

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 13

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Twenty-seventh Session

International Conference Centre, Geneva, Switzerland, 28 June - 3 July 2004

MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORTS OF CODEX COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES: Matters arising by 3 April 2004

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Recommended International Code of Practice for Packaging and Transport of Tropical Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

1. The Committee noted that the use of the word "tropical" in the title of the Recommended International Code of Practice for Packaging and Transport of Tropical Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CAC/RCP 44-1995) should be removed as the document applied across fresh fruits and vegetables regardless of the growing region. **The Committee agreed to request the Codex Alimentarius Commission to amend the Code by deleting the word "tropical" throughout in order to make it consistent with the packaging and transport of all fresh fruits and vegetables.**(ALINORM 04/27/35, para 54)

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS

Codex General Standard for Food Additives(GSFA)

2. **The Committee forwarded to the Codex Alimentarius Commission the amendments to the GSFA** namely: deletion of Lists A and B and addition of a footnote to Section 1.1 of the Preamble, a reference to the JECFA website to provide ready access to the most up-to-date information on ADIs. (ALINORM 04/27/12, para 80 and Appendix IV)

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Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods (GSCTF)

3. The Committee noted that Annex IV on the Annotated List of Contaminants and Toxins was an informative document encompassing contaminants and toxins for which maximum levels had been developed or were being developed in Codex. The document was considered useful in providing an overview of the situation regarding Codex decisions about contaminants and toxins, and to give guidance about further actions required by CCFAC. The Committee agreed that such information should be part of a working document to be updated yearly and presented at each Session of the Committee for information and support for the discussions on the GSCTF.
4. In view of the above, **the Committee forwarded the amendment to the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods (removal of Annex IV and its reference in the General Standard) for adoption by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.** (ALINORM 04/27/12 para 125 and Appendix XIII)

Relation between the GSCTF and Codex Standards

5. In order to avoid current and future inconsistencies between the GSCTF and commodity standards, **the Committee agreed to request the Codex Alimentarius Commission to endorse the following recommendations** (ALINORM 04/27/12 para 124):
 - (a) The Codex Alimentarius Commission should explicitly revoke existing safety-related maximum levels in commodity standards which are inconsistent with already adopted maximum levels by the Commission; and,
 - (b) When CCFAC proposes maximum levels for final adoption at Step 8 it will simultaneously propose to explicit revocation of corresponding maximum levels in commodity standards which are inconsistent with the proposed maximum level.

RISK ANALYSIS

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE

Proposed Draft Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk management

6. The Committee noted the request of the 26th Session of the Commission¹ that relevant Committees develop or complete specific guidelines on risk analysis in their respective areas, for inclusion in the Procedural Manual. In this regard, it agreed to report to the Commission that the Committee:
 - (a) Had developed the Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Assessment (CAC/GL-30, 1999) document, which provided guidance on microbiological risk assessment for microbiological hazards in foods. The document was written with the aim of providing advice to member governments and to the Codex;
 - (b) Was currently developing the Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Management addressing issues that would be relevant to both member governments and to the Codex.
7. **The Committee requested the Commission's advice whether this course of action was consistent with the Commission's expectations.** (ALINORM 04/27/13 paras 70-71)

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

8. The Committee took note of the request of the Codex Alimentarius Commission² that "*relevant Codex committees develop or complete specific guidelines on risk analysis in their respective areas, for inclusion in*

¹ ALINORM 03/41, para 147

² ALINORM 03/41, para 147

the Procedural Manual, as recommended in the Action Plan adopted by the 22nd Session of the Commission (Geneva, June 1997)". In this regard, the Committee noted that the work of CCFICS did not relate to the development of specific measures within food control system but to the elaboration of general texts about food inspection and certification systems which might incorporate the notion of risk analysis therefore it did not need to prepare specific guidelines for risk analysis to carry out its work. It was also noted that matters related to risk analysis were adequately covered by other Codex fora. (ALINORM 04/27/30, para 7)

CODEX COMMITTEE ON MEAT HYGIENE

9. The Committee took note of the request of the Codex Alimentarius Commission³ that "*relevant Codex committees develop or complete specific guidelines on risk analysis in their respective areas, for inclusion in the Procedural Manual, as recommended in the Action Plan adopted by the 22nd Session of the Commission (Geneva, June 1997)*". In this regard, the Committee concluded that the texts developed or being developed by the Codex Committee on General Principles and other horizontal Codex Committees provided adequate guidance to its work.(ALINORM 04/27/16, para 5)

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

Requests from the 26th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

10. The Committee noted the requests arising from the 26th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission⁴ and agreed that the proposed draft Appendices to the *Guidelines on the Judgement of Equivalence of Sanitary Measures Associated with Food Inspection* would also address the further elaboration of guidelines to facilitate their implementation to the control of food trade. (ALINORM 04/27/30, paras 90)

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS

JECFA Priority List (Peroxide Value)

11. The Committee noted that the Working Group on JECFA Priorities agreed that the proposal for consideration of the peroxide value (PV) for instant noodles from the 26th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission⁵, was not a question of safety and should therefore not be proposed for evaluation by JECFA. In this regard, it was also mentioned that there were no data proving a positive correlation between peroxide values of foods and food toxicological parameters. The Committee was informed of a WHO project that would study the safety of used cooking oils.(ALINORM 04/27/12, para 209)

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE

Antimicrobial resistance

12. The Committee noted the information of the Representative of WHO on this matter and suggested the Commission to take into account the outcome of the FAO/WHO/OIE consultative process in the deliberation of a future policy for Codex work in the area of antimicrobial resistance. In particular, the Committee supported the establishment of a Codex/OIE Task Force to develop broad risk management options for antimicrobial resistance related to non-human use of antimicrobials. In doing this, efficient interaction between this Task Force and the CCFH and relevant Codex committees should be ensured. (ALINORM 04/27/13 para 159)

³ ALINORM 03/41, para 147

⁴ ALINORM 03/41, para 65

⁵ ALINORM 03/41 para 120-121