward to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS for endorsement the food additives, labelling provisions and methods of analysis for Allspices, Juniper berry, and Star anise.

##### **Chairperson's comments:**

The development of a group standard is a pilot project of CCSCH. The work is progressing within the time frame and can be delivered in time. Out of the four spices covered under this group, the work on three of them progressed well while on spice, Vanilla, requires further work. This was anticipated while attempting a group standard and CCSCH6 after a lengthy discussion agreed that the work could be split into two parts, the first part to include the spices Allspice, Juniper berries and Star anise where progress has been made, and the second part, on Vanilla, to be re-drafted keeping it within the group standard.

There was a general agreement to keep Vanilla, which required additional requirements and did not fit well with the current layout, within the group and further the work.

Lack of active participation in the eWG by delegations is a matter of concern.

#### **6. Amendments to the labelling provisions of non-retail containers in the eight existing SCH standards, Paragraph 11, Appendix II Part A**

##### **Status:**

CCSCH6 noted that CAC44, following its adoption of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers* (CXS 346-2021) and the consequential amendment to the Procedural Manual i.e. the Format for Codex Commodity Standards, section on labelling, had requested Commodity Committees to review the labelling provisions for non-retail containers in existing and draft standards in light of CXS 346-2021.

CCSCH6 agreed to forward for adoption by CAC45, the proposed amendments to the labelling provisions of non-retail containers in the eight existing SCH standards.

<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>CCSCH6 agreed to the proposal to align the labelling provisions of existing SCH standards with CXS 346-2021.</p>
<p><b>7. Proposed draft standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries (Vanilla), Paragraph 121(iii), Appendix VII Part B</b></p>
<p><b>Status:</b></p> <p>CAC44 (2021) approved the new work on developing a group standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries (Allspice, Juniper berry, Star anise, and Vanilla) as proposed by CCSCH5. CCSCH6 agreed to forward to CAC45 the provisions for the proposed draft group standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries - Allspice, Juniper berry, and Star anise for adoption at Step 5 (see item 5 above). As more work was needed on the provisions for vanilla, CCSCH6 agreed to return the provisions for vanilla in the proposed draft group standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries to Step 2/3 for redrafting and circulation for comments.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>Please see the comments in item 5 above.</p>
<p><b>8. Proposed draft standard for dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs - turmeric, Paragraph 132</b></p>
<p><b>Status:</b></p> <p>CAC44 (2021) approved this new work as proposed by CCSCH5. Noting that there was only one round of consultation conducted in the eWG and that some provisions and associated values needed further verification, CCSCH6 agreed to return the proposed draft standard for dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs - turmeric to Step 2/3.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>This document was circulated only once in the eWG and submitted late for circulation for comments at Step 3 through a Circular Letter. Furthermore, no vWG was held on this topic. CCSCH6 considered the text section by section and found that the proposed draft standard needed further work. Hence, CCSCH6 recommended the text to be returned to step 2/3 for redrafting. Despite the lack of progress there are no major impediments and concerns regarding this proposed draft standard. Thus, it is expected to be developed within the prescribed timelines.</p>
<p><b>9. Update to the template for the spices and culinary herbs (SCH) standards, paragraph 142, Appendix VIII</b></p>
<p><b>Status:</b></p> <p>CCSCH6 having been presented with an updated version of the template for SCH standards, agreed to carefully review this version for further consideration at CCSCH7. It was agreed to align the numbering of Tables in the draft and proposed draft standards discussed at CCSCH6 with the guidance provided in the updated SCH Template.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>This is an important work item as far as the future work of the Committee is concerned. Although it has progressed well, the template still needs some refinement. CCSCH has about 18 months' time to consider this critically and provide inputs for its updating prior to CCSCH7. Once the Committee agrees to adopt it as an updated template for future SCH standards, drafting future standards will become easier and there will be uniformity of reporting across the drafts.</p>

## Appendix 2

## 1. General

Committee	Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO)		
Host	Kazakhstan	Chairperson	Dr Nailya Karsybekova
Session reported on	CCEURO32	16 – 20 May 2022	
Next Session	CCEURO33	2024 (TBC)	
Report	<a href="#">REP22/EURO</a>		

## 2. Overall comments

<p><b>Secretariat's comments:</b></p> <p>CCEURO32 was successfully convened as a virtual meeting though with the top table, consisting of the Chairperson, Host Secretariat, and the Codex Secretariat physically together at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy. The Committee had effectively utilized the additional time since CCEURO32 caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to progress work. An in-session virtual working group efficiently revised the regional workplan 2022-2023 to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025, which was consensually agreed. CCEURO32 also consensually agreed to forward to CAC45 one item for adoption namely the amendment to Section 8.2, labelling of non-retail containers, in the <i>Regional Standard for Chanterelles</i> (CXS 40R-1981) to align with the <i>General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods</i> (CXS 346-2021).</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic affected the pace of implementation of some regional activities and led to delays. It also delayed the conduct of sessions of all Codex Committees, including CCEURO. However, on the positive side, the implementation of the Codex Trust Fund projects in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, North Macedonia, and Turkmenistan made and continue to make a significant contribution to the implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025. In general, implementation is carried out in accordance with established deadlines. On a regular basis, informal consultations and discussions are held with Codex Members in the region, including at pre-sessions of Codex subsidiary bodies, which make it possible to find consensus in the development of a regional position on Codex documents and some sensitive issues. Codex Members in the region share their achievements and success stories regularly on the CCEURO page on the Codex Secretariat website. It should be noted that during the last few years the engagement of non-EU countries in the work of the Codex has increased. CCEURO responds in a timely manner to modern global challenges, top issues of the food system future models, and the use of technology for progressing Codex work. The European Union is focusing a lot on capacity building of non-EU countries on Codex Alimentarius issues. The participation of the EU Member States is quite high in all Codex subsidiary bodies. At the same time, the level of participation of non-EU countries in Codex subsidiary bodies is not high enough and needs to be further strengthened. The situation is similar in the work of Codex EWGs and virtual working groups.</p>

### 3. Status of work items

Topic	Job No	Target year	Recommendation of the Committee
<b>For decision by the Commission</b>			
1. Proposed amendment to Section 8.2, labelling of non-retail containers, in the <i>Regional Standard for Chanterelles</i> (CXS 40R-1981) to align with the <i>General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods</i> (CXS 346-2021)	-	-	Adoption
<b>For information</b>			
2. Endorsement of the activities to be implemented in the European region in 2022-2023 to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025	-	-	-
3. The future of Codex	-	-	-

### 4. Specific comments

<p><b>1. Proposed amendment to Section 8.2, labelling of non-retail containers, in the <i>Regional Standard for Chanterelles</i> (CXS 40R-1981) to align with the <i>General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods</i> (CXS 346-2021), Paragraph 21(iv), Appendix II</b></p>
<p><b>Secretariat's comments:</b></p> <p>In response to the request of CAC44 to review the labelling provisions for non-retail containers in existing texts and texts under development to align with the newly adopted <i>General Standard for the Labelling of Non-retail Containers of Foods</i> (CXS 346-2021), CCEURO32 considered the proposed amendment (CRD03) to the labelling provisions of non-retail containers in the <i>Regional Standard for Chanterelles</i> (CXS 40R-1981).</p> <p>CCEURO32 agreed to forward to CAC45 for adoption the proposed amended text for section 8.2, labelling of non-retail containers, in the <i>Regional Standard for Chanterelles</i> (CXS 40R-1981).</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>Taking into account that there was no impediment, and that consensus was reached at CCEURO32, the adoption of the proposed amended text for section 8.2, labeling of non-retail containers, in the <i>Regional Standard for Chanterelles</i> (CXS 40R-1981) by CAC45 is expected.</p>
<p><b>2. Endorsement of the activities to be implemented in the European region in 2022-2023 to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025, Paragraph 59, Appendix II</b></p>
<p><b>Secretariat's comments:</b></p> <p>CCEURO32 recognized the progress made in implementing the Regional Work Plan 2020-2021 to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025.</p> <p>An in-session virtual working group efficiently reviewed the 2022-2023 regional workplan to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025, workplan and a consensually agree on a revised regional workplan 2022-2023. CCEURO32 endorsed goals 3 and 4 as the priority goals/objectives on which the European region would focus its contributions to the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2020-2025 for the biennium 2022-2023. CCEURO32 further endorsed the activities to be implemented in the European region to support achievement of the prioritized goals and objectives, as set out in Appendix III.</p> <p>CCEURO32 recalled that the regional communications work plan for the period 2020-2025 was still valid.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>It should be noted that upon completion of CCEURO32, Codex Members of the region are carrying out activities to implement priority goals 3 and 4 of the Strategic Plan for the period 2022-2023. Seminars for stakeholders are held, many countries celebrated World Food Safety Day in 2022, the Code of Practice to</p>



Minimize and Contain Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance, and the Guidelines on Integrated Monitoring and Surveillance of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance are included in national plans to combat AMR, the ongoing CTF projects are successfully being implemented, some countries planned to submit new project proposals to the CTF, and national steering committees for Codex work are being established and functioning.

### **3. The future of Codex, Paragraph 21(ii)**

#### **Secretariat's comments:**

CCEURO32 requested CCEXEC to consider the views of the Members in the European region as it continues to lead the discussions on the future of Codex.

#### **Chairperson's comments:**

Codex Members in the European region reaffirm the important role of physical meetings as part of the consideration of Codex's future and recognize the added value that virtual tools can bring to all physical meetings in the future and in intervals between them in order to follow the values of the Codex - inclusiveness, transparency, collaboration, and consensus building.

## Appendix 3

## 1. General

Committee	Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)		
Host	Uganda	Chairperson	Mr Hakim Mufumbiro Baligeya
Session reported on	CCAFRICA24	5-13 September 2022	
Next Session	CCAFRICA25	2024 (TBC)	
Report	<u>REP22/AFRICA</u>		

## 2. Overall comments

<p><b>Secretariat's comments:</b></p> <p>CAFRICA24 was successfully convened as a virtual meeting though with the top table, consisting of the Chairperson, Host Secretariat, FAO, the Codex Secretariat, representatives of EWG Chairpersons, and some countries physically together. The Committee had effectively utilized the additional time since CCAFRICA23 caused to the COVID-19 pandemic to progress work in the EWG. This helped pave the path for consensus at CCAFRICA24 with two Codex regional texts forwarded for final adoption.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>The first CCAFRICA session to be held through virtual means was both effective and efficient in delivering on its mandate. The mode of CCAFRICA24 opened up possibility for many Members in the region to engage in the discussions. Noting the time that was lost following the last session occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee established an in-session virtual working group to specifically further consider comments on the draft guidelines for developing harmonized Food Safety Legislation for the CCAFRICA region which ultimately enhanced effectiveness in engagement and efficiency during the session. The setup of a physical top-table in Kampala as well as participation of selected countries and leaders of EWGs, brought to the fore strong lessons of how a mixed approach (virtual and physical) could be deployed in a Codex session.</p> <p>In order to foster involvement and progress of the work in the region, together with the Codex Secretariat, an informal preparatory regional webinar was held in May 2022 to provide an update and progress regarding ongoing work in the region especially the two streams of Codex text that were at different stages in the standards development lifecycle. This approach was key in ensuring that the Members in the region gained an insight into the key pending issues which facilitated better engagement during the CCAFRICA24 plenary. With the anticipation of new Members in the region participating in a Codex session for the first time, a pre-CCAFRICA24 webinar was convened in August 2022 to highlight the expectations in the session.</p> <p>Despite the tremendous success registered during CCAFRICA24, areas for improvement within the process relate to the ability of the Members in the region to initiate, prepare and submit new proposals for development of regional standards. This is particularly important considering that Codex standards are key pillar in the effective implementation of the Agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area which is a turning point in enhancing intra and inter African trade.</p> <p>There was strong commitment exhibited by Members in the session towards broader Food Safety and Quality aspects as well as enhancing communication and narrowed focus on activities to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan. It also came to the fore the importance of the wealth of Food Safety initiatives undertaken in the Continent within the framework of the African Union Commission that to a great extent supports efforts and activities of CCAFRICA and the need to consider in future sessions of the Committee a specific Agenda item to share such important work for the benefit of Members in the region.</p> <p>CCAFRICA looks forward to utilizing the lessons learned and experience gained in order to inform how to best engage and deliver as part of Codex for the future.</p>

### 3. Status of work items

Topic	Job No	Target year	Recommendation of the Committee
<b>For decision by the Commission</b>			
1. Draft Regional Standard for dried meat	N07-2016	2022	Adoption at step 8
2. Proposed draft Guidelines for developing harmonized food safety legislation for the CCAFRICA region	N01-2020	2024	Adoption at Step 5/8
3. Proposed revised labelling provisions for non-retail containers in the <i>Regional standard for unrefined shea butter</i> (CXS 325R-2017), the <i>Regional standard for fermented cooked cassava based products</i> (CXS 334R-2020), and the <i>Regional standard for fresh leaves of Gnetum spp.</i> (CXS 335R-2020).	-	-	Adoption
<b>For information</b>			
4. Endorsement of the regional work plan 2022-2024 to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025	-	-	-

### 4. Specific comments

<b>1. Draft Regional Standard for dried meat, Paragraph 40 (i), Appendix III</b>
<p><b>Secretariat's comments:</b></p> <p>CAC43 (2020) adopted the draft standard at Step 5 and extended the deadline for completion of the work to adoption by CAC in 2022.</p> <p>Following a constructive discussion, CCAFRICA24 noted that substantial progress had been made on the elaboration of the draft standard and agreed to forward it to CAC45 for adoption at Step 8. The food additive provisions, labelling provisions for non-retail containers, and methods of analysis will be forwarded to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS for endorsement, respectively. The format and presentation as well as language is according to Codex style.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>No additional comments.</p>
<b>2. Proposed draft Guidelines for developing harmonized food safety legislation for CCAFRICA region, Paragraph 67, Appendix IV</b>
<p><b>Secretariat's comments:</b></p> <p>The work had been approved by CAC42 (2019) and progressed well since CCAFRICA23. Several rounds of consultation had been held and in-session vWG conducted during CCAFRICA to address outstanding issues. After a constructive discussion, CCAFRICA agreed to forward the proposed draft guidelines to CAC45 for adoption at Step 5/8.</p>
<p><b>Chairperson's comments:</b></p> <p>The effectiveness of engagement through the EWG using different formats supported the process of the delivering the guideline in good time as the work fits in well in supporting Members in the region in developing or updating their food safety legislation along the food chain including food traded nationally, regionally and internationally.</p>
<b>3. Proposed revised labelling provisions for non-retail containers in the <i>Regional standard for unrefined shea butter</i> (CXS 325R-2017), the <i>Regional standard for fermented cooked cassava</i></b>

**based products (CXS 334R-2020) and the Regional standard for fresh leaves of Gnetum spp. (CXS 335R-2020), Paragraph 24, Appendix II**

**Secretariat's comments:**

In response to the request of CAC44 to review the labelling provisions for non-retail containers in existing texts and texts under development in order to align with the newly adopted *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021), CCAFRICA24 considered the proposed revisions, as presented by the Codex Secretariat, to the labelling provisions of non-retail containers in the *Regional standard for unrefined shea butter* (CXS 325R-2017), the *Regional standard for fermented cooked cassava based products* (CXS 334R-2020) and the *Regional standard for fresh leaves of Gnetum spp.* (CXS 335R-2020).

CCAFRICA 24 agreed to forward to CAC45, the revised labelling provisions for non-retail containers for approval.

**Chairperson's comments:**

No additional comments.

**4. Endorsement of the regional work plan 2022-2024 to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025, Paragraph 89 (iii), Appendix VII**

**Secretariat's comments:**

CCAFRICA24 recognized the progress made in implementing the Regional Work Plan 2020-2022 to support implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 and the regional communications work plan.

**Chairperson's comments:**

The region continues to focus on prioritised activities under Goal 1, 3 & 4 of the Codex Strategic Plan for the period (2022 – 2024). Continued leveraging of utilising of virtual regional capacity building events will ensure that members in the region are capacitated to better engage in Codex work. The adopted regional communication plan provides practical channels and options to reach members quickly and reliably in order to take the desired actions within the Codex system.