

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda item 4

CRD4

Original Language Only

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

VIRTUAL

20 SEPTEMBER – 25 OCTOBER 2021

Comments of Morocco

Proposed amendment of the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products (CXS 94-1981)

- **Laboratories must be selected to carry out the organoleptic evaluation including the designation of the main laboratory, which will be responsible to coordinate the evaluation and to prepare the final report:**

Morocco proposes to examine within the EWG the documentation relating to the suggested laboratory in order to decide whether this one has the required expertise in terms of organoleptic evaluation as stipulated in the inclusion procedure.

The selection criteria:

- The technical competence in the field of Sensory Evaluation
- The accreditation of the laboratory according to ISO / IEC 17025 "Requirements General for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories", applicable since 13 December 2017, the scope of accreditation should cover the Sensory Evaluation (descriptive, discriminative and hedonic tests, etc.)
- The independence and impartiality of the laboratory;
- The choice of labs must relate to three different regions of the codex, preferably excluding the requesting member.
- If possible, the choice of laboratories in the countries where the products are mainly consumed.

- **The species to be compared with the candidate species for sensory evaluation:**

1. First proposed species: Morocco suggests retaining ***Sardina pilchardus*** to compare it with the candidate species *Sardinella lemuru*. Given that it is necessary to retain the most representative species of the market and it is the reference of the standard in question;
2. Second species proposed: Morocco proposes to choose species from the ones proposed by the Philippines either ***Sardinella aurita*** or ***Sardinella maderensis***
3. Third proposed species is ***Clupea harengus***.

- **Draft terms of reference for the Electronic Working Group, the chairperson (s) and language (s).**

1. **The mandate :**

Morocco proposes to add in the mandate of the Electronic Working Group (EWG) the examination of the documentation provided by the requesting country as well as the documentation relating to the technical files of the proposed laboratories.

The Commission, at its forty-third session, approved the proposal to reactivate the CCFFP to work by correspondence, in accordance with the Procedure for Inclusion of New Species in Standards for Fish and Fishery Products, and that the comity evaluate the possibility of amending the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine type Products (CXS 94-1981) to include the species *Sardinella lemuru* (Bali sardinella) in section 2.1.

The terms of reference of the EWG should be in accordance with the provisions of the procedure for inclusion of new species in standards for fish and fishery products (section II) of the Codex Alimentarius procedural manual, in particular point 2.3 which stipulate that the EWG should review the documentation provided by the requesting member (s).

2. The Presidency :

Regarding the presidency, for a matter of impartiality and in order to avoid any suspicion, Morocco suggests entrusting a neutral country other than the requesting country, if necessary, the requesting country can just ensure the co -presidency.

3. Language of work :

Morocco proposes to add **French** as the working language of the EWG.