

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 7

CRD12

April 2024

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEx COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

17th Session
15-19 April 2024

Comments submitted by Philippines

Agenda Item 7: Definition for ready-to-eat peanuts for the establishment of a maximum level for total aflatoxins in this product

POSITION:

General Comment:

The Philippines would like to thank the Electronic Working Group led by India, for preparing the proposed definition for Ready-to-Eat (RTE) peanuts.

The Philippines fully supports the proposal to establish a clear definition of RTE Peanuts for the establishment of a Maximum Level (ML) for Total Aflatoxin in RTE peanuts. Providing a clear definition will ensure accurate segregation and gathering of data for the GEMS/FOOD database.

Specific Comments:

Comment Type	Category	Proposed Change	Rationale/Comment
Paragraph 7	Editorial and Substantive	<p>The Philippines supports the proposed definition for RTE peanuts but would like to recommend the following modifications:</p> <p>Ready-to-Eat (RTE) peanuts are food products intended for direct human consumption, not intended to undergo an additional processing/treatment that has been proven to reduce levels of aflatoxins before being used as ingredients in foodstuffs. These products are otherwise processed, packed in various types of packaging such as consumer or bulk, and labeled as "RTE peanuts". They include, but are not restricted to : (i) raw shelled peanuts, (ii) raw in-shell peanuts, (iii) roasted in-shell peanuts, (iv) roasted/blanched shelled peanuts, (v) fried shelled peanuts with or without skin, (vi) boiled in-shell peanuts, (vii) steamed peanuts, (viii) flavored peanuts, (ix) coated peanuts, (x) seasoned peanuts, (xii) smoked peanuts, (xii) salted and cooked peanuts, (x) peanut butter.</p>	<p>In the Philippines, peanuts are also consumed in variety of RTE forms namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - boiled in-shell peanuts, - steamed peanuts, - flavored peanuts <p>For the editorial comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "All types of packaging" was recommended to replace with "various types of packaging" as various types of packaging recognizes the potential diversity of packaging options without making an overly definitive claim about including every single type.