

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 2

CX/PFV 16/28/2

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

28th Session
Washington D.C., United States of America,
12 – 16 September 2016

MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND/OR ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

The Committee is invited to **note** matters for information.

The Committee is invited to **consider** matters for action with a view to providing replies to the relevant Codex committees, or amending provisions in Codex standards for processed fruits and vegetables, or taking any other relevant action as required.

38TH AND 39TH SESSIONS OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (2015 - 2016)

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

38TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

Standards and Related Texts adopted by the Commission¹

1. The Commission adopted the:
 - Standard for Certain Canned Fruits (general provisions) and Annexes on Canned Mangoes and Canned Pears (specific provisions) (new CODEX STAN 319-2015);
 - Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables (general provisions) and Annexes on Leeks, Carrots, Corn-on-the-Cob and Whole Kernel Corn (specific provisions) (new CODEX STAN 320-2015);
 - Standard for Ginseng Products (extension of territorial application of the Regional Standard for Ginseng Products) (new CODEX STAN 321-2015);
 - Amendments to the *Standards for Canned Chestnuts and Canned Chestnut Puree* (CODEX STAN 145-1985), *Canned Bamboo Shoots* (CODEX STAN 241-2003), *Certain Canned Vegetables* (Annex on Canned Mushrooms) (CODEX STAN 287-2009) (revision of food additive provisions); and
 - Amendments to the *Standard for Pickled Fruits and Vegetables* (CODEX STAN 260-2007) (revision of food additive provisions and inclusion of provisions for packing media for pickled vegetables).

Revocation of existing Codex Standards and Related Texts²

2. The Commission approved the revocation of the :
 - Standard for Canned Pears (CODEX STAN 61-1981) and the Standard for Canned Mangoes (CODEX STAN 159-1987) following the adoption of the Standard for Certain Canned Fruits and corresponding Annexes; and
 - Standard for Quick Frozen Carrots (CODEX STAN 140-1983), Standard for Quick Frozen Corn-on-the-Cob (CODEX STAN 133-1981), Standard for Quick Frozen Leeks (CODEX STAN 104-1981); and Standard for Quick Frozen Whole Kernel Corn (CODEX STAN 132-1981) following the adoption of the Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables and corresponding annexes; and
 - Regional Standard for Ginseng Products (CODEX STAN 295R-2009) following the conversion of the Standard into a worldwide Standard for Ginseng Products.

¹ REP15/CAC paras 13, 14-19 and Appendix III

² REP15/CAC para. 35 and Appendix V

39TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION****Designation of countries responsible for appointing the Chairpersons of Codex committees³**

3. The United States of America, as host country of CCPFV, informed the Commission of the possibility of adjourning sine die the Committee after its 28th Session in September 2016 if current priority work will have been completed and no new work submitted.

70TH SESSION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2015)⁴**MATTERS FOR ACTION****Monitoring of Standards Development**

4. The Executive Committee agreed to recommend all Committees to consider the need to develop an approach for the management of their work similar to that used by the Committee on Food Hygiene (while recognizing the differences in topics, working procedures, etc. among various committees).

42ND SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING (2014)⁵**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

5. The Committee endorsed the labelling provisions in the Standards for Certain Canned Fruits, Quick Frozen Vegetables, Pickled Fruits and Vegetables and Ginseng Products.

19TH SESSION OF THE FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA (2014)⁶**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

6. The Committee agreed to recommend interested members to propose work on dried longan within the framework of the Electronic Working Group on Dry and Dried Produce established by CCPFV and, in case there is no support in CCPFV, to prepare a discussion paper and project document for consideration at the next CCASIA.

36TH AND 37TH SESSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING (2015 - 2016)^{7,8}**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

7. CCMAS36 endorsed the attributes sampling plans in the Standard for Certain Canned Fruits and agreed to indicate that the sampling plans applied to defects only.
8. CCMAS36 endorse the AACCI Intl 08-01.01 for the determination of ash as Type I method in the Standard for Ginseng and Ginseng Products, as this method was identical to AOAC 923.03.

MATTERS FOR ACTION**Standard for Certain Canned Fruits**

9. CCMAS36 agreed to replace the CAC/RM 46-1972 (method for fill of glass containers) with ISO 8106 (glass containers – determination of capacity by gravimetric methods) and to apply this change to all relevant standards on processed fruits and vegetables.

Standard for Ginseng Products

10. CCMAS36 did not endorse the sampling plans in the standard for ginseng and ginseng products since the values in the table did not correspond to those recommended in the *General Guidelines on Sampling* (CAC/GL 50-2004). It was unclear whether the attributes sampling plan actually applied to attributes and not to characteristics that might be described as variable and requested CCPFV to reconsider the values in line with CAC/GL 50-2004.

Relevant Codex committees

11. CCMAS37 agreed to remind Codex committees that existing Codex Recommended methods (RM methods) should be replaced by internationally validated methods and that recommendations should be made to CCMAS for endorsement.

³ REP16/CAC

⁴ REP15/EXEC, para. 22

⁵ REP15/FL, para 8

⁶ REP15/ASIA, para 122

⁷ REP15/MAS, paras 12 -16

⁸ REP16/MAS, para 81

47TH AND 48TH SESSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES (2015 - 2016)⁹¹⁰**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

12. CCFA47 endorsed the revised food additive provisions in the Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables (Annex on Mushrooms) (CODEX STAN 297-2009); the Standard for Pickled Fruits and Vegetables (CODEX STAN 260-2007); the Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables and Annexes on Carrots, Corn-on-the-Cob, Leek, and Whole Kernel Corn; the Standard for Certain Canned Fruits and Annexes on Mangoes and Pears; and the Standard for Ginseng Products.

MATTERS FOR ACTION**Use of “emulsifier, stabilizer, thickener” and “xanthan gum” (INS 415)**

13. CCFA47 agreed to ask CCPFV to clarify whether the use of “emulsifier, stabilizer, thickener” in general, and xanthan gum (INS 415) in particular was technologically justified in food categories 14.1.2 “Fruit and vegetable juices” and 14.1.3 “Fruit and vegetable nectars” in general and in specific sub-categories.

Technological justification on the use of food additives

14. CCFA48 agreed to ask CCPFV for guidance on the use of food additives in the following food categories:
- a) 04.1.2 “Processed fruit” of:
 - antioxidants in processed fruit in general and the use of tocopherols (INS 307a, b, c), specifically in standardized and non-standardized foods for all subcategories.
 - b) 04.1.2.2 “Dried fruit” of:
 - acidity regulators (general use), and tartrates (INS 334, 335 (ii), 337) specifically, in products conforming to CODEX STAN 177-1991.
 - c) 04.1.2.3 “Fruit in vinegar, oil or brine” of:
 - tartrates (INS 334, 335 (ii), 337) as acidity regulators in products conforming to CODEX STAN 260-2011.
 - d) 04.1.2.5 “Jams, jellies, marmalades” of:
 - propylene glycol alginate (INS 405) as a thickener in products conforming to CODEX STAN 296-2009.
 - e) 04.1.2.6 “Fruit based spreads (e.g. chutney) excluding products of food category 04.1.2.5” of:
 - tartrates (INS 334, 335 (ii), 337) as acidity regulator in products conforming to CODEX STAN 160-1987.

Revocation of food additive provisions

15. Noting that the evaluation for potassium bisulfite (INS 228) would no longer be supported by the sponsor, CCFA48 agreed to remove potassium bisulfite (INS 228) from the priority list by JECFA and request CCPFV to consider removing the provision for potassium bisulfite (INS 228) from the *Standard for Jams, Jellies and Marmalades* (CODEX STAN 296-2009).
16. In order to keep the provisions for food additives in commodity or regional standards consistent with those in the GSFA, CCFA48 recommended CCPFV to revoke the following provisions containing those food additives which were previously listed in the GSFA, but with no corresponding specifications developed by JECFA.
- potassium hydrogen sulfate (INS 515(ii)) in the standards for Preserved Tomatoes (CODEX STAN 13-1981) and Processed Tomato Concentrates (CODEX STAN 57-1981); and
 - calcium hydrogen sulfite (INS 227) in the standard for Jams, Jellies and Marmalades (CODEX STAN 296-2009)

Consistency terms pertaining flavourings

17. CCFA48 agreed to recommend to CCPFV to consider revising the text pertaining to flavourings in the standards indicated below to ensure consistency with the *Guidelines for the Use of Flavourings* (CAC/GL 66-2008)

⁹ REP15/FA, paras 38-45, 74 and Appendix V

¹⁰ REP16/FA, paras 65(ii), 121(iii)b, 126(ii) and 152(v)

- a) Standard for Canned Applesauce (CODEX STAN 17-1981)
- b) Standard for Certain Canned Fruits, Annex on Canned Pears (CODEX STAN 319-2015)
- c) Standard for Canned Fruit Cocktail (CODEX STAN 78-1981)
- d) Standard for Canned Tropical Fruit Salad (CODEX STAN 99-1981)
- e) Standard for Pickled Cucumber (Cucumber Pickles) (CODEX STAN 115-1981)
- f) Standard for Canned Chestnuts and Canned Chestnut Puree (CODEX STAN 145-1981)
- g) Standard for Kimchi (CODEX STAN 223-2001)
- h) Standard for Canned Stone Fruits (CODEX STAN 242-2003)
- i) Standard for Jams, Jellies and Marmalades (CODEX STAN 296-2009)

9TH AND 10TH SESSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS (2015 - 2016)¹¹¹²

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- 18. Maximum levels for lead in various fruits and vegetables (fresh and processed) were adopted by CAC38 (2015) and CAC39 (2016) for inclusion in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CODEX STAN 193-1995) and corresponding MLs were revoked from the GSCTFF¹³.
- 19. The Committee continues work on the review of MLs for lead in the GSCTFF (including MLs for remaining fruits and vegetables)¹⁴.

¹¹ REP15/CF, paras 49 -50, Appendix IV

¹² REP16/CF, para 89, Appendix III

¹³ REP15/CF, paras 49-50, Appendix IV; REP15/CAC, Appendices III & V; REP16/CF, para 89, Appendix III; REP16/CAC, Appendices II & V

¹⁴ REP16/CF, para 89, Appendix III