

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 5

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**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS
Twenty-Seventh Session
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Comments from Jordan**

The delegation of Jordan would like to offer the following comments on the proposed changes to Section 3.1: Designations and definitions calling for the Removal of Ordinary Olive Oil Category.

Jordan objects to the removal of this category from the standard, given that this category is incorporated in several national standards with reference to the Codex standard CXS 33-1981, where this category is cited i.e. supported by this Codex standard.

In view of the footnote associated with this listing which stipulates that this category “may only be sold direct to the consumer if permitted in the country of retail sale”, maintaining this standard would NOT result in any negative repercussions on countries where this standard is not accepted or has been removed. Whereas the prejudice would be considerable on those countries where this category is still part of the national standard.

Removing this category would result in a significant impact Jordan, and several others, where this category of olive oil is still produced, traded and consumed, including our farmers, small producers and retailers.

The proposed removal would result in an unfair treatment of our producers and retailers, hence contradicting one of the key principles of Codex (aimed to enable fairness in the trade of food and agri-food commodities).

While it is acknowledged that the removal of this category has been discussed by the eWG, several countries' views were not accounted for, either as a result of their inability to be part of the discussion or of their inability to offer a clear articulation of their rationale.

The standard's revision being still at step 3 should offer the opportunity to reach a consensus at the plenary session of CCFO 27, and should not move forward with a recommendation that has not gathered the support of several countries that produce and consume this category of oil.