

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 4 and 5

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

Twenty-seventh Session

(Comments submitted by India)

Agenda Item 4: Proposed draft consolidated Codex guidelines related to equivalence

India appreciates the work done by the chair of the EWG, New Zealand along with the United States of America and Kenya. India's response to the specific questions under different provisions of the document is as follows:

Question 1: India supports the approach and wording and the same can be retained

Question 2 and 3: India supports the proposed wording

Rationale: It enhances consistency and alignment with international standards.

Question 4: India supports consolidation of Assessment Processes

Rationale: No separate section is required for assessment process for system equivalence and equivalence of measures, streamlining the assessment process. This consolidation is aimed at improving efficiency and coherence in evaluating these aspects.

Agenda Item 5: Draft guidelines on the Prevention and Control of food fraud

India appreciates the work done by United States of America as chair of the EWG and China, European Union, Islamic Republic of Iran, and United Kingdom as Co-chairs of the EWG. India's response to the specific questions is as follows:

Question 1: India supports retention of Paragraph 6bis

Rationale: It aligns with the core considerations and ensuring continuity and coherence in the related context.

Question 2: India supports to retain the addition of "that may impact human food safety" at Paragraph 7

Rationale: It specifies the scope of concern and enhances the focus on critical safety issues as highlighted.

Question 3: India supports the retention of the footnote

Rationale: GI and Intellectual Property issues are governed by WTO TRIPS agreements and are not within Codex's purview, thus maintaining appropriate context and relevance

Question 4: India supports the retention of Paragraph 7bis of Appendix 1

Rationale: This clarifies that the prosecution of food fraud will be managed at the country level, thus aligning with the country-specific approach

Question 5: India supports the retention of Principles 1 and 2 , as well as the specific phrase in square brackets mentioned in Section 5, Principles Paragraph 8

Rationale: Based on the assessment that these elements support the foundational principles

Question 6: India supports retention of Paragraph 10e in Section 6

Rationale: Based on its comprehensive nature and emphasis on a response by Food Business Operators (FBOs), making it more effective

Question 7: India supports inclusion of New Paragraph for emerging Issues

Rationale: Addressing new emerging methods is crucial to mitigate food fraud