

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 4.2, 4.3, 5, 6, 7

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS
Twenty-Seventh Session
Virtual, 18 - 26 October 2021
Comments from East African Community

The East Africa Community (EAC) Secretariat appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the different agenda items to be discussed by the 27th Session of Codex Committee on Fats and Oils.

Agenda Item 4.2:

REP19/ FO

PROPOSED DRAFT AMENDMENT/REVISION TO THE STANDARD FOR NAMED VEGETABLE OILS (CXS 210-1999): SUNFLOWER SEED OIL REVISION OF SECTION 3.1 - GLC RANGES OF FATTY ACID COMPOSITION - RANGES OF OLEIC AND LINOLEIC ACID (PARA 76 (B) AND (E))

COMMENT

The EAC proposes to maintain current maximum of 1.468 rather than 1.475 as proposed.

JUSTIFICATION

We note that the data used to propose this change was based on very few samples and the fact that clarity was not provided for those sample reported to be beyond the current limits (Para 15 of CX/FO 21/27/4). In addition, based on submission by our Partner States, we have not recorded any concern of some products exceeding current maximum limit. It will therefore be erroneous to use the data provided to make the adjustment.

Agenda Item 4.3

Reply to CL 2021/28/OCS – FO:

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, AT STEP 3, ON THE PROPOSED DRAFT AMENDMENT/REVISION TO THE STANDARD FOR NAMED VEGETABLE OILS (CXS 210-1999) (INCLUSION OF INCLUSION OF AVOCADO OIL)

GENERAL COMMENT

The EAC supports inclusion of avocado oil in the standard for named vegetable oil CXS 210-1999. The standard for avocado should remain part of CXS 210-1999 as opposed to stand alone standard consistent with other oils included in this standard.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

i) Product Description

COMMENT

The EAC proposes the description be improved to read as, *'Avocado oil may be derived from either the mesocarp of avocado fruit or obtained by processing the whole avocado fruit'*

JUSTIFICATION

The proposed text is to editorially improve the text of the description

ii) Essential Composition and quality factors

The EAC supports the adoption of proposed values for avocado oil

JUSTIFICATION

The proposed ranges are aligned to the ranges in various varieties of avocado and thus will accommodate a wide range of products.

ii) Options for inclusion of Clerosterol

COMMENT

The EAC supports option 1 to include Clerosterol in the main table.

JUSTIFICATION

It is an important identifying characteristic and thus should be included in the main table rather than use of footnotes or otherwise.

Agenda Item 5

Reply to CL 2021/29/OCS – FO (CX/FO 21/27/06):

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, AT STEP 3, ON THE PROPOSED DRAFT REVISION TO THE STANDARD FOR OLIVE OILS AND OLIVE POMACE OILS (CXs 33-1981): REVISION OF SECTIONS 3, 8 AND APPENDIX

COMMENTS

GLC ranges of fatty acid composition (expressed as percentages of total fatty acids)

- i) The EAC supports adopting of a wide range of C18:1 of 53 – 85 as proposed in square brackets
- ii) Adopt the proposed provision of transfatty acids as proposed in square brackets
- iii) The EAC finds the requirement for organoleptic properties very subjective, varies with locality and the assessor, and may not serve any purpose in this standard. The scale of measurement is not clear for this parameter. We propose to have the parameter deleted from the standard.
- iv) The EAC supports the addition of a parameter Fatty acid ethyl esters (mg/kg)] and the limit proposed (max. 35) in extra virgin olive oil which notes is included in International Olive Council standard for olive oil and olive pomace oil COI/T.15/NC No 3/Rev. 16. This will ensure harmony in published standards.
- v) The EAC supports the addition of Pyropheophytin "a" (% total chlorophyll pigments) in the standard for purposes of assessing the quality of extra virgin in an olive oil

JUSTIFICATION

The above proposals will make it easy to be able to assess the quality and authenticity of these oils while making the standard implementable.

Agenda Item 6

CX/FO 21/27/07

REVIEW OF THE LIST OF ACCEPTABLE PREVIOUS CARGOES CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE STORAGE AND TRANSPORT OF EDIBLE FATS AND OILS IN BULK (CXC 36-1987): APPENDIX 2

COMMENT

The EAC agrees with the CODEX LIST OF ACCEPTABLE PREVIOUS CARGOES and accept some editorial changes such as; To replace the word 'necessary' with 'necessarily' 'Parafin' with '(paraffin wax)' 'Viscosity' with 'viscosity' 'l-propanol' with '1-propanol'

Agenda Item 7

CX/FO 21/27/8 Rev

REPLY TO CL 2021/36/OCS AND CL 2021/58/OCS – FO (AGENDA ITEM 7.): REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK AND OR AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING CODEX STANDARDS**COMMENT**

The EAC supports the project document for new work items as proposed in **7.1** (proposed amendment/revision to the codex standard for named vegetable oils (CXS 210-1999), - inclusion of camellia seed oil), **7.3** (proposed amendment/revision to the standard for fat spreads and blended spreads (CXS 256-2007): sections 2 (description) and 3 (essential composition and quality factors), **7.5** (proposed amendment/revision to the codex standard for fish oils (CXS 329-2017) – inclusion of Calanus oil) and **7.6** (proposed amendment/revision to the codex standard, for named vegetable oils (CXS 210-1999), - inclusion of high oleic acid soya bean oil).

The EAC is not in favor of submission of proposal contained in 7.2 (proposed amendment/revision to the codex standard for named vegetable oils (cxs 210-1999), - inclusion of Mahua oil).

In all these cases, the basis of support is on the requirements of the procedural manual but not on the proposed specific values as this will be considered and discussed in step 3 if CAC agrees and adopts the new work.

JUSTIFICATION

The project paper in 7.2 was not clear on the Volume of production consumption in individual countries and volume and pattern of trade between countries. In addition, the project document did not all provide information as required by this procedural provision especially in regards to consumption and pattern of trade to enable EAC make informed decision of this proposal. Reference to the source of data provided is not clear. Further, the project paper has not provided information related to International or regional market potential.