

### CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION





Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - Fax: (+39) 06 5705 4593 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Item 7

CX/PFV 16/28/7 September 2016

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

28<sup>th</sup> Session Washington, DC, United States of America, 12 – 16 September 2016

### STATUS OF WORK ON THE REVISION OF CODEX STANDARDS FOR PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

(Prepared by the Codex Secretariat)

#### Introduction

- 1. This information is presented as a background document to provide the Committee with an update on the status of work of the revision of Codex standards for processed fruits and vegetables. The paper aims at assisting the Committee in planning its future work as regards the review of the remaining standards for processed fruits and vegetables and the uptake of work on new standards.
- 2. The 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee (September 2014) could not consider this paper thoroughly due to time constraints. The Committee thus agreed to consider prioritization of work on the review of the remaining individual standards for processed fruits and vegetables including ways to deal with the standardization of dry and dried produce at its next session.
- 3. In order to assist the Committee in its deliberation on future work on the review of remaining standards for processed fruits and vegetables, the Committee agreed that the Codex Secretariat would proceed with the editorial amendment of the 18 standards awaiting review in particular with regard to the horizontal provisions applying across commodity standards, e.g. hygiene, contaminants, food additives, etc. The Committee further agreed that the section on food additives would be updated in line with the template laid down in the Procedural Manual, including a proposal for a general reference to the General Standard for Food Additives (CODEX STAN 192-1995).
- 4. The above approach would allow the Committee to focus its discussion on the technical provisions of the standards subject to review and to make an assessment on the need for their revision (whether full or partial). The editorial amendments to standards for processed fruits and vegetables are presented in working document CX/PFV 16/28/7-Add.1.1

### Work output of the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables in relation to the revision of standards for processed fruits and vegetables

- 5. Since the re-establishment of the Committee in 1998, the Committee has been revising and grouping, when possible and suitable, existing standards for processed fruit and vegetables into more general, horizontal standards.
- 6. This work follows the recommendation of the Codex Alimentarius Commission to review old Codex standards to determine the need for revision and to move towards the development of more horizontal standards when feasible and appropriate. This approach would facilitate the use of Codex standards by Codex member countries and with the general objective to facilitate international trade.
- 7. Most of the standards and related texts for processed fruits and vegetables were developed during the 70s and 80s. Work on the review since the re-establishment of the Committee has mainly been carried out on the revision of the standards for canned fruits and vegetables and lately on the standards for quick frozen vegetables. Some work on the conversion of regional standards into worldwide standards has also been undertaken. However, the main focus of the work remains the completion of the review and, if relevant, the revision of the existing individual standards for processed fruits and vegetables.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> REP15/PFV, paras 114, 119 and 120.

At its 25th Session in 2010, the Committee considered a report of a Working Group on Priorities on 8. how to carry out future work on standards for processed fruits and vegetables. The Committee agreed to prioritize work on the development of standards for certain canned fruits and quick frozen vegetables.

- The Chairperson of the Committee further noted that a great deal of work had already been done on 9. the review and revision of individual Codex standards for processed fruits and vegetables. The Chair reminded the Committee that there was now a possibility to consider some work on the development of new standards while keeping focus on the review of the remaining standards in order to respond effectively to the needs of Codex member countries. The Chair thus invited Codex members to bring proposals for new work on standards for processed fruits and vegetables that might be of interest to their countries.2
- 10. At its 26th Session in 2012, the Committee considered the status of work on the review of standards for processed fruits and vegetables but decided not to take any new action in view of the following:
  - the ongoing revision of the remaining individual standards for canned fruits,
  - the existing individual standards for quick frozen vegetables,
  - the new work on conversion of the regional standard for ginseng products into an international standard, and
  - remaining issues surrounding packing media, food additives and methods of analysis in certain standards for processed fruits and vegetables that should be finalized by the 27th Session of CCPFV.3
- At its 27th Session in 2014, the Committee finalized general provisions for canned fruits and specific provisions for some canned fruits as well as general provisions for quick frozen vegetables and specific provisions for some quick frozen vegetables. The Committee also finalized the conversion of the regional standard for ginseng products into a worldwide standard. The three standards were adopted by the 38th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (July 2015) and are available as CODEX STAN 319-2015, CODEX STAN 320-2015 and CODEX STAN 321-2015 respectively.
- 12. In addition, the Committee finalized provisions for packing media in the Standard for Pickled Fruits and Vegetables and amended food additive provisions in a number of standards for processed fruits and vegetables. The 38th Session of the Commission also adopted these amendments.4

#### Ongoing work in the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables in relation to the revision of standards for processed fruits and vegetables

- At its 28th (present) Session in 2016, the Committee will consider finalization of the Annex on canned 13. pineapples for inclusion in the Standard for Certain Canned Fruits (CODEX STAN 319-2015) as well as finalization of seven annexes on quick frozen vegetables for insertion into the Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables. (CODEX STAN 320-2015) Discussion on these standards will include considerations of food additives and methods of analysis and sampling, the latter in particular in the Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables (Agenda Items 3 and 4).
- 14. The Committee will also consider food additive provisions in several standards for processed fruits and vegetables arising from the Committee on Food Additives and other considerations arising from the 27th Session of CCPFV (Agenda Items 2 and 5).
- The Committee will further consider queries from the Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling 15. on sampling plans (ginseng products) and the replacement of Codex recommended methods (Codex RMs) with international validated methods developed by recognized international organizations for endorsement by CCMAS. It is noted that most of RMs were developed by CCPFV in the framework of the development of standards for processed fruits and vegetables (Agenda Item 2).
- 16. In addition, the Committee will consider how to approach the review of the existing standards for dry and dried produce and how to approach the up-take of new standards within this set of products vis-àvis prioritization of work on other sub-sets of products (Agenda Items 6 and 7).

REP11/PFV, paras 116-177. REP11/CAC, Appendix VI.

<sup>3</sup> REP13/PFV, para 153.

REP15/PFV, paras 29, 42, 76, 87, 98, 101, 104. REP15/CAC, paras 14-19 Appendix III.

#### Pending work on the review / revision of Codex standards for processed fruits and vegetables

#### Ongoing work on canned fruits and quick frozen vegetables

17. The Standard for Certain Canned Fruits currently groups existing individual standards for canned mangoes, pears and pineapples. The structure, which contains general provisions applicable across canned fruits, followed by annexes addressing specific issues related to singular products, would allow further additions of new canned fruits in the future. This approach is also consistent with the one taken in the development of the Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables.

- 18. The finalization of the Standard for Certain Canned Fruits will lead to a few canned fruit standards e.g. canned berry fruits, canned fruit salads (mixed fruits), etc. and a few very specific canned standards, e.g. canned chestnuts and chestnut puree, mango chutney, etc., for review and subsequent revision by the Committee if appropriate.
- 19. The Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables also follows the approach taken in the development of the standards for canned fruits and canned vegetables and comprises in total eleven annexes specific to some quick frozen vegetables.
- 20. The finalization of this Standard will conclude work on the revision of the existing individual standards for quick frozen vegetables.

#### Remaining work on canned fruits and quick frozen fruits

- 21. The 25th session of the Committee noted the proposal of the working group on priorities regarding prioritization of future work on the development of standards for canned berry fruits, quick frozen fruits and canned mixed fruits following completion of standards for certain canned fruits and certain quick frozen vegetables.5
- 22. Based on the outcome of its 25th session, the Committee may wish to reflect whether it is appropriate to follow-up with work on the development of some or all of the standards listed in paragraph 21.
- In considering future work on the development of horizontal standards for these commodities, the 23. Committee may also wish to reflect on the following:
  - · Canned berry fruits whether the revision should address only the existing individual standards for some canned berries or whether there might be an opportunity to include other relevant berry fruits in the development of a more comprehensive horizontal standard for these products.
  - Quick frozen fruits the same consideration presented for canned berry fruits applies.
  - Canned mixed fruits international trade for canned tropical fruit salad and canned fruit cocktail is well defined. However, the Committee may wish to consider whether some other combinations of mixed fruits are available at present in international trade for inclusion in a standard for mixed canned fruits or to merge both standards while keeping well define the characteristics proper to fruit cocktail and tropical fruit salads

#### Other processed fruits

24. The Committee may wish to consider how to approach the review of the remaining standards for canned chestnuts and chestnut puree, mango chutney and pickled cucumbers6.

#### Pickled Cucumber

25. The Standard for Pickled Fruits and Vegetables specifically excludes pickled cucumber from the scope. The Committee may wish to consider the priority for review of this standard in order to determine the need for their revision and the appropriateness to merge it with the Standard for Pickled Fruits and Vegetables.

REP11/PFV, para. 112.

Codex standards are available for downloading at: http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/standards/en/. Codex standards for processed fruits and vegetables are also available at: http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCPFV

#### Mango Chutney

26. As regards mango chutney, the Committee may wish to consider the possibility to develop a general standard for chutneys to cover fruits and vegetables either together or separately. An alternative approach could be the revision of the standard for mango chutney only, on the understanding that, if a standard for chutneys is developed, the approach taken for the development of the standards for canned vegetables will be followed.

#### Other processed vegetables

- 27. The Committee may wish to consider how to approach the review of the standards for fungi and fungus products, edible and the standard for fungi, dried, edible to determine:
  - (i) whether they could be combined into a single general standard for fungi and fungus products;
     or
  - (ii) whether they should be kept separated; and
  - (iii) the review of the standard for fungi, dried be carried out in the framework of the review of the standards for dry/dried produce.

#### Dry/dried produce

28. This item is examined under Agenda Item 6.

#### Codes of hygienic practice

- 29. There are a number of codes of hygienic practice whose revision will be taken up by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene e.g. Code of Hygienic Practice for Canned Fruit and Vegetable Products, Code of Hygienic Practice for Dried Fruits, Code of Hygienic Practice for Desiccated Coconut, Code of Hygienic Practice for Dehydrated Fruits and Vegetables including Edible Fungi, Code of Hygiene Practice for Tree Nuts, etc. These Codes have been included in the CCFH Forward Workplan.<sup>7</sup> The Code of Hygienic Practice for Low-Moisture Foods (CAC/RCP 75-2015), could include some the commodities from the above-mentioned standards. Therefore, no action is required from the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables in relation to the revision of these codes.
- 30. The table below shows the pending work on existing individual Codex standards for processed fruits and vegetables.

## Pending work on Codex standards for processed fruits and vegetables and examples of possible merging of standards

Canned Fruits			
1. Raspberries, canned	Parry fruita cannod		
2. Strawberries, canned	Berry fruits, canned		
3. Fruit cocktail, canned	Fruit salad, canned		
4. Tropical fruit salad, canned	Canned mixed fruits		
Quick Frozen	Fruits		
5. Strawberries			
6. Raspberries			
7. Bilberries	Quick Frozen Fruits		
8. Blueberries			
9. Peaches			
Miscellaneous Processed Fr	Miscellaneous Processed Fruits and Vegetables		
10. Pickled Cucumber			
11. Canned chestnuts and chestnut puree			
12. Mango chutney			
13. Fungi and fungus products, ed	dible		
Dry/Dried Produce (Fruits / Vegetables)			
14. Apricots			
15. Fungi, dried, edible			
16. Dates			
17. Pistachio nuts			
18. Raisins			

<sup>7</sup> 

#### Conclusion

31. Based on the above information and considerations, the Committee is invited to consider its future work for the next session based on the outcome of the present session.

- 32. If possible, the Committee is also invited to consider a work plan for its future work with a view to completion of the review / revision of the existing standards for processed fruits and vegetables.
- 33. The above should also be considered in the framework of the request of the Executive Committee on the monitoring of standards development (Agenda Item 2).

#### **ANNEX**

#### STATUS OF WORK

## Work output of the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (1998-2014)

Revised PFV Standards	Existing PFV standards	Explanatory Notes
Applesauce, canned CODEX STAN 17-1981	Applesauce, canned CODEX STAN 17-1981	Revised by CCPFV at its 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> sessions (1998 & 2000). Adopted as final standard by the 24 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2001).  The Standard was amended by CCPFV at its 26 <sup>th</sup> session (2012) to include provisions for methods of analysis.  Adopted by the 36 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2013).
Pears, canned CODEX STAN 61-1981	Pears, canned CODEX STAN 61-1981	Revised by CCPFV at its 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> sessions (1998 & 2000). Adopted as final standard by the 24 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2001).
Kimchi CODEX STAN 223-2001		Developed by CCASIA. Finalization as worldwide standard by CCPFV. Discussed at the 20 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2000). Adopted as final standard by the 24 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2001).
Bamboo shoots, canned CODEX STAN 241-2003		Developed by CCASIA. Finalization as worldwide standard by CCPFV. Discussed at the 20th & 21st CCPFV (2000 & 2002). Adopted as final standard by the 26th CAC (2003). Revised as a single standard as the scope of the Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables excludes vegetables that are lacto-fermented, pickled or preserved in vinegar while the Standard for Canned Bamboo Shoots refers to bamboo shoots in packing media with or without fermentation. The revision aimed at including provisions for packing media and other relevant provisions that commonly apply to standards for canned vegetables. Agreed for revision at the 24th CCPFV (2008) and finalized by the 25th CCPFV (2010) for final adoption by the 34th CAC (2011).
Aqueous coconut products – coconut cream and coconut milk CODEX STAN 240-2003		Developed by CCASIA. Finalization as worldwide standard by CCPFV. Discussed at the 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> CCPFV (2000 & 2002). Adopted as final standard by the 26 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2003).
Stone fruits, canned CODEX STAN 242-2003	Peaches, canned CODEX STAN 14-1981  Plums, canned CODEX STAN 59-1981  Apricots, canned CODEX STAN 129-1981  In addition cherries, canned	The Committee decide to start work on a single general standard covering stone fruits at its 19 <sup>th</sup> Session (1998) and considered the standard at its 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> sessions (2000 & 2002). Adopted as final standard by the 26 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2003).

Revised PFV Standards	Existing PFV standards	Explanatory Notes
Packing media for canned fruits, guidelines CAC/GL 21-2003	Packing Media, composition and labelling	The provisions for packing media were simplified by CCPFV at its 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> sessions (2000 & 2002). Adopted by the 26 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2003).  The provisions for packing media were amended by CCPFV at its 26 <sup>th</sup> session (2012) to include a reference to regular pack. Adopted by the 36 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2013).
Fruits and vegetables, pickled CODEX STAN 260-2007		Developed by CCASIA. Finalization as worldwide standard by CCPFV. Discussed at the 20 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> CCPFV (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006). Adopted as final standard by the 30 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2007).
Tomatoes, preserved CODEX STAN 13-1981	Tomatoes, canned CODEX STAN 13-1981	The CCPFV agreed to start new work on the revision of the Standard for Canned Tomatoes at its 19 <sup>th</sup> Session (1998). The Standard could not be discussed at the 20 & 21 <sup>st</sup> (2000 & 2002) due to finalization of other standards. The Standard was first considered at the 22 <sup>nd</sup> session (2004) and finalized by the 23 <sup>rd</sup> session (2006). Adopted as final standard by the 30 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2007). The Standard was amended by CCPFV at its 26 <sup>th</sup> session (2012) to include revised provisions for food additives. Adopted by the 36 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2013).
Processed tomato concentrates CODEX STAN 57-1981	Processed tomato concentrates CODEX STAN 57-1981	The CCPFV agreed to start new work on the revision of the Standard for Canned Tomatoes at its 19 <sup>th</sup> Session (1998). The Standard could not be discussed at the 20 & 21 <sup>st</sup> (2000 & 2002) due to finalization of other standards. The Standard was first considered at the 22 <sup>nd</sup> session (2004) and finalized by the 23 <sup>rd</sup> session (2006). Adopted as final standard by the 30 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2007). The Standard was amended by CCPFV at its 26 <sup>th</sup> session (2012) to include revised provisions for food additives. Adopted by the 36 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2013).
Certain citrus fruits, canned CODEX STAN 254-2007	Grapefruit, canned CODEX STAN 15-1981 Mandarin oranges, canned CODEX STAN 68-1981 In addition grapefruits and sweet oranges, canned	The CCPFV agreed to start new work on the revision of the Standard for Canned Citrus Fruits at its 19 <sup>th</sup> Session (1998). The Standard could not be discussed at the 20 & 21 <sup>st</sup> (2000 & 2002) due to finalization of other standards. The Standard was first considered at the 22 <sup>nd</sup> session (2004) and finalized by the 23 <sup>rd</sup> session (2006). Adopted as final standard by the 30 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2007). The Standard was amended by CCPFV at its 26 <sup>th</sup> session (2012) to include revised provisions for food additives. Adopted by the 36 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2013).

Revised PFV Standards	Existing PFV standards	Explanatory Notes
Jams, jellies and marmalades CODEX STAN 296-2009	Citrus, marmalade CODEX STAN 80-1981 Jams (fruit preserves) and Jellies CODEX STAN 79-1981 In addition non-citrus marmalades	The CCPFV agreed to start new work on the revision of the Standard for Canned Citrus Fruits at its 19 <sup>th</sup> Session (1998). The Standard could not be discussed at the subsequent sessions of the Committee due to finalization of other standards. The Standard was first considered at the 22 <sup>nd</sup> session (2004) and finalized by the 24 <sup>th</sup> session (2008). Adopted by the 32 <sup>nd</sup> CAC (2009).
Certain vegetables, canned CODEX STAN 297-2009	Asparagus, canned CODEX STAN 56-1981  Carrots, canned CODEX STAN 116-1981  Green peas, canned CODEX STAN 58-1981  Green beans and wax beans CODEX STAN 16-1981  Mature processed peas CODEX STAN 81-1981  Palmito, canned CODEX STAN 144-1985  Sweet corn, canned CODEX STAN 18-1981  In addition baby (young) corn, canned and general provisions for packing media for canned vegetables	The CCPFV agreed to start new work on the revision of the Standard for Canned Vegetables at its 19 <sup>th</sup> Session (1998). The Standard could not be discussed at the subsequent sessions of the Committee due to finalization of other standards. The Standard was first considered at the 22 <sup>nd</sup> session (2004) and finalized by the 25 <sup>th</sup> session (2010). Adopted at the 32 <sup>nd</sup> CAC (2009). This work completes the revision of individual Codex standards for canned vegetables.
Certain vegetables, canned (inclusion of an Annex on Canned Mushrooms) CODEX STAN 297-2009	Mushrooms, canned CODEX STAN 55-1981	The 24 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2008) agreed to propose new work on an Annex for Canned Mushrooms for inclusion in the Codex Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables. The 32 <sup>nd</sup> CAC (2009) agreed to this proposal. The Annex was adopted by the 34 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2011).
Desiccated Coconut CODEX STAN 177-1991	Grated Desiccated Coconut CODEX STAN 177-1991	The 24 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2008) agreed to propose new work on revision of the Standard for Grated Desiccated Coconut. The 32 <sup>nd</sup> CAC (2009) agreed to this proposal. The Standard was adopted by the 34 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2011) and cover all styles for desiccated coconut including grated desiccated coconut.
Table Olives CODEX STAN 66-1981	Table Olives CODEX STAN 66-1981	The 24 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2008) agreed to submit new work on revision of the Standard for Table Olives. The 32 <sup>nd</sup> CAC (2009) agreed to this proposal. The Standard was adopted by the 36 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2013).

Revised PFV Standards	Existing PFV standards	Explanatory Notes
Certain fruits, canned	Mangoes, canned CODEX STAN 159-1987 Pears, canned CODEX STAN 61-1981, Rev. 2001	The 25 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2010) agreed to propose revision and these standards by developing a horizontal standard for canned fruits. The 34 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2011) approved this proposal as new work for CCPFV. Timeframe for completion of work 27 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2014). The Standard was adopted by the 38 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2015) (one annex pending)
Vegetables, quick frozen	Carrots, quick frozen CODEX STAN 140-1981 Corn-on-the-cob, quick frozen CODEX STAN 133-1981 Leek, quick frozen CODEX STAN 104-1981 Whole kernel corn, quick frozen CODEX STAN 132-1981	The 25 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2010) agreed to propose revision and these standards by developing a horizontal standard for canned fruits. The 34 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2011) approved this proposal as new work for CCPFV. Timeframe for completion of work 27 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2014). The Standard was adopted by the 38 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2015) (seven annexes pending)
Ginseng products		Developed by CCASIA. The 26 <sup>th</sup> CCPFV (2012) agreed to start new work on the conversion of the regional Standard for Ginseng Products into a worldwide standard. The 36 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2013) approved the proposal as new work for CCPFV. The Standard was adopted by the 38 <sup>th</sup> CAC (2015) (sampling plans not endorsed by CCMAS37, for further consideration by CCPFV28)
Certain fruits, canned (specific provisions – annexes)	Pineapples, canned CODEX STAN 42-1981	This work will complete the revision of existing individual standards for canned fruits (except canned berry fruits and canned fruit salads/mixed fruits which are pending for revision)
Vegetables, quick frozen (specific provisions – annexes)	Broccoli, quick frozen CODEX STAN 110-1981 Brussels sprouts, quick frozen CODEX STAN 112-1981 Cauliflower, quick frozen CODEX STAN 111-1981 French fried potatoes, quick frozen CODEX STAN 114-1981 Green and wax beans, quick frozen CODEX STAN 113-1981 Peas, quick frozen CODEX STAN 41-1981 Spinach, quick frozen CODEX STAN 77-1981	This work will complete the revision of existing individual standards for quick frozen vegetables.

Revised PFV Standards	Existing PFV standards	Explanatory Notes
	Bamboo shoots, canned CODEX STAN 241-2003	
	Chestnuts, canned and Chestnut Puree CODEX STAN 145-1985	
	Mushrooms, canned (Annex to the Standard for Canned Vegetables) canned vegetables) CODEX STAN 297-2009	The amendments were adopted by the 38th CAC.
	Fruits and vegetables, pickled CODEX STAN 260-2007	
Fruits and vegetables, pickled (inclusion of provisions for packing media for pickled vegetables)	Fruits and vegetables, pickled CODEX STAN 260-2007	The amendment was adopted by the 38th CAC