

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Items 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10

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ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

16th Session

18-21 April 2023 (physical plenary meeting)

26 April 2023 (virtual report adoption)

Comments submitted by Egypt

Agenda Item 5: Maximum levels for lead in certain food categories (at Steps 4 and 7)

Egypt appreciates the work on the maximum levels (MLs) for lead by the electronic Working Group chaired by Brazil.

For **brown sugar, raw and non-centrifuged sugars**, Egypt supports the proposed ML of 0.15 mg/kg.

For **ready-to-eat meals for infants and young children**, Egypt supports a lower ML of 0.02 mg/kg in order protect children, which are a vulnerable consumer group.

Agenda Item 6: Code of Practice for prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in cassava and cassava-based products (at Step 7)

Egypt appreciates the work done by chair and co-chair of the Electronic Working Group to prepare document CX/CF 23/16/6 related to the draft Code of Practice for prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in cassava and cassava-based products.

Although, Egypt is not a producer for cassava and cassava-based products, but its storage and distribution practices are important for the country. So Egypt agrees to advance this draft Code of Practice for final adoption by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC46, 2023).

Agenda Item 7: Sampling plans for total aflatoxins in certain cereals and cereal-based products including foods for infants and young children (At Step 4)

Egypt thanks the work done by chair and co-chair of the Electronic Working Group.

Egypt supports EWG recommendations, and seeks the EWG to revise the ML values in the "Decision Rule": to be consistent with the valid maximum limits approved by the Codex Alimentarius Committee for each product.

Agenda Item 8: Maximum level for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts and associated sampling plan (at Step 4):

Egypt appreciates the work done by chair and co-chair of the Electronic Working Group to prepare this document.

Currently, Egypt is collecting data and preparing risk assessment study in this concern, So Egypt suggests the limit of 4 µg/kg for (RTE) peanuts.

Agenda Item 9: Maximum levels for total aflatoxins and ochratoxin A in nutmeg, dried chilli and paprika, ginger, pepper and turmeric and associated sampling plans (at Step 4):

Egypt appreciates the work done by India as chair of the Electronic Working Group to prepare this document.

Egypt suggests the following MLs:

- 10 µg/kg for total aflatoxins in dried chilli pepper, nutmeg, ginger, black & white pepper and turmeric,
- 20 µg/kg for ochratoxin A in dried chilli pepper, and 15 µg/kg for ochratoxin A in nutmeg, ginger, black & white pepper and turmeric.

Agenda Item 10: Discussion paper on the prevention or reduction of ciguatera poisoning

Egypt supports the proposal for a new work on a code of practice for the prevention or reduction of ciguatera poisoning based on the discussion paper CX/CF 23/16/10 developed by the EWG.