



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS  
Sixth Session  
Virtual  
26-30 September and 3 October 2022  
Consideration of update to the template for SCH standards  
(Comments from Kenya)**

**Kenya**

Kenya proposes:

**1. On the Template to the title:**

**Position:** Proposal to write SCH in full: **TEMPLATE FOR SCH SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS STANDARD**

**Rationale:** This is the first time in the document these acronyms are appearing.

**2. On the title:** Proposal to amend what is in square brackets and keep the text in the title to read: **STANDARD FOR [INSERT EITHER THE GROUP NAME OR NAME OF A SCH AS APPROPRIATE WHERE OR IN CASE OF A SINGLE COMMODITY IN A GROUP IS THE ONLY ONE BEING CONSIDERED IN THE STANDARD]**

**Rationale:** This is more inclusive and not likely to leave out any product.

**3. On the Scope: Proposal to amend the scope to read:**

This Standard applies to all those plant **products** commonly sold in commerce as defined in Section 2.1 below offered for direct human consumption, commercial food processing and for repacking if required. The exact species bought/sold may be defined by contractual specifications. This standard does not apply to these products when intended for **non-food** industrial processing.

- a) Kenya proposes the addition of products. The addition of **products** is more inclusive of both plants and its products that may be used as a SCH.
- b) Kenya proposes addition of non-food to the last statement and this is to provide clarity.

Clause 2.1.1

Proposal:

- 1. To not include the table if the commodity is only one. Therefore, a statement referring to a common/commodity name and scientific name should be used in this section.
- 2. to change the topics on the table to read

Common Commodity Name	Trade Common Name/s	Scientific name
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- a) The renaming of Common name to commodity name to align to the commodities covered by the title
- b) The renaming of Trade names and replace it with common name is to avoid locking out some products
- 3. Clause 2.2 Proposal to add Common name to the title and where it will be subsequently used. To read: {SCH group/Commodity name}

**Rationale:** This is to align to the title of the text.

- 4. Addition of **or as may be required by national legislation in the statement to read:**

ground/powdered. Particle size to be determined by contractual agreement between buyer and seller or as may be required by national legislation

**Rationale:** National legislation could be an interested party in the setting up of standards.

#### 5. Amendment to clause 3.2.3 Chemical and physical characteristics

{SCH group name} shall comply with the chemical and physical properties in Annex I, Table 4 2- Chemical Characteristics and Annex I Table 2-3- Physical Characteristics. The applicable chemical and physical properties may be amended to reflect commodity unique properties.

- a) Renaming of the tables as appropriate to avoid confusion between table in clause 2 and the ones in annex.
- b) Amendment and addition of the statement, the applicable chemical and physical properties may be amended to reflect commodity unique properties.

**Rationale:** The provided statement provides for flexibility in the application of the clause.

- c) Deletion of the statement as shown in the **Introductory remarks to Sections 4 to 9:**  
*These sections reference existing Codex Guidelines and General Standards on Food Additives, Contaminants in Food, Food Hygiene and Labelling. ~~These criteria can be amended if needed to reflect a commodity unique properties, requirements or trade practices.~~*

**Rationale:** This is not provided for in the Codex Procedural manual.

#### 6. On Annex 1 on the table of chemical Characteristics

**Position:** Kenya proposes to insert a foot note guiding on the parameters. Other parameters may be added or not included based on the products of interest.

**Rationale:** The table as is does not apply to all SCH, other characteristics are not covered and may not apply for others.

#### 7. On Annex 1 on the table of physical Characteristics

Position:

- a) Kenya proposes the deletion of the requirement on Live insects.

**Rationale:** This is covered by national legislation on phytosanitary.

- b) Kenya proposes the separation of shriveled, immature and Broken

**Rationale:** Shriveled and immature reflect on the quality of the plant commodity while broken has been included in the styles.

**General Comment:** Rename the tables to avoid confusion as tables 2 and 3 respectively in the annex.