



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fiftieth Session

Comments by the Codex Secretariat

Item 3b

CODEX COMMODITY STANDARDS WITH SODIUM ALUMINOSILICATE (INS 554)

The Secretariat of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) proposed that the Committee consider replacing, in the *General Standard for Food Additives* (CXS 192-1995) (GSFA) and the Class Names and the *International Numbering System for Food Additives* (CXG 36-1989) for INS 554, the name “sodium aluminosilicate” with the name “sodium aluminium silicate”; no change of the INS number is proposed¹.

In addition to the GSFA and CXG 36-1989, sodium aluminosilicate (INS 554) is included in the following three commodity standards: (i) *Standard for Milk Powders and Cream Powder* (CXS 207-1999); (ii) *Standard for a Blend of Skimmed Milk and Vegetable Fat in Powdered Form* (CXS 251-2006); and (iii) *Standard for Edible Casein Products* (CXS 290-1995).

The proposal before the Committee is therefore to consider replacing the name “sodium aluminosilicate” with the name “sodium aluminium silicate” in the above three commodity standards as recommended by the JECFA Secretariat.

Item 4b

REVOCATION OF THE PROVISION FOR POTASSIUM HYDROGEN MALATE (INS 351(I)), POTASSIUM MALATE (INS 351(II)), MONOSODIUM TARTRATE (INS 335(I)), MONOPOTASSIUM TARTRATE (INS 336(I)), DIPOTASSIUM TARTRATE (INS 336(II)) FROM SOME COMMODITY STANDARDS

Background

1. The document on alignment (ref. CX/FA 18/50/5) explained that potassium hydrogen malate (INS 351(i)), potassium malate (INS 351(ii)), monosodium tartrate (INS 335(i)), monopotassium tartrate (INS 336(i)) and dipotassium tartrate (INS 336(ii)) included in the *Standard for Fish Sauce* (CXS 302-2011) had not been included into the GSFA because there were no JECFA specifications for these food additives.

2. Following their consideration at CCFA45², CCFA46³ and CCFA47⁴, these food additives were removed from the GSFA.

3. However, it has been noted that revocation of the provisions relating to those food additives in commodity standards had not been considered.

The provisions in commodity standards

4. A review of the commodity standards containing potassium hydrogen malate (INS 351(i)), potassium malate (INS 351(ii)), monosodium tartrate (INS 335(i)), monopotassium tartrate (INS 336(i)) or dipotassium tartrate (INS 336(ii)) showed that, in addition to the *Standard for Fish Sauce* (CXS 302-2011), those food additives were listed in:

- a) 7 commodity standards, developed by the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP)

¹ CX/FA 18/50/4, para 10.

² REP13/FA, para 14.

³ REP14/FA, para 53.

⁴ REP15/FA, para 129.

- b) 1 standards developed by the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)
- c) 2 standard developed by the Codex Committee for Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)
- d) 2 standards by the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA).

It is also important to note that CCMMP was adjourned, while CCNFSDU, CCPFV and CCASIA remained active.

Recommendations

5. In the light of the of the information above, it is proposed that CCFA50:
 - i. Consider revoking the provisions for the relevant food additives from the following seven standards developed by CCMMP:
 - *Standard for Mozzarella (CXS 262-2006)*: INS 351(ii)
 - *Standard for Cottage Cheese (CXS 273-1968)*: INS 351(ii)
 - *Standard for Cream Cheese (CXS 275-1973)*: INS 335(i), INS 351(ii)
 - *Standard for Fermented Milks (CXS 243-2003)*: INS 335(i), INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii)
 - *Standard for Dairy Fat Spreads (CXS 253-2006)*: INS 335(i), INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii)
 - *Standard for Fat Spreads and Blended Spreads (CXS 256-2007)*: INS 335(i), INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii)
 - *Standard for Cream Cheese (CXS 275-1973)*: INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii);
 - ii. recommend that CCNFSDU revoke the provisions for INS 335(i), INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii) from the *Standard for Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children (CXS 74-1981)*;
 - iii. recommend that CCPFV revoke the provisions for the relevant food additives from the following two standards:
 - *Standard for Canned Bamboo Shoots (CXS 241-2003)*: INS 335(i), INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii); and
 - *Standard for Jams, Jellies and Marmalades (CXS 296-2009)*: INS 335(i), INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii); and
 - iv. recommend to CCASIA revoke the provisions for the relevant food additives from the following two standards:
 - *Regional Standard for Fermented Soybean Paste (CXS 298R-2009)*: INS 335(i), INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii); and
 - *Regional Standard for Chilli Sauce (CXS 306R-2011)*: INS 335(i), INS 351(i), 351(ii), INS 336(i), INS 336(ii).
6. The Committee is duly invited to consider the recommendations above.

Item 7

REVOCATION OF THE PROVISION FOR SODIUM SORBATE (INS 201) FROM SOME COMMODITY STANDARDS

Background

1. CCFA47⁵ agreed to request via circular letter information on the commercial use of three compounds currently listed in the GSFA for which no corresponding specifications had been developed by JECFA. Sodium sorbate (INS 201) was one of them. CCFA47 agreed that, based on the information provided, CCFA48 would recommend to either: a) remove from the GSFA the food additives on the commercial use of which information had not been provided; or b) include in the priority list for JECFA evaluation the others, with the understanding that they would be removed from the GSFA should Members not commit to provide data for JECFA evaluation before CCFA49.

⁵ REP15/FA, para 18.

2. In view of the comments on commercial use of sodium sorbate (INS 201), CCFA48⁶ agreed to include that food additive in the JECFA priority list with the understanding that commitment for the submission of full dossiers (data and sponsor) for JECFA evaluation would be confirmed no later than at CCFA49.

3. CCFA49⁷ agreed to retain sodium sorbate (INS 201) on the list for an additional year, noting that if no confirmation for data availability had been made by CCFA50, the substance would be removed from the priority list, and relevant provisions in both the GSFA and commodity standards would be revoked.

Provisions in commodity standards

4. A review on the commodity standards making reference to sodium sorbate (INS 201) showed that the food additive was listed in 24 commodity standards, developed by CCMMP (17 standards); the Codex Committee on Fish and Fish Products (CCFFP) (four standards); the Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL) (one standard); CCPFV (one standard) and CCASIA (one standard). It was noted that CCASIA was active, CCMMP and CCFFP adjourned, CCPFV and CCCPL currently engaged in work by correspondence while CCPFV only works on a specific task.

5. It was also noted the food additive provisions contained in the four standards developed by CCFFP i.e. *Standard for Salted Fish and Dried Salted Fish of the Gadidae Family of Fishes* (CXS 167-1989), *Standard for Salted Atlantic Herring and Salted Sprat* (CXS 244-2004), *Standard for Smoked Fish, Smoked-Flavoured Fish and Smoke-Dried Fish* (CXS 311-2013), *Standard for Salted Atlantic Herring and Salted Sprat* (CXS 244-2004) would be aligned with those in the GSFA at CCFA50.

Recommendations

6. Since no confirmation regarding the availability of data was made, it is proposed that CCFA50:

- i. revoke the food-additive provision for sodium sorbate (INS 201) from the listing of sorbates in Tables 1 and 2 the GSFA;
- ii. revoke the provision for sodium sorbate (INS 201) from the following 18 standards:
 - *Standard for Instant Noodles* (CODEX STAN 249-2006)
 - *Standard for Fermented Milks* (CXS 243-2003)
 - *Standard for Dairy Fat Spreads* (CXS 253-2006)
 - *Standard for Mozzarella* (CXS 262-2006)
 - *Standard for Cheddar* (CXS 263-196)
 - *Standard for Danbo* (CXS 264-1966)
 - *Standard for Edam* (CXS 265-1966)
 - *Standard for Gouda* (CXS 266-1966)
 - *Standard for Havarti* (CXS 267-1966)
 - *Standard for Samsø* (CXS 268-1966)
 - *Standard for Emmental* (CXS 269-1967)
 - *Standard for Tilsiter* (CXS 270-1968)
 - *Standard for Saint-Paulin* (CXS 271-1968)
 - *Standard for Provolone* (CXS 272-1968)
 - *Standard for Cottage Cheese* (CXS 273-1968)
 - *Standard for Cream Cheese* (CXS 275-1973)
 - *General Standard for Cheese* (CXS 283-197)
 - *Standard for Fat Spreads and Blended Spreads* (CXS 256-2007)

⁶ REP16/FA, para 123(i).

⁷ REP17/FA, para 128.

- iii. recommend that CCASIA revoke the provision for sodium sorbate (INS 201) from the *Regional Standard for Chilli Sauce* (CXS 306R-2011).
 - iv. recommend that CCPFV revoke the provision for sodium sorbate (INS 201) from the *Standard for Jams, Jellies and Marmalades* (CXS 296-2009)
7. The Committee is duly invited to consider the recommendations above.