

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Items 5, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17

CRD36

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

13<sup>th</sup> Session

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 29 April – 3 May 2019

### Comments of Philippines

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5 - PROPOSED DRAFT MLS FOR LEAD IN SELECTED COMMODITIES IN THE GSCTFF (CXS 193-1995) (AT STEP 4) (CX/CF 19/13/5 AND CL 2019/07- CF)**

**POSITION:** The Philippines supports the following: (a) revision of maximum level (ML) for lead in wine from 0.2 mg/kg to 0.05 mg/kg, with the ML applying to wine made from grapes harvested after the date of the establishment of the ML, or 0.1 mg/kg, with the ML applying to wine made from grapes harvested after the date of the establishment of the ML; and (b) consider for establishment of an ML for lead in fortified or liqueur wines of 0.15 mg/kg, for products made from grapes harvested after the date of the establishment of the ML.

On Edible Offal, the Philippines would like to request for a further review of the recommendations given for the MLs in cattle, pig, and poultry until more information are obtained from the industry, such as lowering of ML for lead in edible offal of: (a) cattle from 0.5 mg/kg to 0.15 mg/kg; (b) pig from 0.5 mg/kg to 0.15 mg/kg; and (c) poultry from 0.5 mg/kg to 0.1 m)/kg.

Further, the Philippines would like to request for more discussions on the use of Limit of Quantification (LOQ) and Limit of Detection (LOD) on data for consideration.

**RATIONALE:** The Philippines produce grape wine in the Northern part of Luzon and the revision of ML for lead in grape wine will protect the industry. The Philippines uses edible offal in the food industry, and review of information will safeguard the industry and the consumers.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 10 - DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR RISK ANALYSIS OF INSTANCES OF CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD WHERE THERE IS NO REGULATORY LEVEL OR RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK ESTABLISHED**

##### **POSITION:**

The Philippines supports to advance the proposed draft Guidelines to Step 5 for adoption by CAC 41 (2018), and to re-establish the EWG chaired by New Zealand and the Netherlands to further develop the guidelines especially those parts remaining in square brackets for consideration at the next session of the committee.

##### **RATIONALE:**

The discussions presented in Appendix 1 require further discussions by the EWG.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 11 - DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW MAXIMUM LEVELS FOR LEAD IN COMMODITIES ACCORDING TO A PRIORITIZATION APPROACH**

##### **POSITION:**

The Philippines supports the work of establishing the new maximum levels for lead in commodities based on a prioritization approach, and the Philippines would like to respond to a call for data for consideration of the Committee, as stated in Paragraph 6.

The Philippines poses no objection on Paragraph 21. However, for the Philippines, the seafood and processed fish excluding frozen and sliced fish are considered as Top 1 and Top 2 commodities, respectively, among the listed food categories.

##### **RATIONALE:**

The Discussion Paper will help in the establishment of MLs for Lead of identified food commodities.

**AGENDA ITEM 15 - DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MAXIMUM LEVELS FOR METHYLMERCURY IN ADDITIONAL FISH SPECIES****POSITION:**

The Philippines supports the Discussion Paper and recommends that the timeframe for ML derivation for all groupings of identified species, as stated in Paragraph 20, be until 2022 to enable countries to provide data for consideration of CCCF.

**RATIONALE:**

Fish is a major export commodity of the Philippines, and most of the groupings of identified species mentioned in Paragraph 20 are available in the Philippines, which if not properly addressed in terms of ML of methylmercury, will affect the fish industry.

**AGENDA ITEM 16 - DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MLS FOR HCN IN CASSAVA AND CASSAVA-BASED PRODUCTS AND OCCURRENCE OF MYCOTOXINS IN THESE PRODUCTS****POSITION:**

The Philippines supports the work and recommends that data be provided also by other countries in the establishment of MLs for HCN and mycotoxins in cassava as the Discussion Paper focused on results of studies conducted by Nigeria and other African countries.

The Philippines recommends the development of a Code of Practice for the Reduction and Prevention of Mycotoxins in Cassava and Cassava-based Products as new work.

**RATIONALE:**

The Philippines is both a producer and consumer of cassava and cassava-based products, and the establishment of MLs will be beneficial to both the producers and consumers.

**AGENDA ITEM 17 - DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MAXIMUM LEVELS FOR TOTAL AFLATOXINS IN CEREALS (WHEAT, MAIZE, SORGHUM AND RICE), FLOUR AND CEREAL-BASED****FOODS FOR INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN****POSITION:**

The Philippines supports the work on the establishment of MLs for total aflatoxins in selected food categories, and recommends that the Discussion Paper reflect the postharvest handling practices for cereals to ensure that the contaminants are reduced and prevented in the process.

The Philippines has an ongoing project on mycotoxins in rice and corn; and recommends that the data that will be generated in the project be considered in the establishment of MLs; the project will be completed by December 2020.

**RATIONALE:**

The Discussion Paper will help in the establishment of MLs for total aflatoxins in cereals and cereal-based foods and flour for infants and young children.