

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) - [www.codexalimentarius.org](http://www.codexalimentarius.org)

Agenda Item 9

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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

#### Fifty-Fourth Session

### DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STANDARD FOR YEAST

(Comments of Canada, Japan, Kenya, Morocco, Republic of Korea)

#### Canada

Canada appreciates the work of China, in collaboration with France, Japan, Türkiye, and the Confederation of European Yeast Producers to conduct a comprehensive review of the project document, on the development of a standard for yeast.

At CCFA53, China presented the discussion paper (CCFA53/CRD6), emphasizing the need to establish a standard for yeast. In response to feedback received, China proposed excluding edible yeast from the scope and suggested further discussion on the scope during the standard's development. CCFA53 agreed to request China, France, and other interested Members, to prepare a discussion paper which would be included for discussion on the agenda of CCFA54.

The scope of this proposal applies to yeast products for baking. Currently, there is no harmonized international standard for baker's yeast. The regulations and standards for yeast vary among countries, and there are still many countries which do not have standard for yeast. As described in the proposal, the purpose of this standard is to protect the health of consumers and promote fair practices in food trade in accordance with the purpose of the Codex.

Canada would appreciate more information on the barriers to trade that would be mitigated by developing a Codex Standard and impacts on Member countries if a standard is not developed. It is important to understand these better, in order to develop a Codex standard that does not conflict with the ISO standard under development (and therefore potentially create a trade barrier), and whose scope is sufficiently defined and limited to resolving the trade issues.

#### Japan

Japan recognizes no particular problem of consumer health or fair trade practice due to the current lack of an international harmonized standard. However, if other Members need an international standard, the scope should be limited to the baker's yeast as proposed in the discussion paper.

#### Kenya

Kenya appreciates China, France, Japan, Türkiye, and the Confederation of European Yeast Producers. Kenya agrees to the revised project document CX/FA 24/54/12 Appendix 1 and supports the development of a standard for baker's yeast as a new work for approval by CAC47. Kenya notes that the current data related to baker's yeast production volumes supports international trade. Further, the discussion paper also highlights the issue of consumer safety.

#### Morocco

#### **Position du Maroc :**

Le Maroc soutient l'importance d'une norme Codex pour la levure boulangère et les étapes à suivre pour son développement. Cependant, sur le plan procédural, le Maroc souligne que la levure n'est pas un additif et qu'une prise en charge des travaux par le CCFA pourrait entraîner un risque de confusion sur cette question. Aussi, un groupe intergouvernemental ad hoc serait plus approprié pour s'occuper de ce projet de norme.

**Argumentaire :**

Le projet de nouvelle norme est conforme au plan stratégique du Codex 2020-2025.

La nécessité d'une norme internationale pour la levure boulangère, afin de faciliter le commerce et d'assurer la sécurité sanitaire à l'échelle mondiale.

**Republic of Korea**

1. The Republic of Korea supports the development of a standard for baker's yeast. And give thanks to China, France, Japan, Türkiye and Confederation of European Yeast Producers for preparing a discussion paper on it. We are fully committed to actively cooperating in the future work of establishing the CODEX standard of baker's yeast.