

## 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 4

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**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING**

**Forty-fourth Session**

**Asunción, Paraguay, 16 – 20 October 2017**

**CONSIDERATION OF LABELLING PROVISIONS IN DRAFT CODEX STANDARDS**

**(CCPFV, CCASIA, CCLAC, CCAFRICA, CCSCHE, CCFO, CCNE and CCMMP)**

**Background**

According to the Procedural Manual<sup>1</sup>, Codex general subject committees, CCFL inclusive, may establish general provisions on matters within their terms of reference. These general provisions should only be incorporated into Commodity Standards by reference unless there is a need for doing otherwise.

The Procedural Manual also states that: “the Commodity committees shall refer any exemptions from, or additions to, the reference to the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985) as indicated in the section on food labelling in the *Format for Codex Commodity Standards* to the Committee on Food Labelling for endorsement”.

**Action requested**

In line with the terms of reference of CCFL and the above requirement, the Committee is requested to consider and endorse the labelling provisions forwarded by the following Codex Committees as presented in the Appendix.

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<sup>1</sup> Procedural Manual (25<sup>th</sup> Edition)

**A. COMMITTEE ON PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES (CCPFV)**

**Note:** CAC40 adopted<sup>2</sup> the proposed draft annexes for certain quick frozen vegetables<sup>3</sup> at Step 5/8 for inclusion in the *Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables* (CODEX STAN 320-2015), subject to endorsement of the labelling provisions by CCFL. It is noted that labelling provisions in these annexes are complementary to the labelling provisions applicable to quick frozen vegetables as endorsed<sup>4</sup> by CCFL42 and contained in the labelling section of the body of the *Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables*.

**Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables (CODEX STAN 320-2015)****Broccoli****4. LABELLING****4.1 Name of the product**

The name of the product shall include the designation “Broccoli” and the size or size designation when the broccoli is sized.

**Brussel sprouts****4. LABELLING****4.1 Name of the product**

The name of the product shall include the designation “Brussels sprouts”.

**4.2 Size designation****4.2.1** If a term designating the size of the Brussels sprouts is used:

- (a) it shall be supported by the sieve size in mm; and/or
- (b) the words “very small”, “small”, “medium” or “large” as appropriate; and/or
- (c) by a size representation on the label of the size range to which the Brussels sprouts predominantly conform; and/or
- (d) the customary method of declaring size in the country in which the product is sold.

**Cauliflower****4. LABELLING****4.1 Name of the product**

**4.1.1** The name of the product shall include the designation “cauliflower”.

**4.1.2** If a term designating the size of the florets is used:

- (a) the words “large florets”, “medium florets”, “small florets” or “cut florets” as appropriate; and/or
- (b) by a correct representation on the label of the size range to which the florets predominantly conform; and/or;
- (c) the customary method of declaring size in the country of retail sale.

**French Fried Potatoes****4. LABELLING****4.1 Name of the product**

**4.1.1** The name of the product shall be “French Fried Potatoes” or the equivalent designation used in the country in which the product is intended to be sold. Where the sweet potato variety is used, the name of the product shall be “French Fried Sweet Potatoes”.

**4.1.2** In addition, there shall appear on the label a designation of the style as appropriate, for example “straight cut” or “crinkle cut” and there may also appear an indication of the approximate dimensions of the cross section or the appropriate designation, i.e. “Shoestring”, “medium”, “thick cut” or “extra-large”.

<sup>2</sup> REP17/CAC, para 16, Appendix III

<sup>3</sup> REP17/PFV, paras 28-43, Appendix IV

<sup>4</sup> REP15/FL, para 8

## 4.2 Additional requirements

The packages shall bear clear directions for keeping from the time they are purchased from the retailer to the time of their use, as well as directions for cooking.

### Green beans and wax beans

#### 4. LABELLING

##### 4.1 Name of the product

4.1.1 The name of the product shall include the designations “green beans” or “wax beans” as applicable.

4.1.2 A statement regarding type (“round” or “flat”) may be made if customary in the country of retail sale.

##### 4.2 Size designation

If a term designating the size of the beans is used:

- (a) it shall be supported by the size in mm as shown in Section 2.4.5.2; and/or
- (b) the words “extra small”, “very small”, “small”, “medium”, or “large” as appropriate; and/or
- (c) by a correct graphic representation on the label of the size range to which the beans predominantly conform; and/or
- (d) the customary method of declaring size in the country in which the product is sold.

### Peas

#### 4. LABELLING

##### 4.1 Name of the product

4.1.1 The name of the product shall include the designation “peas”, except that where peas are presented in conformity with Section 1.1.1

4.1.2 Types “Garden Peas”, Sweet Green Peas, the designation shall be “garden peas” or the equivalent designation used in the country of retail sale.

### Spinach

#### 4. LABELLING

##### 4.1 Name of the product

The name of the product shall include the designation “Spinach”.

#### B. FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA (CCASIA)

**Note:** CAC40 adopted<sup>2</sup> the proposed draft Regional Standard for Laver Products<sup>5</sup> at Step 5/8 subject to endorsement of the labelling provisions by CCFL.

### Laver Products

#### 8. LABELLING

In addition to the provisions of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985), the following specific provisions apply:

##### 8.1 The Name of the Products

The name of the products shall be in line with Section 2.3. Other appropriate names can be labelled in accordance with the law and custom in the country where the products are distributed in a manner not to mislead the consumer. In the case where the edible seaweeds other than *Pyropia* are included as optional ingredients, the fact should be reflected in the name of the products.

##### 8.2 Labelling of net contents

The net contents should be declared in accordance with Section 7.1. For retail packages, weight must be declared in accordance with the requirement of the importing country.

##### 8.3 Labelling of Non-Retail Containers

Information on non-retail containers shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the products, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer and/or packer shall appear on the container. However, lot identification, and the name and

<sup>5</sup> REP17/ASIA, paras 89-95, Appendix IV

address of the manufacturer and/or packer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

Edible foreign matters<sup>6</sup> shall be identified and appropriately declared on the label of the container or in the accompanying documents.

## C. FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (CCLAC)

**Note:** CAC40 adopted<sup>2</sup> the proposed draft regional Standard for Yacon<sup>7</sup> at Step 5/8 subject to endorsement of the food labelling provisions by CCFL. Labelling provisions follow the standard format and text used in Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables.

### Yacon

## 7. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MARKING AND LABELLING

### 7.1. Consumer packages

In addition to the requirements of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985), the following specific provisions apply:

#### 7.1.1 Nature of Produce

Each package shall be labeled as to the name of the produce and may be labeled as to the name of the variety and/or commercial type.

#### 7.1.2 Origin of Produce

Country of origin<sup>8</sup> and, optionally, district where grown, or national, regional or local place name.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different varieties of yacon of different origins, the indication of each country of origin shall appear next to the name of the variety and/or commercial type concerned.

### 7.2. Non-retail containers

Each package must bear the following particulars, in letters grouped on the same side, legibly and indelibly marked and visible from the outside, or in the documents accompanying the shipment.

For yacon transported in bulk (directly loading into a transport vehicle) these particulars must appear on a document accompanying the goods, and attached in a visible position inside the transport vehicle.

#### 7.2.1 Identification

Name and address of the exporter, packer and / or dispatcher. Identification code (optional)<sup>9</sup>.

#### 7.2.2 Nature of Produce<sup>10</sup>

Name of the produce, variety and/or commercial type (optional).

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different varieties and/or commercial types, names of the different varieties and/or commercial types.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different varieties and/or commercial types and/or colours of yacon, which are not visible from the outside, varieties and/or commercial types and/or colours and the quantity of each in the package must be indicated.

#### 7.2.3 Origin of Produce

Country of origin<sup>11</sup> and, optionally, district where grown, or national, regional or local place name.

<sup>6</sup> Sea creatures or sea plants which are not harmful to human body and mixed unintentionally, unavoidably, naturally during the growing process in the sea.

<sup>7</sup> REP17/LAC, paras 121-123, Appendix III

<sup>8</sup> The full or a commonly used name should be indicated

<sup>9</sup> The national legislation of a number of countries requires the explicit declaration of the name and address. However, in the case where a code mark is used, the reference "packer and/or dispatcher (or equivalent abbreviations)" has to be indicated in close connection with the code mark, and the code mark should be preceded by the ISO 3166 (alpha) country/area code of the recognizing country, if not the country of origin.

<sup>10</sup> The product covered by the provisions of this standard should allow traceability in accordance with appropriate sections of "*Principles for traceability / product tracing as a tool in the context of food inspection and certification*" (CAC/GL 60-2006).

<sup>11</sup> The full or a commonly used name should be indicated.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different varieties and/or commercial types of yacon of different origins, the indication of each country of origin shall appear next to the name of the variety and/or commercial type.

#### 7.2.4 Commercial Identification

- Class;
- Size.

#### 7.2.5 Official Inspection Mark (optional)

### D. FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA (CAFRICA)

**Note:** CAC40 adopted<sup>2</sup> the draft regional Standard for Unrefined Shea Butter<sup>12</sup> at Step 5/8 subject to endorsement of the labelling provisions by CCFL.

#### Unrefined Shea Butter

### 9. LABELLING

#### 9.2 Labelling

The product shall be labelled in accordance with the provisions of the *Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985). Furthermore, each container shall be marked with a label containing the following information:

- (a) Name of the product and grade – to be consistent with table 1
- (b) Name and address of the manufacturer and/or the trademark
- (c) Country of origin
- (d) Net weight in kg
- (e) Date of manufacture
- (f) Product shelf life
- (g) Production lot number or code
- (h) Storage instructions.

#### 9.3 Labelling of non-retail containers

The information required by this standard and by section 4 of the *Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, the net weight of the product, date of manufacture, the production lot number as well as the name and address of the manufacturer, the packer, the distributor and/or importer shall appear on the container. However, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, and/or importer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

### E. COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS (CCSCH)

**Note:** CAC40 adopted<sup>2</sup> the draft Standards for Cumin<sup>13</sup> and Dried Thyme<sup>14</sup> at Step 8 subject to endorsement of the labelling provisions by CCFL. The labelling provisions were endorsed by CCFL43 (2016) at Step 5. However, the section was modified by CCSCH03 (2017) and it is therefore resubmitted for endorsement.

CAC 40 also adopted<sup>2</sup> the proposed draft Standard for Black, White and Green Pepper<sup>15</sup> at Step 5/8 subject to endorsement of the labelling provisions.

#### Cumin

### 8. LABELLING

8.1 The products covered by the provisions of this Standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985). In addition, the following specific provisions apply:

<sup>12</sup> REP17/AFRICA, paras 75-78, Appendix III

<sup>13</sup> REP17/SCH, paras 12-29, Appendix II

<sup>14</sup> REP17/SCH, paras 30-38, Appendix III

<sup>15</sup> REP17/SCH, paras 39-43, Appendix IV

## 8.2 Name of the Product

8.2.1 The name of the product shall be "Cumin".

8.2.2 The name of the product may include an indication of the style/grade

8.3 Country of origin (optional)

8.4 Inspection mark (optional)

## 8.5 Labelling of Non-Retail Containers

Information for non-retail containers shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer, as well as storage instructions, shall appear on the container. However, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

### Dried Thyme

## 8. LABELLING

8.1 The products covered by the provisions of this Standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985). In addition, the following specific provisions apply:

### 8.2 Name of the Product

8.2.1 The name of the product shall be "dried thyme" or thyme when the omission of the word dry would not mislead or confuse the consumer.

8.2.2 The name of the product may include an indication of the species, varietal types and the style as described in Section 2.2. In case of products consisting of blends of different *Thymus* species, the name of the product may be followed by the *Thymus* species in order of descending quantity.

8.2.3 Country of harvest/origin (optional)

8.2.4 Inspection mark (optional)

### 8.3 Labelling of Non-Retail Containers

Information for non-retail containers shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer, as well as storage instructions, shall appear on the container. However, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

### Black, White and Green Pepper

## 8. LABELLING

8.1 The products covered by the provisions of this Standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1- 1985) In addition, the following specific provisions apply:

### 8.2 Name of the Product

8.2.1 The name of the product shall be "Black Pepper" (pepper corn), "White Pepper" or "Green Pepper",

8.2.2 The nature of the product may include an indication of the style AND GRADE as described in Section 2.2.

8.2.3 Country of origin (optional)

8.2.4 Commercial Identification

- Class/ Grade

- Variety (optional)

8.2.5 Inspection mark (optional)

### 8.3 Labelling of Non-Retail Containers

Information for non-retail containers shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer, as well as storage instructions, shall appear on the container. However, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

## F. COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS

**Note:** CAC40 adopted<sup>2</sup> the draft Standard for Fish Oils<sup>16</sup> at Step 8 subject to endorsement of the labelling provisions by CCFL.

### Fish Oils

## 7. LABELLING

The requirements of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985) and of the *Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling* (CAC/GL 2-1985) apply to this standard.

### 7.1 Name of the food

The name of the fish oil shall conform to the descriptions given in Section 2 of this Standard. For salmon oil the label shall specify the source of the raw material (wild or farmed).

### 7.2 Labelling on non-retail containers

Information on the above labelling requirements shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the food, lot identification and the name and address of the manufacturer or packer shall appear on the container.

However, lot identification and the name and address of the manufacturer or packer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

For crude fish oils and crude fish liver oils the label shall indicate that these oils are intended for human consumption only after they have undergone further processing.

### 7.3 Other labelling requirements

For fish liver oils (Sections 2.3 and 2.4) the content in vitamin A and vitamin D, naturally present or restored, shall be given if required by country of retail sale.

For all fish oils covered by this standard the content of EPA and DHA shall be given if required by country of retail sale.

## G. FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR NEAR EAST (CCNE)

**Note:** CAC40 adopted<sup>2</sup> the proposed draft Regional Standard for Doogh<sup>17</sup> at Step 5/8 subject to endorsement of the labelling provisions by CCFL. The standard has been aligned with the *Standard for Fermented Milks* (CODEX STAN 243-2003) to the extent the characteristics proper of doogh are preserved.

### Doogh

## 8. LABELLING

In addition to the provisions of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CODEXSTAN 1-1985) and the *General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms* (CODEX STAN 206-1999), the following specific provisions apply:

### 8.1 Name of the food

**8.1.1** The name of the food shall be "Doogh".

**8.1.2** The descriptions of "Carbonated/Uncarbonated" and/or "Heat treated/Un-heat treated" shall be used in conjunction with the word "Doogh". For carbonated doogh, the terms "Fermenting" or "Injecting" shall be applied before the word "Carbonated" in the product designation to represent the source of carbonation.

**8.1.3** The designation of "Flavoured Doogh" shall be used as the name of product if any flavouring substance is added.

<sup>16</sup> REP17/FO, paras 16-28, Appendix III

<sup>17</sup> REP17/NE, paras 53-65, Appendix III

**8.1.4** When probiotic microorganisms are incorporated into doogh, the word “Probiotic” may be applied somewhere on the label.

**8.1.5** For doogh powder, the name “Doogh Powder” or “Dried Doogh” shall be inserted in marking.

## **8.2 Declaration of fat content**

If the consumer would be misled by the omission, the milk fat content shall be declared in a manner acceptable in the country of sale to the final consumer, either as (i) a percentage of mass or volume, or (ii) in grams per serving as qualified in the label, provided that the number of servings is stated. Any labelling should be in accordance to the *Guidelines for Use of Nutrition and Health Claims* (CAC/GL 23-1997).

## **8.3 Labelling of non-retail containers**

Information required in Section 8 of this Standard and Sections 4.1 to 4.8 of the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods, and, if necessary, storage instructions, shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer, as well as storage instructions, shall appear on the container. However, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

## **H. COMMITTEE ON MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS (CCMMP)**

**Note:** CAC40 adopted<sup>2</sup> the draft Standard for Dairy Permeate Powders<sup>18</sup> at Step 8 with modifications recommended by New Zealand and subject to endorsement of the labelling provisions by CCFL.

### **Dairy Permeate Powders**

## **7. LABELLING**

In addition to the provisions of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepacked Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985) and the *General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms* (CODEX STAN 206-1999) the following specific provisions apply:

### **7.1 Name of the food**

The name of the food shall be dairy permeate powder. Products complying with the relevant descriptions in Section 2 and compositions in Section 3.3 may be named milk permeate powder and whey permeate powder, respectively.

Where appropriate in the country of sale, the name may be supplemented by the designation “lactose-rich deproteinized \_\_\_\_\_ powder”, the blank being filled with the term dairy, whey or milk, as appropriate to the nature of the product.

### **7.2 Labelling of non-retail containers**

Information required in Section 7 of this Standard and Sections 4.1 to 4.8 of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CODEX STAN 1-1985), and, if necessary, storage instructions, shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer or packer shall appear on the container. However, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer or packer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

<sup>18</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/3-Add.1 Annex 2