



## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

#### Twenty-Fifth Session

Hobart - Tasmania, Australia 27 April – 1 May 2020

### MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

#### A. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (42nd Session)

##### MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

##### Standards and Related Texts Adopted<sup>1</sup>

1. CAC42 adopted the Draft Principles and Guidelines for the Assessment and Use of voluntary Third Party Assurance (vTPA) at Step 5 noting that all technical comments should be resubmitted at Step 6 for consideration by CCFICS.

##### New work<sup>2</sup>

2. CAC42 approved the proposal for new work on the consolidation of Codex Guidelines related to equivalence

##### Other matters

3. CAC42 adopted the Strategic Plan 2020 - 2025<sup>3</sup>.
4. CAC42 noted the proposal from one Member that CCFL collaborate with CCFICS on the work with a view to developing guidance to assist in the control and inspection of food products sold online.<sup>4</sup>

#### B. MATTERS ARISING FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES AS RELATED TO THE WORK OF CCFICS

##### MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

##### The 77<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC77)<sup>5</sup>

##### Food Fraud

5. CCEXEC77:
  - a) Highlighted the importance of the ongoing discussions in CCFICS potential new work on food fraud and noted the need to expedite discussions with a view to advance this potential work, which currently remains at the level of a discussion paper on a gap analysis. CCEXEC77 noted that in addition to the United States of America as chairperson and Iran and the EU as co-chairpersons, China will also be a co-chairperson of the electronic working group (EWG) on Food Fraud.
  - b) Noted that among the cross-cutting issues that arose from the Critical Review discussions is a possible proposal for an amendment to the format for commodity standards to include a section on traceability. This is relevant to the CCFICS work on food fraud.

<sup>1</sup> REP19/CAC para 76-79, Appendix III

<sup>2</sup> REP19/CAC para 96, Appendix V

<sup>3</sup> REP19/CAC para 122, Appendix IX

<sup>4</sup> REP19/CAC para 98

<sup>5</sup> REP 19/EXEC2 para 7, 33 (iii)

## The 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles

### Food fraud

6. The Committee noted the information regarding the work of CCFICS on Food Fraud and encouraged members to participate in the CCFICS EWG on Food Fraud.<sup>6</sup>

### Use of Examples in Codex texts<sup>7</sup>

7. CCGP31 agreed that:
- i. Codex committees are overall successfully using the different options available to them regarding the use of examples on a case-by-case basis; and
  - ii. Given the diverse nature of examples and their use, there was no need to develop specific guidance on use of examples in Codex texts at this time.

## Regional Coordinating Committees (RCCs)<sup>8,9</sup>

### Emerging issues

8. The Regional Coordinating Committee for Africa and Europe (i.e. CCAFRICA; and CCEURO) agreed to inform CAC and its subsidiary bodies on the usefulness and outcome of the survey on the emerging issues identified within the region. The following topics were identified by the respective RCC:
- CCEURO region: Food fraud, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), contaminants and food additives, and climate change;
  - CCAFRICA region: AMR, pesticide residues, capacity of food control systems, food fraud, water contamination, consumer awareness, aflatoxins, and climate change.
9. CCEURO31 recognised that while food fraud is not a new topic, due to the changing context and evolving food supply chains, it does require new ways of working to address this complex issue and acknowledged that Codex can play an important role and facilitate global discussions to support country efforts to address food fraud.
10. The Committee acknowledged that Codex can support new work on developing definitions and common terminology, and encouraged CCFICS to complete its work, and noted the possibility for CCGP to consider the outcome of this work<sup>10</sup>.

## The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO26)

### Food Fraud and Fish Oil<sup>11</sup>

11. CCFO agreed:
- i. To refer to CCFICS the request expressed by Chile related to food fraud in oils in general and related to concerns about fish oil in particular, noting that the current format of commodity standards does not allow inclusion of traceability;
  - ii. To encourage Chile and concerned members to participate in the recently launched EWG on food fraud established by CCFICS and to bring this issue to the attention of the chairs of the EWG.
12. The Committee **is invited to note** the above-mentioned matters and that respective issues would be covered under the relevant Agenda Items.

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<sup>6</sup> REP19/GP para 68-70

<sup>7</sup> REP19/GP para 39

<sup>8</sup> REP19/AFRICA Para 15(iii) and para 11

<sup>9</sup> REP19/EURO Para 20 and 14 (iii)

<sup>10</sup> REP20/EURO paragraph 11

<sup>11</sup> REP19/FO para 126 (iii)&(iv)