

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Items 5, 8 and 9

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**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION
AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS
Twenty-Fifth Session
Virtual, 31 May – 8 June 2021**

Comments from Malaysia

AGENDA ITEM 5 CX/FICS 21/25/5 Proposed draft Guidance on paperless use of electronic certificates (revision of the Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic Official Certificates - CXG 38-2001)

Malaysia would like to thank the EWG Chair and its members for preparing the proposed draft guideline. We have no objection for CCFICS25 to advance the Proposed Draft Guidance on paperless use of electronic certificate work to Step 5.

Nevertheless, Malaysia notes that the definition of Single Window in UN/CEFACT Recommendation Number 33 is referring to 'standardized information and documents' and not just any information or documents. As such, in the case CCFICS agrees to add Single Window definition in the proposed draft guidance, we would like to propose the addition of the word 'standardised' to the word 'data and information' and addition of text 'through a single entry point' after the word 'transport to reflect Single Window concept of the WCO.

The definition will then read:

Single Window is a facility which enables a single submission of **standardized** data and information by the parties involved in trade and transport **through a single entry point** to fulfil all import, export, and transit related regulatory requirements and enables a single and synchronous processing of data and information.

AGENDA ITEM 8 CX/FICS 21/25/8 Discussion paper on role of CCFICS with respect to tackling food fraud.

Malaysia appreciates the work by the EWG. We support new work on the Development of Codex Guidance on the Prevention of Food Fraud by CCFICS and for the project document be forwarded for approval by CAC44.

It is our view that through this new work, CCFICS will look into issues related to traceability and certification in addressing food authenticity. Many other Codex committees are waiting for the outcome of CCFICS discussions on this work and this indicates the importance of this work to CCFICS.

AGENDA ITEM 9 CX/FICS 21/25/9 Emerging issues and Future direction of CCFICS

Appendix A

Malaysia thanks Australia and Canada for preparing the is updated discussion paper for CCFICS mechanism for CCFICS to keep track of global emerging issues that is relevant to CCFICS work, for identification of its work priority. We have no objection to the rotation of the custodianship of Appendix A and agree for Circular Letter be issued prior to each CCFICS meeting to seek input from members on emerging global issues for inclusion in Appendix A.

Malaysia is of the view that Appendix A should be limited to issues within the remit of CCFICS mandate and TOR, as it is meant to guide CCFICS work priorities. In this regard, some listed issue covers very wide scope, some may not be a food safety issue and more importantly it is not clear how CCFICS can contribute in tackling the issues. If these issues are to be included in Appendix A, more information is needed on the relevance to CCFICS so that this list becomes relevant in guiding CCFICS work priorities.

At this stage we would suggest few listed issues be removed from Appendix A which are food waste, guidance on the management of (micro) biological foodborne crisis/outbreaks, as the work has been undertaken by CCFH, and private standard - which had been agreed to be deleted by the previous CCFICS session.

Process for prioritizing new work proposals as found in Appendix B

Malaysia can agree to the process for CCFICS prioritizing new work proposals as in Appendix B. Further, as agreed at the CCFICS24, the Committee should validate this process by piloting the application of the Appendix B: the Prioritization Tool and Appendix C: the Additional CCFICS Criteria To Assist The Committee Prioritise The Development Of New Work, and as necessary, revisit this tools and criteria for improvement.

Malaysia notes that similar tool has been used by other Codex Committee and there are other that is also going to pilot the prioritization criteria such as the CCFSDU.

With regard to the establishment of ad hoc working group where appropriate in Appendix B, Malaysia would like to seek clarification on the mechanism for the establishment of this ad hoc WG. In other Committee, the establishment of a WG for similar purpose was agreed in advance by the Committee, for example in the form of an in-session WG.