

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Items 4.3, 4.4, 5, 9

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CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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COMMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (IUFoST)

The objective of this Conference Room Document (CRD) is to provide comments on behalf of the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST), an observer organization of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, on agenda items tabled at the 48th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC48).

The International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST) represents the largest gathering of food science and technology scientists from around the world, consisting of over 300,000 scientists from more than 100 countries.

Agenda item 4.3

CX/CAC 25/48/5, CX/CAC 25/48/5 Add.1

The International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST) commends the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS) for its continued efforts to facilitate the endorsement of fit-for-purpose analytical methods supporting Codex commodity standards.

IUFoST, representing the international food science community, recognizes the practical considerations that motivated the exceptional inclusion of the CXS 234 Appendix XI – Moisture Method at Normal Pressure ($102 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$) as a Type IV method for whey powders. However, it wishes to draw the Commission's attention to the scientific implications of endorsing analytical procedures with documented limitations in precision and accuracy compared with existing Type I reference methods (ISO 5537 | IDF 26).

While acknowledging the need to ensure accessibility of analytical methods across diverse laboratory settings, IUFoST emphasizes that Codex endorsement should continue to uphold the highest scientific rigor, particularly when results may influence international trade or regulatory compliance. Maintaining clarity regarding method performance characteristics and associated uncertainty is essential to preserve the scientific credibility and reliability of Codex-endorsed methods.

IUFoST encourages continued collaboration among Codex Members, Observer organizations, and standard-developing bodies to enhance capacity building and harmonized method validation, ensuring that practical feasibility does not compromise analytical integrity.

Agenda item 4.4

CX/CAC 25/48/6, CX/CAC 25/48/6 Add.1

The International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST) commends the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) for its continued leadership in establishing science-based maximum levels (MLs) for contaminants, including the recent work on lead in spices and culinary herbs. These efforts represent a critical step toward strengthening consumer health protection and ensuring equitable international trade in food commodities.

IUFoST emphasizes the importance of ensuring that data sets used in the derivation of MLs are scientifically robust, representative of global production systems, and reflective of both regional diversity and variability in contamination sources. The representativeness and quality of data underpin the reliability and fairness of MLs, particularly when these levels are applied globally to heterogeneous commodities.

Recognizing the need to balance scientific rigor with practical achievability, IUFoST encourages Codex to continue supporting capacity-building initiatives that enhance analytical capabilities and promote harmonized data generation, especially in regions where laboratory infrastructure remains limited. This will help ensure that Codex standards remain both protective of health and inclusive of diverse production realities, advancing

the shared goal of fair trade and global food safety.

Agenda item 5**CX/CAC 25/48/10**

IUFoST supports the initiation of new work on the risk analysis principles for New Food Sources and Production Systems (NFPS), recognizing its importance for advancing food security, innovation, and sustainable production. This work will be instrumental in ensuring the safety and consumer confidence of emerging food sources, while facilitating fair and science-based trade.

IUFoST notes the guidance provided by CCEXEC on this matter and supports the clarification to be provided in this context. The development of these principles should be science-driven, inclusive, and practically applicable, supported by capacity-building and knowledge-sharing to enable effective global participation, particularly from developing regions. The direction of this work should also aim to provide guidance to countries in developing innovation-friendly regulatory frameworks that foster safe and sustainable food innovation.

Agenda item 9**CX/CAC 25/48/14**

IUFoST underscores the importance of ensuring sustained and adequate funding for Codex activities. IUFoST supports every effort made to strengthen the scientific foundations of Codex work, through support to data generation, including providing the relevant funding needed for the scientific advisory bodies to Codex.