CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION





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Agenda Items 4.3, 12

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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COMMENTS OF MALAYSIA

Agenda Item 4.3: Codex Committee on Food Hygiene

GUIDELINES FOR FOOD HYGIENE CONTROL MEASURES IN TRADITIONAL MARKETS FOR FOOD

Malaysia supports the adoption of Guidelines for food hygiene control measures in traditional markets for food by the CAC47 at Step 5/8.

With regards to the recommendation to ensure consistency of regional guidelines on street-vended food with this guideline, Malaysia would like to emphasise the importance of diverse risk management options that are tailored to the specific needs and circumstances of different regions. As the food business operators (FBOs) across different regions have varied practices that may impact the implementation of good practices, it is beneficial for each region to have specific guidance tailored to local FBOs, vendors and competent authorities.

Varying approaches and requirements are necessary to address unique situations effectively at the regional level, therefore, Malaysia is of the view that revision to the regional guidelines / code of practise should be made only when deemed necessary, ensuring their continued relevance without compromising established and effective practices. Moreover, there was general agreement that this guideline is a complimentary to the existing regional guidelines.

Agenda Item 12: Matters arising from FAO and WHO

Malaysia would like to extend our sincere appreciation to FAO and WHO for their continuous efforts in supporting Codex's work and member countries. We particularly value their commitment to addressing critical food safety concerns and providing scientific advice and guidance, which significantly contribute to advancing global food safety standards.

In relation to WHO's ongoing work on the development of guidance on tropical oil consumption, Malaysia would like to express our keen interest in this initiative. As tropical oils, including palm oil, are integral to many countries in the tropical region, including Southeast Asia, this work holds particular relevance for Malaysia.

As one of the world's leading producers and exporters of palm oil, Malaysia recognises the importance of this guidance and wishes to contribute actively to its development. Our extensive experience in palm oil production, coupled with our significant role in the global market, positions us to offer valuable insights. We believe that the participation of Malaysia and other producing countries will enhance the inclusiveness and representativeness of the guidelines, ensuring they address the interests of all stakeholders effectively.

Malaysia looks forward to active collaboration on this critical work, which will not only promote consumer health but also support transparent and equitable trade practices globally.