

# 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 14

ASIA21/CRD5

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA

#### Twenty-first Session

Goa, India 23 - 27 September 2019

#### DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF CODEX STANDARD FOR CANNED SARDINES AND SARDINE-TYPE PRODUCTS (CODEX STAN 94-1981): INCLUSION OF *Sardinella lemuru* (Bali Sardinella) IN THE LIST OF SARDINELLA SPECIES UNDER SEC. 2.1.1.

Prepared by PHILIPPINES

#### BACKGROUND

1. In 2016 and 2017, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) reported that the European Union (EU) importers of sardines in Germany and Netherlands refused to push through with shipments (403 MT in 2016 and 431 MT in 2017) of canned sardines from the Philippines that state *Sardinella* spp. or *S. lemuru* in the export certification/documents on the ground that either species are not compliant with Article 1 paragraph 3 of the of the common marketing standards for preserved sardines in European Union (EU) European Commission (EC) No. 1181/2003). The EU standard contains very specific listing of species from which product marketed as “preserved sardine type products” can be prepared from. Unfortunately, *S. lemuru* is not in the list nor in the more generalized *Sardinella* spp.
2. The EU standard is in turn based on Codex standard for canned sardines and sardine-type product (Codex Stan 94-1981). The standard contains a specific listing of species for canned sardine and sardine type products. This list also does not include *S. lemuru* or *Sardinella* spp.
3. During a meeting between the Philippine government and the EC Directorate General for Maritime Affairs Fisheries (DG MARE) on January 31, 2018, DG MARE suggested for the Philippines to work on having *S. lemuru* or Bali Sardinella included in the Codex standard since it does not see the current EU regulation being changed unless the primary international standard is updated/amended first (as per WTO dispute involving *Sardinia pilchardus Walbaum*; FAO and WTO, 2017).

#### SCOPE

4. The proposed amendment shall focus on the inclusion of *S. lemuru* in the list of sardine-type fishes authorized for the preparation of canned sardine and sardine-type products taking into account the issue on fair trade practice. Product authenticity, traceability and sustainability of the resources shall be addressed to ensure compliance of the requirements in the international markets. The proposal intends to include *S.lemuru* in the list of *Sardinella* species under Section 2.1.1 of the Codex standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products, CODEX STAN 94-1981.

#### Introduction

5. Sardines including *S. lemuru* is one of the important fish commodity in Asia. They are cheaper sources of animal protein and contribute millions of USD in revenues of producing countries (FAO-FAISB, 2019). The species is widely distributed in the coast of Eastern Indian Ocean (Phuket, Thailand, southern coast of east Java and Bali; Western Australia) and Western Pacific (Java Sea north to the Philippines, Hongkong, Taiwan Island to southern Japan), Munroe *et. al.*, 1999.
6. In the Philippines, *S. lemuru*, previously reported as *S. longiceps*, (Willette and Santos, 2012; [www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph)) dominates the landed fish catch, averaging up to 229,802.62 mt or 11% of the total marine capture fisheries during 1997 to 2017. About 75% of the total catch was contributed by commercial fisheries and 25% by municipal fisheries sector during the same period ([www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph)). The species is almost distributed in the entire Philippine archipelago (Willette *et. al.* 2011).
7. To ensure the sustainability of sardines production including *S. lemuru*, the Philippine government has introduced several management measures. These include (1) the imposition of a three-month per year closed fishing season particularly during the spawning months in major sardine fishing areas, (2) the implementation of strict ordinance towards responsible fishing and (3) the drafting of the National Sardines Management Framework Plan (2019-2024) which presents the vision, goals, objectives, benchmarks and

indicator, and management actions for the next five years towards the sustainability of the sardines industry in the country ([www.bfar.da.gov.ph](http://www.bfar.da.gov.ph)).

8. *Sardinella lemuru* is mainly processed for canned products (BFAR, 2018). However, it is interesting to note that from 1991 to 2017, the country had exported only an average of 5,601.35 MT canned products or 2% of the total catches ([www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph)). The small volume of canned *S. lemuru* export could be attributed to the non-existence of the species in the international standards (e.g. Codex, EC Regulation, etc).

#### Essentials to include *S. lemuru* in the standard

9. Based on scientific evidences, *S. lemuru* collected from the Philippines and Indonesia demonstrates similarities and consistencies in morphological and molecular characteristics with other *Sardinella* species listed in the codex standard, namely *S. aurita*, *S. gibbosa* and *S. longiceps* (Whitehead, 1985; Munroe et al., 1999; Willette and Santos, 2012; Thomas et al., 2014).
10. The main capture grounds for *S. lemuru* are well defined from Long 94.86, Lat 5.98 W to Long 136.83, Lat 34.21E and from Long 133.02, Lat 36.58 N to Long 115.03, Lat -34.56S. The covers the coast of Eastern Indian Ocean (Phuket, Thailand, southern coast of east Java and Ball; Western Australia) and Western Pacific (Java Sea north to the Philippines, Hongkong, Taiwan Island to southern Japan). (**Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** *et al.*, 1999).
11. *Sardinella lemuru* is one of the major landed fish catch in the Philippines ([www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph)) and Indonesia ([www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)).
12. The Philippines produces substantial volume of catch *S. lemuru* however only 2% of are internationally traded as canned products in more or less 58 countries around the globe including European Union ([www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph)).
13. Asian countries including China, Hongkong (China), Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam are both exporters and importers of sardines including *S. lemuru*. It contributes millions of USD in revenues per producing country (FAO-FAISB, 2019). Hence it is necessary to standardize the species.

#### Recommendation

Philippines requests that CCA21 agree to submit the proposed amendment for approval by the Codex Alimentarius Commission on the 43rd Session in July, 2020. The project document is attached as Appendix 1.

#### References

1. Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR); [www.bfar.da.gov.ph](http://www.bfar.da.gov.ph)
2. CODEX STAN 94-1981. Standards for Canned Sardines and Sardines-Type Products.
3. Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1181/2003 of 2 July 2003 amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 2136/89 laying down common marketing standards for preserved sardines.
4. Comprehensive Post-Harvest, Marketing and Anxillary Industries Plan 2018 – 2022. BFAR, 2018
5. FAO – Fisheries and Aquaculture Department. *Species Fact Sheets*. *Sardinella lemuru* (Bleeker, 1853).
6. FAO and WTO. (2017). *Trade and Food Standards*
7. FAO- Fisheries and Aquaculture Information and Statistics Branch. *Commodity Trade and Production*. 2019.
8. Munroe, T.A., Wonratana, T. and, Nizinski M.S. (1999). Clupeidae: herrings (also, sardines, shads, sprats, pilchards, and menhadens). In FAO species identification guide for fishery purposes: the living marine resources of the West Central Pacific. Vol. 3: Batoid fishes, chimaeras and Bony fishes, Part 1 (Elopidae to Linophyndae). K.E. Carpenter, V.H. Niem (Eds). Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nation, Rome, pp.1775 – 1821.
9. Whitehead. P.J.P. (1985). FAO Species catalogue. Vol. 7. Clupeoid fishes of the world (Suborder Clupeoidei). An Annotated and illustrated catalogue of the herrings, sardines, pilchards, sprats, shads, anchovies and wol-herrings. Part I. Chirocentridae, Clupeidae, and Pristigasteridae. *FAO Fish. Synop.*, (125) Vol. 7, Pt. 1:303p.
10. Willette D.A, Santos, M.D. (2012). Correcting widespread misidentification of the highly abundant and commercially important sardine species *Sardinella lemuru* in the Philippines. *Journal of Applied Ichthyology* 29(4):881-885.

11. Willette D.A., Bognot, E.D.C., Mutia, T.M., and Santos M.D. (2011). Biology and Ecology of Sardines in the Philippines –A review. *Publication of the Technical Paper Series*. 13:1.
12. Philippine Statistics Authority; [www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph)

## PROJECT DOCUMENT

**PROPOSAL FOR THE AMENDMENT OF CODEX STANDARD FOR CANNED SARDINES AND SARDINE-TYPE PRODUCTS (CODEX STAN 94-1981): INCLUSION OF *Sardinella lemuru* (Bali Sardinella) IN THE LIST OF SARDINELLA SPECIES UNDER SEC. 2.1.1.****1. Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of the amendment is to provide the member countries and the sardine canning industry (producers and traders) a revised list of sardine-type fishes authorized for the preparation of canned sardine and sardine type products to include *Sardinella lemuru* or Bali Sardinella.

The scope of the amendment shall focus on the inclusion of *S. lemuru* in the list of sardine-type fishes authorized for the preparation of canned sardine and sardine-type products taking into account the issue on fair trade practice. Product authenticity, traceability and sustainability of the resources shall be addressed to ensure compliance of the requirements in the international markets. The proposal intends to revise Section 2.1.1 of the Codex standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products, CODEX STAN 94-1981.

**2. Description of *S. lemuru*****(a) Scientific Name:**

*Sardinella lemuru* (Bleeker, 1853) Source: [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

Synonymous to *Sardinella aurita* (Valenciennes 1847, Raja and Hiyama, 1969), *Clupea nymphaea* (Richardson, 1846, Ichthyol.China Japan:304 (China Sea)(name suppressed by International Commission in 1970, Opinion, Bull.Zool.Nomencl.,26(5-6):2017)., *Amblygaster posterus* Whitely, 1931:144 (Western Australia)., *Amblygaster postera* Munro, 1956:22,fig.154., *Sardinella samarensis* Roxas, 1934:275,pl.2, fig. 11 (Samar, the Philippines)., *Sardinella longiceps*) non Valenciennes 1847, Whitehead, 1965, *Sardinella lemuru* Wongratana, 1980:111, pls 47,48 (revision).

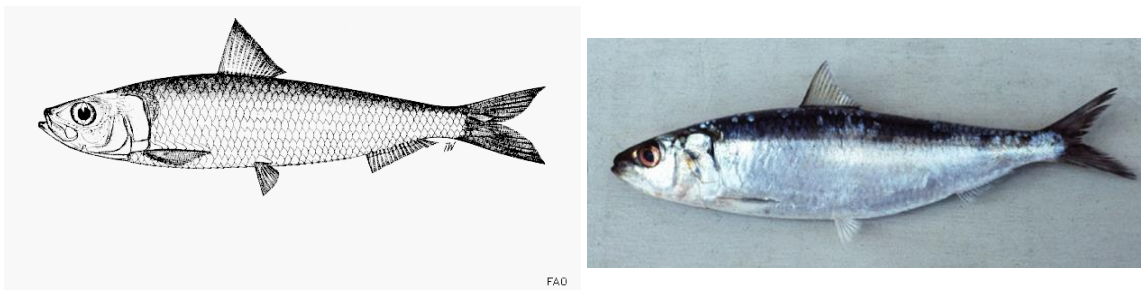


Fig. 1 *Sardinella lemuru*; Standard length: 23 cm, usually to 20 cm. Source: [www.fishbase.org](http://www.fishbase.org)

**(b) Morphological and Anatomical Characteristics:**

Diagnostic features (Figure 1) include, body elongate, subcylindrical, its depth less than 30% of standard length, belly rounded. The pelvic fins count of 8 distinguished *S. lemuru* from all other clupeids in the eastern Indian Ocean and western Pacific. Very closely resembles *Sardinella longiceps* (whose range it may overlap in the Andaman Sea), but head shorter (26 to 29% of standard length; cf.-29 to 35% in *S. longiceps* and lower gillrakers fewer (77 to 188 in fishes of 6.5 to 22 cm standard length; cf. 150 to 253 in *S. longiceps* of 8 to 15.5 cm, usually more than 180). No dark spot at dorsal fin origin; a faint golden spot behind gill opening, followed by a faint golden midlateral line; a distinct black spot at hind border of gill cover (absence of pigment).

**(c) Genotype of the *S. lemuru* specimen collected in the Philippines, Indonesia and related species**

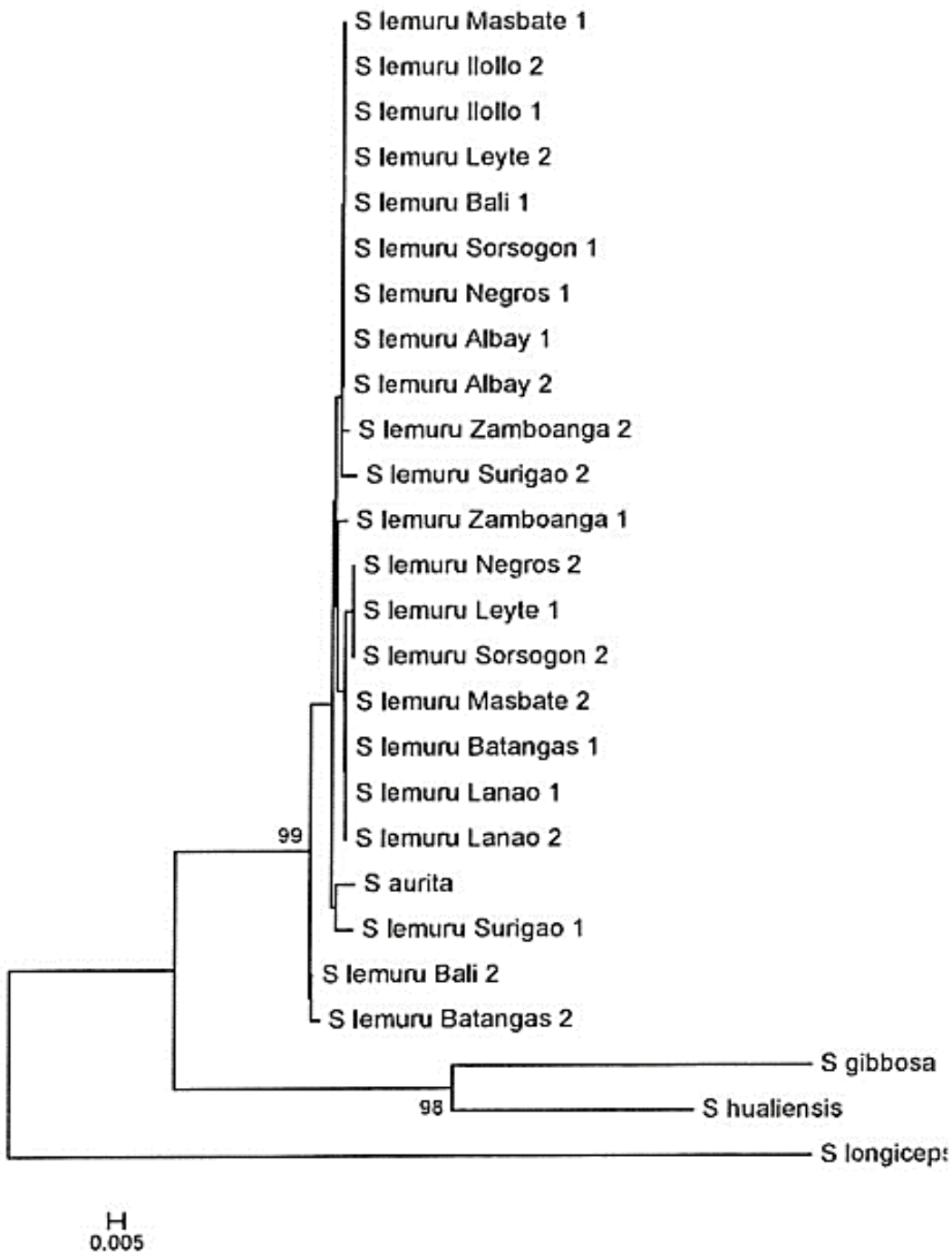


Fig. 2 Neighbour - Joining Tree showing the taxonomic position of *S. lemuru*; Source: Willette and Santos (2012)

Figure 2 shows the taxonomic identification of *S. lemuru* collected in the Philippines and Indonesia (Bali) in relation to other sardine species using DNA analysis (Willette and Santos, 2012). Sardine species used for comparison are listed under Sec 2.1.1 CODEX STAN 94-1981, namely, *S. aurita*, *S. gibbosa* and *S. longiceps*

*Sardinella lemuru* collected from various fishing grounds in the Philippines and Bali, Indonesia formed a separate cluster when subjected to phylogenetic analysis thus demonstrating phylogenetic divergence in relation to the other sardine species.

#### (d) Specific DNA Sequence of *S. lemuru* from the Philippines

All DNA sequences of *S. lemuru* found in the Philippines were archived at Gen Bank (Accession numbers JQ818230-JQ818251)3.

>JQ818230.1 *Sardinella lemuru* isolate Negros\_1 cytochrome b (cytb) gene, partial cds; mitochondrial

GTTTACGAAAACTCACCCACTTCTCAAAATTGCTAACGACGCAGTCGTTGACCTCCCAGCCCCTTCCAA  
 TATTTAGTATGATGAAATTTTGGGTCACTTCTAGGACTGTGTTTAGCGACACAGATCCTAACAGGTCTA  
 TTTTAGCTATACATTATACCTCAGACATTGCCACCGCCTTCTCCTCCGTTGCCACATTTGCCGTGACG  
 TCAACTACGGATGACTGATTCGAAGCATGCACGCAAACGGAGCATCTTTCTTCTTTCATTTGCATTTACGC  
 CCACATTGGACGAGGACTCTACTACGGGTCTTACCTCTATAAGGAAACCTGAAATATTGGGGTCGTTCT  
 CTTCTCCTAGTCATGATGACCGCCTTCGTAGGCTACGTCT.

### 3. Economic Data of *S. lemuru*

#### 3.1 Resources

##### (a) Location of the Main Capture Grounds of *S. lemuru*

Global distribution of *S. lemuru* is observed from Long 94.86, Lat 5.98 W to Long 136.83, Lat 34.21E and from Long 133.02, Lat 36.58 N to Long 115.03, Lat -34.56S (Figure 3), in the coast of Eastern Indian Ocean (Phuket, Thailand, southern coast of east Java and Bali; Western Australia) and Western Pacific (Java Sea north to the Philippines, Hongkong, Taiwan Island to southern Japan).

In the Philippines, *S. lemuru* occurs in high abundance across and beyond productive coastal areas or upwelling regions in the country. Shoal of the species is found in coastal water over continental shelf where depth is less than 200 m. Distribution patterns are primarily concentrated in the central Visayan water bodies, southern coast of Luzon, and around the islands in Mindanao and Palawan.



Fig. 3 Global Distribution of *S. lemuru* reported by FAO.

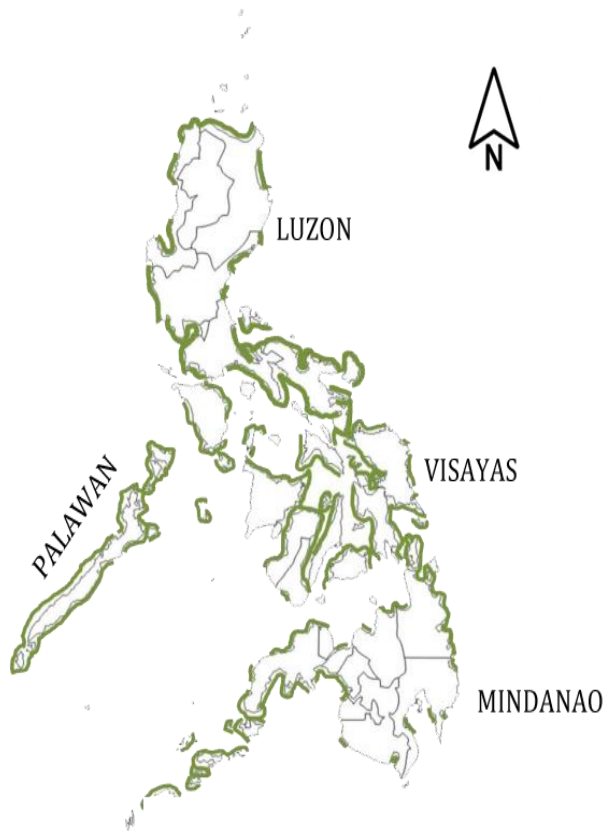


Fig. 4 Distribution of *Sardinella lemuru* in Philippine fishing grounds; Source: Willette *et al.* (2011)

**(b) Annual Production of *S. lemuru***

Global production of *S. lemuru* from 1950 to 2017 (Figure 5). In the East China Sea there was a total production of 100, 000 MT in 1971 and in Indonesia a total production of 59, 980 MT was recorded in 1983. The total production reported for FAO Statistics in 1999 was 161, 470 t (all from Indonesia)

**Global Capture Production for species (tonnes)**

Source: FAO FishStat

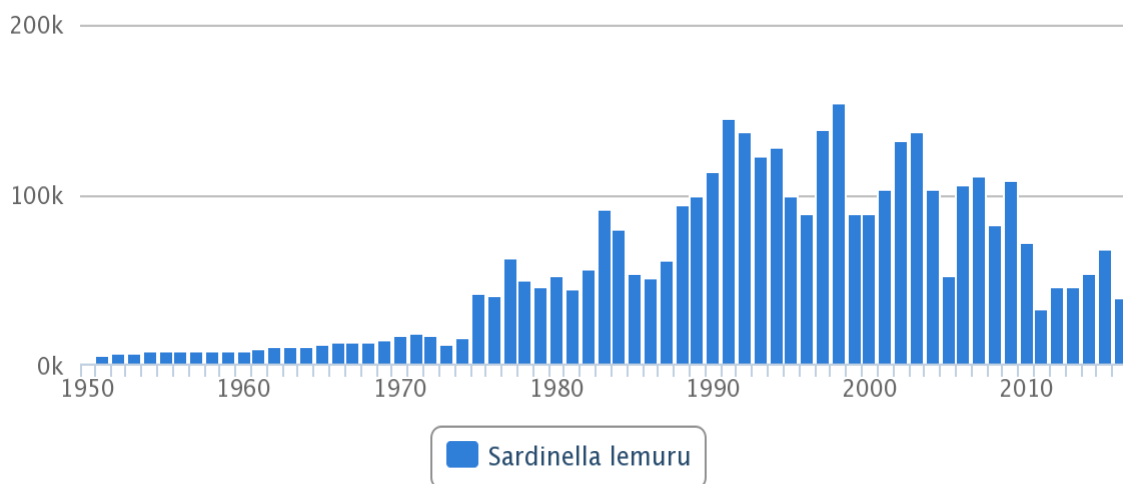


Fig. 5 Global production of *Sardinella lemuru* in MT; Source: [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org).



The production of *S. lemuru* in the Philippines averaged to about 229,802.62 MT or 11% of the total marine capture fisheries during 1997 to 2017 (Philippine Statistics Authority, [www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph)). About 75% of the total catch was contributed by commercial fisheries and 25% by municipal fisheries sector during the same period. As shown in Figure 6, there was an increasing production trend in 2004-2010. However, a sharp decline can be observed in 2011 and 2013 which is probably due to the increase in fishing pressure before stabilizing thereafter in the recent four years. Such increase in production could be attributed to the effort of the Philippine government to introduce management measures to ensure the sustainability of sardine production in the country. Specifically, a three-month per year closed fishing season particularly during the spawning months has been imposed in major sardine fishing areas such as Sulu Sea, Basilan Strait and Sibuguey Bay (Joint Administrative Order No.1, s 2011, [www.bfar.da.gov.ph](http://www.bfar.da.gov.ph)) and has been sustained through the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Administrative Circular No. 255, s 2014([www.bfar.da.gov.ph](http://www.bfar.da.gov.ph)). In addition to the implementation of strict ordinance towards responsible fishing, the National Sardines Management Framework Plan (2019-2024) was also drafted which presents the vision, goals, objectives, benchmarks and indicator, and management actions for the next five years towards the sustainability of the sardines industry in the country.

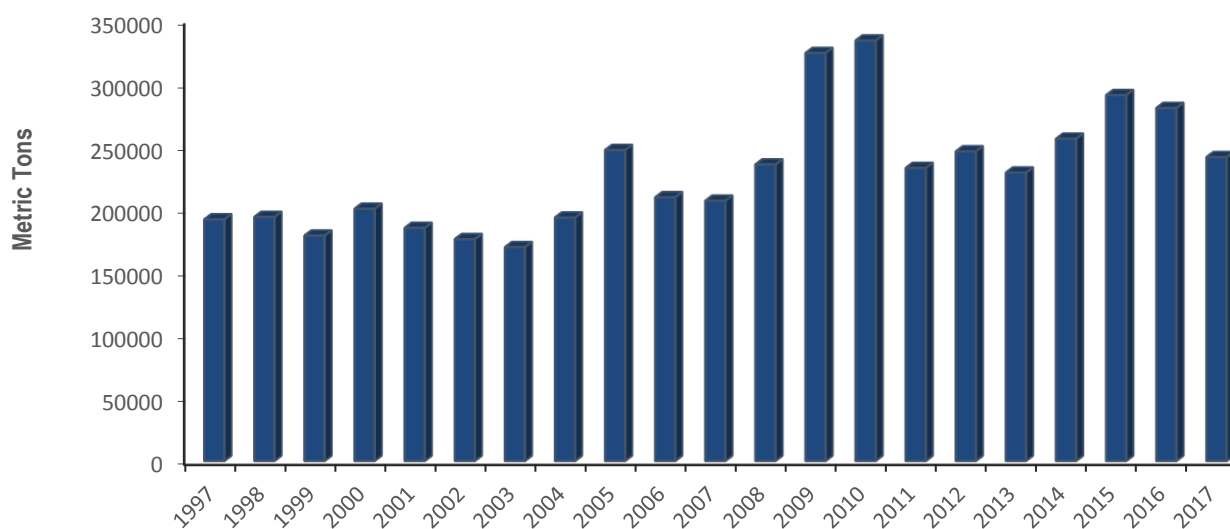


Fig. 6 Yearly catches of *Sardinella lemuru* in the Philippines for the last two decades;

Data Source: Philippine Statistics Authority ([www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph))

### Processing Technology and Marketing

#### (a) Processed products of canned *S. lemuru*

*Sardinella lemuru* is mainly processed for canned products in the Philippines. From 1991 to 2017, the country had exported an average of 5,601.35 MT or 2% of the total catch. The remaining 98% were consumed locally in the form of fresh, canned, dried and fermented products. The low production and exportation of canned *S. lemuru* could be attributed to the non-existence of the species in the international standards (e.g. Codex, EU, etc).

#### (b) International trade of canned *S. lemuru*

Canned *S. lemuru* is one of the export fishery products that has gained momentum in the international trade since 2007 (Figure 7). The product is traded in more or less 58 countries around the globe including the European Community (Figure 8). In 2011, the industry shared the highest volume of export at 15,489.39 MT valued at 23.9M USD. However, the quantity of export declined from 2012 until 2015 possibly due to the poor quality of the raw materials particularly the undesirable size of fish. The periodic fishing closure which was started in 2011 could have had an impact on the growth structure of fish such as presence of oversized fish and juveniles in the catch composition as reported by the National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP) of BFAR. However, in 2016-2017, the volume of canned *S. lemuru* exported began to recover.



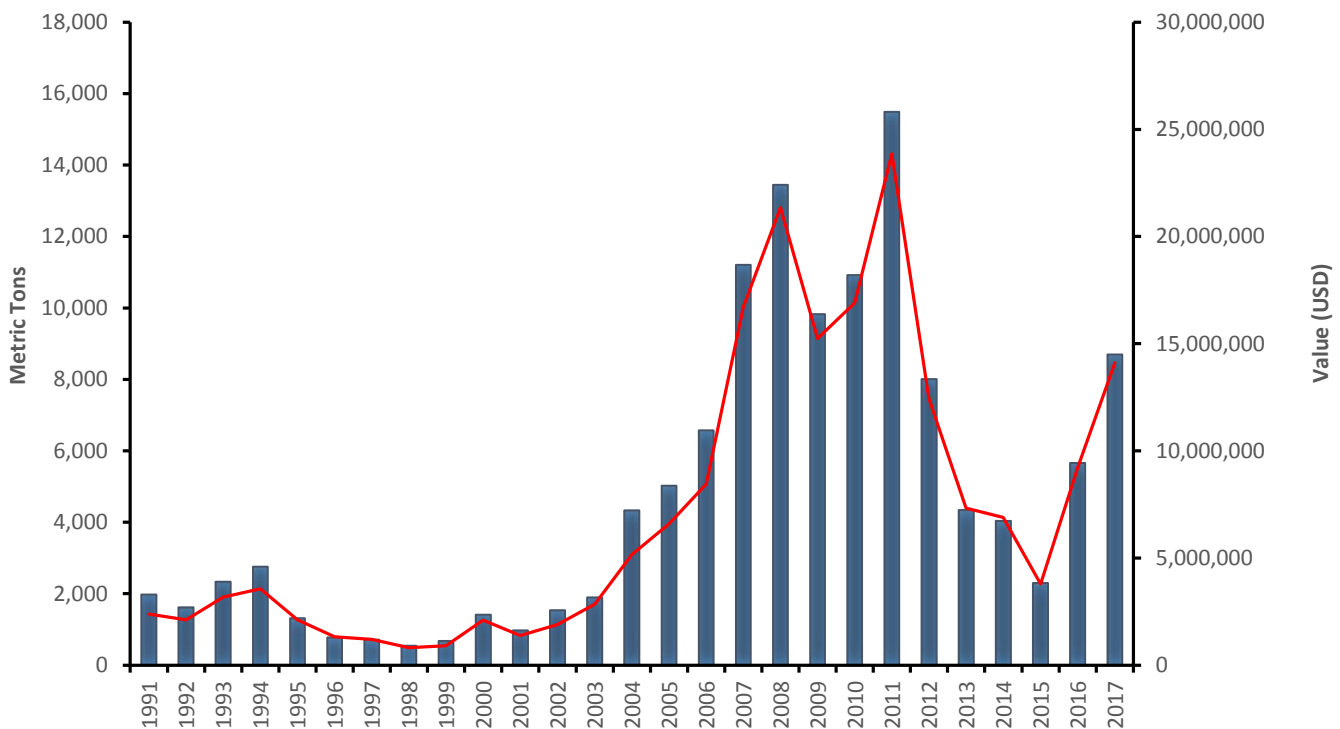


Fig. 7 Volume and value of exported canned *S. lemuru* in the Philippines from 1991-2018. Data Source: Philippine Statistics Authority ([www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph))

Asian countries are both exporters and importers of sardines including *S. lemuru* and contributing millions of USD in revenues per producing country (Table 1).

Table 1. Sardines and Sardinellas Trade and Production in Asian countries

Source: FAO – Fisheries and Aquaculture Information and Statistics Branch - 16/08/2019

Export

Land Area	Trade Values									
	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	MT	USD '000	MT	USD '000	MT	USD '000	MT	USD '000	MT	USD '000
Philippines	6,714	11,385	5,852	10,032	3,265	5,440	9,610	19,372	6,782	12,503
China	135,893	272,970	120,082	235,834	87,034	173,626	89,388	185,953	89,050	192,429
Hong Kong	0	0	2	9	1	8	0	0	87	467
Indonesia	678	1,345	886	1,436	365	336	644	860	1,257	2,446
Japan	54,756	42,269	13,786	12,604	33,924	26,278	39,086	31,828	62,026	47,966
Malaysia	3,694	3,924	1,849	1,910	1,739	1,846	1,843	1,776	578	748
Singapore	20	26	2	11	5 <sup>F</sup>	27 <sup>F</sup>	26	30	3	17

Thailand	25,408	54,895	15,658	33,057	10,793	22,327	7,821	15,673	63,209	119,920
Viet Nam	7,131	13,063	5,240 <sup>F</sup>	16,525 <sup>F</sup>	4,865 <sup>F</sup>	14,316 <sup>F</sup>	6,259	18,126	5,019	16,576

## Import

Land Area	Trade Values									
	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	MT	USD '000	MT	USD '000	MT	USD '000	MT	USD '000	MT	USD '000
Philippines	28,597	16,051	22,480	12,032	9,046	5,384	7,327	4,728	8,348	7,836
China	8,930	9,102	4,126	4,782	3,942	4,668	7,962	9,113	8,402	7,084
Hong Kong	1,409	5,883	1,629	5,904	1,258	5,686	1,302	6,157	1,593	7,359
Indonesia	47,209	30,827	34,489	24,292	21,028	14,890	18,416	11,979	44,681	30,583
Japan	6,685	22,869	7,031	23,926	5,055	19,982	4,740	20,909	5,317	22,165
Malaysia	14,979	26,835	18,342	32,344	18,375	24,784	18,239	25,935	14,022	20,306
Singapore	257	429	190	280	157	271	193	344	238	384
Thailand	135,423	113,333	118,113	88,385	96,067	79,377	67,118	49,427	98,759	66,020
Viet Nam	2,298	2,120	4,189 <sup>F</sup>	3,868 <sup>F</sup>	4,816 <sup>F</sup>	4,464 <sup>F</sup>	3,983	4,067	2,421	2,507

*Sub-total of imported sardines and sardinella products (fresh, chilled, frozen, dried, salted, smoked, minced) which may include: herring, anchovy, brisling/sprat, mackerel, Indian mackerel, seerfish, jack & horse mackerel, jack, crevalle, cobia, silver pomfret, Pacif. saury, scad, capelin.*

<sup>F</sup> = FAO estimate; data estimated from available source of information or calculation based on specific assumptions.

.... and 0 = data not available

0 and 0- = actual null value

#### 4. Relevance and Timeliness

Since canned *S. lemuru* has been in the global trade for decades, it is necessary that the candidate species be standardized based on the criteria of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) procedural manual (24th ed.) to avoid trade impediments. The proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products is a very important reference for traded sardine-type fish. It will also serve as basis for the amendment of European Commission (EC) Standard (EC No. 1181/2003), specifically Article 1 paragraph 3 of the common marketing standards for preserved sardines wherein *S. lemuru* is not included.

With the special fisheries managed areas for sardines in place, catches of *S. lemuru* in the Philippines could be sustained, hence there would be substantial increase in the production of canned sardines to improve the sardine industry. The shift in consumer food preference to a more healthy fish diet will likely increase the global demand and international trade for the said commodity. The inclusion of *S. lemuru* in the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products (Codex Stan 94-1981) will further reduced trade barriers or/and rejection of the product at the trade borders.

## 5. Main Aspects to be Covered

The proposed amendment will revise and update the CODEX STAN 94-1981 - Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products . Revision of Section 2.1.1 Canned sardine or sardine type products are prepared from fresh or frozen fish of the following species: – to include **S. lemuru** under the third genus, *Sardinella*:

- *Sardina pilchardus*
- *Sardinops melanostictus*, *S. neophilcardus*, *S. ocellatus*, *S. sagax*, *S. caeruleus*,
- ***Sardinella aurita*, *S. brasiliensis*, *S. maderensis*, *S. longiceps*, *S. gibbosa*, *S. lemuru***
- *Clupea harengus*
- *Clupea bentincki*
- *Sprattus sprattus*
- *Hyperlopus vittatus*
- *Nematalosa vlaminghi*
- *Etrumeus teres*
- *Ethmidium maculatum*
- *Engaulis anchoita*, *E. mordax*, *E. ringens*
- *Opistonema oglinum*

## 6. An Assessment against the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities

The proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products (CODEX STAN 94-1981) shall serve as a reference in minimizing potential barriers (e.g. border rejection of product) in the international trade.

### General Criterion

The proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products, re: inclusion of *Sardinella lemuru* (Bali Sardinella) in the list of *Sardinella* species under Section. 2.1.1. could support producers and traders in assuring product authenticity, traceability and sustainability of resources, ensuring fair practices in the food trade and taking into account the identified needs of developing countries such as the Philippines and other *S. lemuru* producing countries in Asia Pacific region.

### Criteria applicable to commodities

#### (a) Volume of production and value of trade pattern of trade between countries

For the last six years, the Philippines is exporting an average of 5,113 MT valued at 8,055,468.31 USD of canned *S. lemuru* to more or less 58 countries (Figure 8) across the globe including EU ([www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph)).

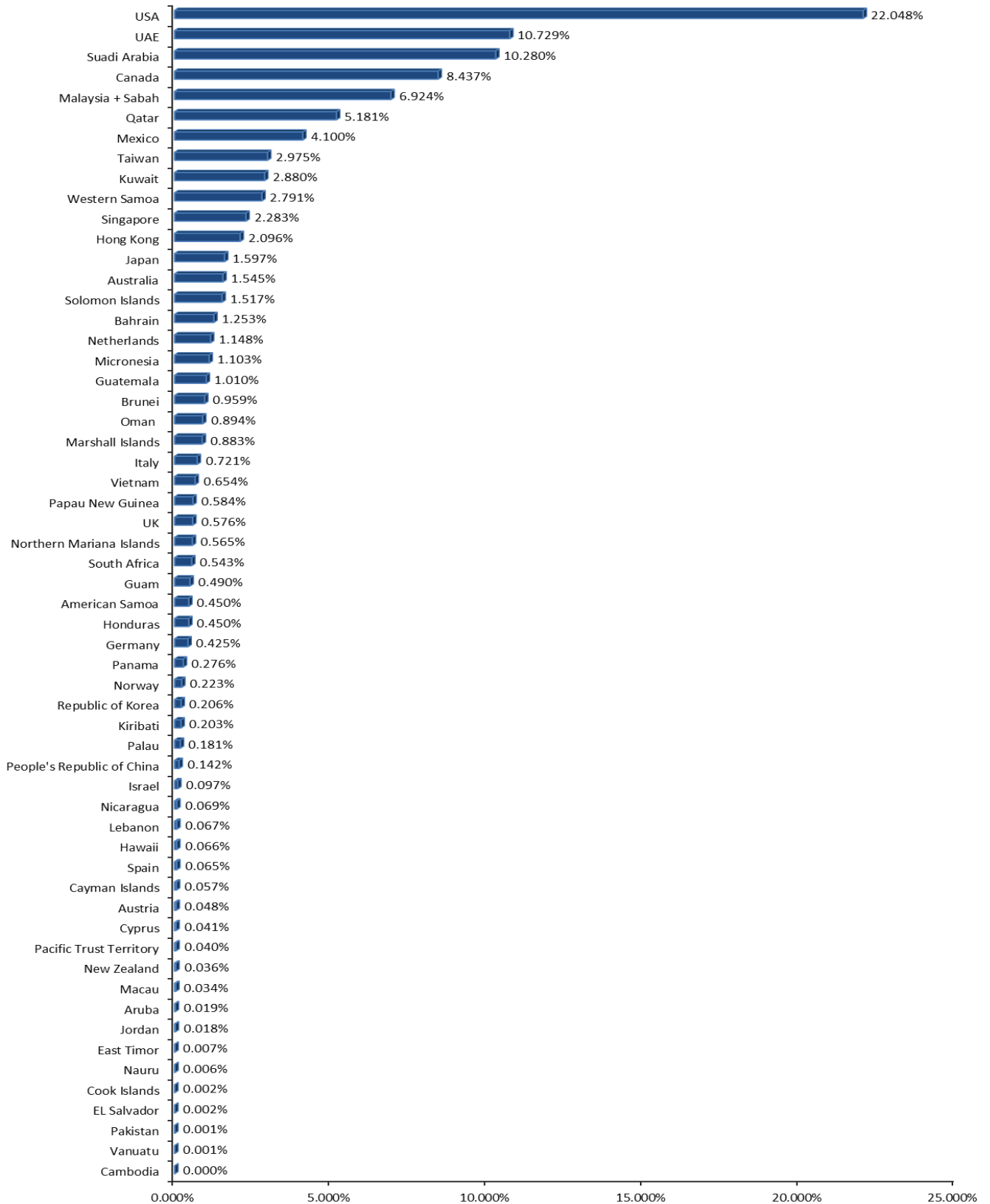


Fig. 8 Global market share of Philippine traded canned *S. lemuru* for the last six years.  
 Source: Philippine Statistics Authority ([www.psa.gov.ph](http://www.psa.gov.ph))

Data

**(b) Amenability of the commodity to standardization**

The proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products will address trade issues among canned sardine producers and traders. The biology, fisheries and trade related information regarding *S. lemuru* have been established in the proposed amendment to ensure the authenticity and sustainability of the commodity for standardization.

**(c) Coverage of the main consumer protection and trade issues by existing or proposed general standards**

The proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products will address current issues (e.g. traceability) taking into account the authenticity of the product as well as the sustainability of the resource.

**(d) Number of Commodities which would need separate standards indicating whether raw, semi processed or processed.**

The proposed amendment will cover Standards for canned sardines and sardine-type products under CODEX STAN 94-1981.

**(e) Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field and/or suggested by the relevant international intergovernmental body(ies)**

So far, no similar work by other international organizations has been encountered.

**7. Relevance to the Codex Strategies Objectives****Goal 1: Promoting Sound Regulatory Frameworks**

The proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products will contribute to the development and improvement of the food control system of Codex member countries. Scientific information outlined will assist the competent authority to strengthen regulatory frameworks that promote fair trade practice.

**Goal 2: Promoting Widest and Consistent Application of Scientific Principles**

The proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products will take into consideration the internationally recognized scientific tools used in species identification and fish stocks assessment.

**Goal 3: Strengthening Codex Work-management Capabilities**

In developing the proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products, the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP) and/or Codex Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCAsia) should be able to adhere to the expected time frame and able to contribute to efficient management of the CAC as a whole.

**Goal 4: Promoting Cooperation between Codex and Relevant International Organization**

The proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products will take into account concerned Codex Committees such as the Codex Committees on Food Labelling (CCFL), Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFIEICS) as well as Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

**Goal 5: Promoting Maximum and Effective Participation of Members**

In the process of developing the proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products, participation of government and non-government organizations, consumer protection agencies, stakeholders, as well as international bodies such as FAO are encouraged and welcomed. The elaboration process will enhance participation of developing countries as the major producers of this type of fish.

**8. Information on the relation between the proposal and other existing Codex Documents**

The proposed amendment will simply revise/update the Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products (CODEX STAN 94-198) to include *S. lemuru* in the list of *Sardinella* spp. under Section 2.1.1.

**9. Identification of any requirement for and availability of expert scientific advice.**

None.

**10. Identification of any need for technical input to the standard from external bodies, so that this can be planned for**

None.

**11. The proposed timeline for completion of the amendment.**

A period of four years is foreseen in the completion of this proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products (CODEX STAN 94-1981).

**12. Work led by:**

Philippines

**13. Inclusion of the risk profile.**

Not applicable

**14. Work Plan for the development of the proposed amendment of Codex Standard for canned sardine and sardine-type products (CODEX STAN 94-1981).**

Activity	Session	Timetable (Year)
Present & discuss the proposed Discussion Paper & Project Document  CCASIA decides whether to endorse or not the proposal to the Commission	21 <sup>st</sup> Session of CCASIA	2019
If endorse by CCASIA, undergo critical review by the Executive Committee (EC)  CAC decides bearing in mind the outcome of EC critical review	EC meeting  43 <sup>rd</sup> CAC session	2020
If adopted by CAC, elaboration of codex standard procedures (8 Step – normal process or 5 Step- accelerated process) begin from Codex Secretariat circulation to member countries to CAC adoption of standard	every two years in CCASIA session or yearly in CCFFP session or EWG (for CAC decision)	2021-2024 (not exceeding 5 years)
Publication of <b>revised or amended</b> codex standard (Codex STAN 94-1981) to CAC website	CAC session	2025