

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Item 5

CX/EURO 19/31/7

July 2019

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE

Thirty-first Session

Almaty, Kazakhstan, 30 September – 4 October 2019

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES

A. 40TH – 42ND SESSIONS OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CAC40, CAC41, CAC42)

Matters for Information

Member and Coordinator for Europe¹

1. CAC40 re-elected Norway as member of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC) from Europe for the period from the end of CAC40 to the end of CAC42 (2019).
2. CAC40 appointed Kazakhstan as Coordinator for Europe for its first term². Kazakhstan, having served for one term will be eligible for re-appointment.
3. CAC42 elected Germany as member of CCEXEC from Europe for the period from the end of CAC42 to the end of CAC44 (currently scheduled for 2021).³

Amendments to the Procedural Manual⁴⁵

4. CAC40 adopted amendments to the sections:
 - “Principles for the establishment of Codex methods of analysis” to clarify that “there are numerous ways in which methods and limits that involve a sum of components can be converted into method performance criteria but this should be undertaken with care on a case-by-case basis”; and
 - “Nutritional risk analysis principles and guidelines for application to the work of the Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses” to include the FAO/WHO Joint Expert Meetings on Nutrition (JEMNU) as a primary source of scientific advice.
5. CAC41 adopted the amendment to the section *Risk analysis principles applied by the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Food (CCRVDf)* by deleting the requirements that extrapolation of MRLs to one or more species could only be recommended where JECFA had identified that it is scientifically justifiable and the uncertainties have been clearly defined in order to provide more autonomy to CCRVDf.

Matters for action

Regular Review of Codex Work Management: Electronic Working Groups⁶

6. CAC40 recommended that the Codex Secretariat work with regional coordinators in examining barriers to active participation and identifying possible solutions. CCEURO is requested to **consider** this matter.

¹ REP17/CAC paras. 206 and 207

² Due to the postponement of the RCC meetings in 2018.

³ REP19/CAC para. 146

⁴ REP17/CAC para. 11 and Appendix II

⁵ REP18/CAC para. 15 and Appendix II

⁶ REP17/CAC para. 116

Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025⁷

7. CAC42 encouraged all Members to participate in the development of the work plan for implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 through the upcoming discussions at the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees and other fora as they arise. This matter **will be considered** under Agenda Item 7.2.

Codex: Budgetary and financial matters⁸

8. CAC40 recognized the support provided by the Secretariat in funding Russian language services in the financial biennium 2018-2019 and encouraged CCEURO to investigate its language policy, comparing it also to other RCCs and regional organizations. This matter **will be considered** under Agenda Item 9.

Coordinator for Europe⁹

9. CAC42 noted that as the sessions of the six FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees had been postponed by one year to the second half of 2019, Kazakhstan would remain in office until the end of CAC43 (2020). The new Regional Coordinator for Europe would be nominated at CCEURO31, be appointed by CAC43, and hold office from the end of that session. This matter **will be considered** under Agenda Item 10.

A. OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES**73rd - 77th Sessions of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC73- CCEXEC77)*****Matters for information***Revitalization of FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees (RCCs)¹⁰

10. CCEXEC73 encouraged: (i) FAO, WHO and the Secretariat to continue the revitalization process throughout the next cycle of RCC meetings; and (ii) members to actively participate in future surveys conducted in conjunction with RCC meetings.

Horizontal agenda for 2018/2019 round of RCCs¹¹

11. CCEXEC74 agreed to include the draft Codex strategic plan 2020–2025 and the Codex Communications work plan, including linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals in the provisional agenda.

Co-chairing of Codex committee meetings¹²

12. CCEXEC74:

- welcomed the proposal regarding co-chairing in the absence of co-hosting as a positive development, using RCCs as an appropriate forum, and the confirmation by the Secretariat that there were no procedural impediments to proceeding with this initiative;
- noted that, since there was no applicable procedure or protocol in place, it was a matter for host countries to experiment with arrangements in this area, underscoring the significant responsibilities involved and preparation required, including consideration of issues such as technical support and the clear delineation of responsibilities; and
- welcomed the willingness of members with relevant experience to share their insights.

Matters for action*Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)*

13. CCEXEC77 noted the interest in activating the work on cashew kernels and that members were encouraged to participate in the work of CCPFV and this could be further discussed in the upcoming FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees (RCCs). This matter **will be considered** under Agenda Item 6.

⁷ REP19/CAC para. 122 ii

⁸ REP17/CAC para. 155 (i) and (ii).

⁹ REP19/CAC para. 147

¹⁰ REP17/EXEC2, para. 96

¹¹ REP18/EXEC1, para. 16

¹² REP18/EXEC1, para. 14

38th and 40th Session of Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS38, CCMAS40)***Matters for information***Presentation of methods of analysis by committees¹³

14. CCMAS38 agreed to remind committees that when methods are submitted to CCMAS for endorsement, these methods should indicate also the principle as well as proposed typing for the methods.

Review and update of CXS 234 and development of database of methods¹⁴

15. CCMAS40 agreed to inform all Codex committees of the current work of CCMAS regarding the review and update of CXS 234 and the development of a database for methods of analysis and sampling endorsed by CCMAS and adopted by CAC.

50th and 51st Session of Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA50 and CCFA51)***Matters for information***Guidance on the alignment of food additive provisions and alignment plan¹⁵

16. CCFA50 agreed to:

- publish the guidance document as an information document on the Codex website and inform the relevant committees for their reference; and
- inform RCCs of the alignment plan of CCFA, in which standards developed by RCCs were scheduled for completion in the year of 2022 or 2023.

17. CCFA51 endorsed an updated forward work plan¹⁶ for alignment of food-additive provisions in commodity standards, including one standard of CCEURO.

24th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS24)***Matters for information***Food Integrity, food authenticity and food fraud¹⁷

18. CCFICS24 continued the discussions on the topic of food integrity, food authenticity and food fraud and noted that the work was broad and might overlap with the mandates of other committees and CCFICS could consider seeking advice from the Commission and relevant Committees.

19. CCFICS24 also agreed to inform CCEXEC, the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including CCGP, of its ongoing discussions on this subject.

¹³ REP17/MAS, para. 27

¹⁴ REP19/MAS, para. 92.i

¹⁵ REP18/FA, paras. 48(vii), (viii) and Appendix XI

¹⁶ CCFA Information Document - Guidance to Commodity Committees on the Alignment of Food Additive Provisions

¹⁷ REP19/FICS, paras. 57-58