



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CEREALS, PULSES AND LEGUMES

Eleventh Session

Working by correspondence

7-30 April 2025

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES

(Prepared by the Codex Secretariat)

A. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CAC44 and CAC47)

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Reactivation of the Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL)^{1,2}

1. CAC47 (2024), as recommended by CCEXEC87, reactivated CCCPL to work by correspondence, with the flexibility to convene an electronic working group (EWG) and/or work by virtual means as appropriate.
2. CAC47 also confirmed that the Member responsible for CCCPL was the United States of America.
3. For archival and record purposes, the work undertaken by CCCPL by correspondence during the period 2015 to 2020, using the Codex online platform, which led to the development and adoption of the *Standard for quinoa* (CXS 333-2019), has been designated CCCPL10.
4. The Codex Secretariat prepared and published the summary of CCCPL10 in March 2025.³

Provisions for ash in standards for cereals, pulses and legumes⁴

5. The 43rd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS43) (2024), in reviewing the methods of analysis for provisions in standards for cereals, pulses and legumes, noted that further information would be needed on the intent of the ashing temperatures in several standards before it could go ahead with endorsing relevant methods of analysis. CCMAS, noting that CCCPL had been adjourned *sine die*, agreed to request advice from CAC47 on whether CCMAS could have assistance in determining the original intent for ashing temperatures in the relevant standards, and if not, whether two provisions for ash at 550 °C and 900 °C for some commodities (i.e. CXS 152, CXS 154, CXS 155, CXS 172, CXS 173, CXS 202) could be acceptable to allow CCMAS to endorse recommended methods for these provisions as Type I.
6. CAC47 noted the information provided by the Codex Secretariat in this regard and that together with the Chairperson of CCMAS and the host secretariat for CCCPL, the Codex Secretariat was looking to find a solution for CCMAS to endorse the relevant methods of analysis and work in this regard was ongoing
7. These discussions are still pending and noting that CCCPL was reactivated subsequent to the issue being raised by CCMAS, it might be pertinent for CCCPL to consider the question from CCMAS.

Committees working by correspondence⁵

8. CAC47, as recommended by CCEXEC87, requested the 34th session of the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP34) to review the application of the provisions in the Codex Procedural Manual relating to committees working by correspondence, informed by experiences to date.

¹ REP24/CAC, paragraphs 169(iii) and 251; REP24/EXEC2, paragraph 76(i).

² REP/CPL10.

³ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCPL&session=10>

⁴ REP24/CAC, paragraphs 170 and 171; REP24/MAS, paragraphs 23(ii).

⁵ REP24/CAC, paragraph 22(iv); REP24/EXEC2, paragraph 76(ii).

Publication of *The Codex electronic working groups handbook*⁶

9. CAC47 welcomed the publication of *The Codex EWGs handbook*, and encouraged its use.
10. The handbook is available online.

MATTERS FOR ACTION

Labelling provisions for non-retail containers in CPL standards⁷

11. CAC44 (2021) adopted:
 - the *General standard for the labelling of non-retail containers of foods* (CXS 346-2021); and
 - the consequential amendment to the Codex Procedural Manual (i.e. the Format for Codex commodity standards, section on labelling).
12. CAC44 requested commodity committees to review the labelling provisions for non-retail containers in existing and draft standards in light of the new standard for the labelling of non-retail containers. The review of the labelling provisions for non-retail containers in CPL standards is still pending and with CCCPL being reactivated it is timely and pertinent to initiate the process.

B. MATTERS ARISING FROM CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

37th and 40th Sessions of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS37 and CCMAS40)⁸

13. CCMAS37 (2016) reaffirmed its earlier decision to have the *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) as the single reference for methods of analysis in Codex standards. It agreed to amend the section on methods of analysis and sampling in the Format for Codex commodity standards (Procedural Manual) to insert the following statement referring methods of analysis and sampling in Codex standards to those listed in CXS 234-1999 for the provisions relevant to the scope of the standard:

For checking the compliance with this standard, the methods of analysis and sampling contained in the *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) relevant to the provisions in this standard shall be used.

14. CCGP30 (2016) endorsed, and CAC39 (2016) adopted this amendment to the Procedural Manual.
15. Consequentially, methods of analysis in CPL standards developed from hereon should be replaced with the statement in paragraph 13 to make a general reference to CXS 234-1999, while they are referred for endorsement by CCMAS for inclusion in CXS 234-1999.

42nd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS42)⁹

16. CCMAS42 (2023) agreed to inform relevant Codex committees of the revised *General guidelines on sampling* (CXG 50-2004) and request these committees to review their sampling plans in light of the revised guidelines and reminded them that sampling plans should be developed as needed in compliance with CXG 50-2004 and not by a reference to CXG 50-2004.

43rd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS43)¹⁰

17. CCMAS has been reviewing all methods in the single reference, CXS 234-1999, to ensure it is up to date and fit for purpose.
18. CCMAS43 (2024) agreed to submit the methods included in standards established by CCCPL for adoption/revocation by CAC47 (REP24/MAS, Appendix II, Parts 1 and 2). All these methods were adopted and/or revoked by CAC47 accordingly. Following this, consequential amendments were made to existing CPL standards to replace the methods of analysis and sampling in related sections with the statement indicated in paragraph 13.
19. CCMAS43 also endorsed ISO 1871 for the determination of protein in quinoa as a Type IV method, and noted that additional information on the method is required to reconsider its typing from Type IV to Type I. This

⁶ REP24/CAC, paragraph 22ii; [The Codex electronic working groups handbook](#)

⁷ REP21/CAC, paragraphs 83 and 86.

⁸ REP16/MAS, paragraphs 72-73; REP16/GP, paragraph 7; REP16/CAC, Appendix III; REP19/MAS, paragraph 61; REP19/CAC, Appendix II.

⁹ REP23/MAS, paragraphs 75-81.

¹⁰ REP24/MAS, paragraphs 22(ii), 23(i), (iii).

includes information on the specific chemicals used for the catalysts; the different reagents and their concentrations that were used; and what conditions for the method were used corresponding to the validation data provided. A circular letter CL 2024/91-MAS has been issued following CCMAS43's request to invite Members and Observers to submit this information, for consideration by the physical working group on endorsement to determine if this method could be retyped to Type I.

52nd Session of the Codex Committee for Food Additives (CCFA52)¹¹

20. CCFA52 (2021) agreed to:

- i) publish on the Codex website the document titled "Guideline on avoiding future divergence of food additive provisions in the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) (GSFA) with commodity standards" as an information document and inform the corresponding commodity committees of this document; and
- ii) update the alignment future work plan contained in the information document titled "Guidance to commodity committees on the alignment of food additive provisions".

54th Session of the Codex Committee for Food Additives (CCFA54)¹²

21. CCFA54 (2024) agreed to the following goals for the work on alignment:

- i) to strengthen the GSFA as the single reference for food additives;
- ii) to minimize the incorporation of specific food additive provisions in commodity standards as much as possible; and
- iii) to ensure that the alignment work is completed, with any future specific food additive provisions developed by commodity/regional committees being incorporated into the GSFA.

22. CCFA54 endorsed the workplan on alignment¹³ and agreed to revise the workplan in the information document titled "Guidance to commodity committees on the alignment of food additive provisions" accordingly. Sixteen standards established by CCCPL are proposed to be addressed by CCFA57 (2027), CCFA58 (2028) and CCFA59 (2029).

26th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Inspection and Export Certification Systems (CCFICS26)¹⁴

23. CCFICS26 (2023) agreed to inform other Codex committees about the proposed review and update of the *Principles for traceability/product tracing as a tool within a food inspection and certification system* (CXG 60-2006).

33rd Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP33)¹⁵

24. CCGP33 (2023) following its discussion on update to the Guide to the procedures for the amendment and revision of Codex standards and related texts in the Codex Procedural Manual, agreed to inform other Codex committees of the ongoing work in this regard to better align with current practices in Codex and international publishing standards.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

25. CCCPL11 is invited to:

- i) note the matters for information provided above;
- ii) note the request from CCMAS on the intent of ashing temperatures (paragraph 7) and request further background information to facilitate consideration at a future session of CCCPL as needed; and
- iii) note the matters for action on labelling provisions for non-retail containers in CPL standards (paragraph 13) and consider referring this CCCPL12 for consideration.

¹¹ REP21/FA, paragraphs 107(i), (ii), Appendices XII and XIII.

¹² REP24/FA, paragraph 149.

¹³ REP24/FA, paragraph 64, Appendix VII.

¹⁴ REP23/FICS, paragraph 117(a-c).

¹⁵ REP23/GP, paragraph 69.