



## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS

Twenty-Eighth Session

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

19-23 February 2024

#### PROPOSED DRAFT AMENDMENT/REVISION TO THE STANDARD FOR NAMED VEGETABLE OILS (CXS 210-1999): INCLUSION OF CAMELLIA SEED OIL

(Comments of Burundi, Ghana, India, Japan, Kenya, Peru, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and United Republic of Tanzania)

#### Burundi

**General comment:** Burundi takes this opportunity to thank the Electronic Working Group chaired by China for their good work and supports CCFO28 to consider the proposed amendments/revisions to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999) to include the provisions for Camellia seed oil due to its unique functional attributes after consideration of the specific comments below.

**Rationale:** The amendment would enable countries and the food industry to appropriately characterize, name, and market camellia seed oil developed for improved functional and nutritional benefits for consumers and the food processing industry. Since this oil will be utilized in expanded amounts due to its favorable characteristics, it needs to have consistent naming and specifications to ensure fair trade internationally.

#### Product Definition:

**Comment:** Burundi proposes the word “including” to be added in the product definition to read:

“Camellia seed oil (youcha oil) is derived from the seeds of cultivated Camellia species [**including** *C. oleifera*, *C. oleifera* var. *meiocarpa*, *C. chekiangoleosa*, and *C. vietnamensis*].”

**Rationale:** The definition only includes 4 species of camelia as sources of the oil and this will be too limiting for the various other species of Camelia from which the oil may be derived including *Cameliasinensis* (Linneaus).

#### Table 3 and Table 4

**Comment:** Burundi notes and further seeks clarification on the total ranges of sterolsin mg/kg of 100-4,000 and total tocopherols and tocotrienols of 70-1000 on whether the ranges are justifiable based on the Camelia varieties from which the oil is derived.

**Rationale:** The range is too broad and may allow for undetected adulteration of Camellia seed oil with other oils or with low quality oil, especially in the case of tocopherols, where very low levels of tocopherols in crude oils, below their natural range. Therefore, Burundi advises for further data collection from several samples obtained from different varieties from different climatic and geographical location to aid in setting of the proposed broad range.

#### Ghana

**Position:** Ghana has no objection to advancing the work of the proposed draft standard and therefore supports the work to amend/revise the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999).

**Rationale:** The amendment/revision will be of benefit to consumers and the food processing industry. The amendment could also facilitate fair trade practices and establish a new standard that is consistent with current provisions in the standards.

### India

India appreciates the work done by chair of the respective EWGs in revising the standard for named vegetable oils: Inclusion of Avocado oil, Camellia seed oil, Sacha inchi oil, High oleic acid soya bean oil. India supports the proposed amendment in Agenda 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4.

### Japan

Japan extends its gratitude to China for leading the EWG for the inclusion of camellia seed oil.

With regard to 2.1 Product definition, Japan proposes adding "*Camellia japonica*" to the list of species.

It has been confirmed that edible camellia seed oil is produced in Japan and traded with other countries. The edible camellia seed oil produced in Japan is derived from the seeds of "*Camellia japonica*", which is not listed in the proposed product definition. Therefore, we propose its inclusion.

### Kenya

**GENERAL COMMENT:** Kenya would like to thank the Electronic Working Group chaired by China for their good work. Kenya supports CCFO28 to consider the proposed amendments/revisions to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999) to include the provisions for Camellia seed oil with the following proposals on product definition, Table 3 and 4.

**Justification:** The amendment would enable countries and the food industry to appropriately characterize, name, and market camellia seed oil developed for improved functional and nutritional benefits for consumers and the food processing industry. Since this oil will be utilized in expanded amounts due to its favorable characteristics, it needs to have consistent naming and specifications to ensure fair trade internationally.

**Product Definition:**

**Comment:** Kenya proposes the inclusion of the word 'including' in the product definition to read:

"Camellia seed oil (youcha oil) is derived from the seeds of cultivated Camellia species (**including** *C. oleifera*, *C. oleifera* var. *meiocarpa*, *C. chekiangoleosa*, and *C. vietnamensis*)."

**Rationale:** The definition only includes 4 species of camelia as sources of the oil and this will be too limiting for the various other species of Camelia from which the oil may be derived including *Camelia sinensis* (*Linneaus*).

**Table 3 and Table 4**

**Comment:** Kenya further seeks clarification on the total ranges of sterols in mg/kg of 100-4,000 and total tocopherols and tocotrienols of 70-1000 on whether the ranges are justifiable based on the Camelia varieties from which the oil is derived.

**Justification:** The range is too big and may allow for undetected adulteration of camellia seed oil with other oils or with low-quality oil.

### Peru

#### POSICIÓN PAÍS PERÚ

**Nombre de la Comisión Técnica Nacional:** Comisión Técnica Nacional sobre Grasas y Aceites

**Nombre del documento en consulta:** CL 2023/58/OCS-FO ANTEPROYECTO DE ENMIENDA/REVISIÓN DE LA NORMA PARA ACEITES VEGETALES ESPECIFICADOS (CXS 210-1999): INCLUSIÓN DEL ACEITE DE SEMILLA DE CAMELIA (En el trámite 3)

**Plazo para remitir al Pleno:** 19 de enero de 2024

**Plazo Codex internacional:** 19 de enero de 2024

**Comentario General:**

Perú agradece al Comité del Codex sobre grasas y aceites (CCFO) el trabajo realizado por el grupo de trabajo electrónico [GTE] presidido por China que se encuentra plasmado en el Informe CX/FO 24/28/5. En atención y respuesta al documento CL 2023/58/OCS-FO, los miembros de la Comisión Técnica Nacional sobre grasas y aceite refieren que el documento puede avanzar en el trámite 3.

**Comentario Específico:**

No se tienen comentarios específicos.

### Republic of Korea

Republic of Korea notes that the product definition only includes four Camellia species in the document CL 2023/58/OCS-FO.

However, there are various species cultivated in many regions and countries for oil purposes and we would like to suggest considering the possibility of including a variety of species due to geographical characteristics or environmental aspects, etc.

Therefore, Republic of Korea would like to add the word “including” in the product definition 2.1 as follows.

#### 2.1 Product definition

Camellia seed oil (youcha oil) is derived from the seeds of cultivated Camellia species (**including** *C. oleifera*, *C. oleifera* var. *meiocarpa*, *C. chekiangoleosa*, and *C. vietnamensis*).

### Russian Federation

The Russian Federation considers it appropriate to include camellia seed oil in the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999) and supports the adoption of the proposed draft amendment/revision at CCFO28.

### United Republic of Tanzania

**General comment:** Tanzania would like to thank the Electronic Working Group chaired by China for their good work. Tanzania supports CCFO28 to consider the proposed amendments/revisions to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999) to include the provisions for Camellia seed oil due to its unique functional attributes after consideration of the specific comments below.

**Rationale:** The amendment would enable countries and the food industry to appropriately characterize, name, and market camellia seed oil developed for improved functional and nutritional benefits for consumers and the food processing industry. Since this oil will be utilized in expanded amounts due to its favorable characteristics, it needs to have consistent naming and specifications to ensure fair trade internationally.

#### Product Definition:

**Comment:** Tanzania proposes the inclusion of the word ‘including’ in the product definition to read:

“Camellia seed oil (youcha oil) is derived from the seeds of cultivated Camellia species (**including** *C. oleifera*, *C. oleifera* var. *meiocarpa*, *C. chekiangoleosa*, and *C. vietnamensis*).”

**Rationale:** The definition only includes 4 species of camelia as sources of the oil and this will be too limiting for the various other species of Camelia from which the oil may be derived including *Camelia sinensis* (*Linneaus*).

#### Table 3 and Table 4

**Comment:** Tanzania notes and further seeks clarification on the total ranges of sterols in mg/kg of 100-4,000 and total tocopherols and tocotrienols of 70-1000 on whether the ranges are justifiable based on the Camelia varieties from which the oil is derived.

**Rationale:** The range is too broad and may allow for undetected adulteration of Camellia seed oil with other oils or with low quality oil, especially in the case of tocopherols, where very low levels of tocopherols in crude oils, below their natural range. Therefore, Tanzania advises for further data collection from several samples obtained from different varieties from different climatic and geographical location to aid in setting of the proposed broad range.