

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 4

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ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

*Thirty-fourth Session
Geneva, Switzerland, 4-9 July 2011*

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL

Proposed Amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables
(REP11/PFV, para. 8, Appendix II)

European Union

Mixed Competence / European Union Vote.

EU position:

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) support the inclusion of fruit and vegetable juices and nectars in the Terms of Reference of the CCPFV but suggest to delete the reference to "related products" which would encompass many other products that are covered by horizontal Codex standards, and are composed of multiple ingredients, only one of which may be a fruit/vegetable juice or nectar. The wording would be then as follows:

"To elaborate worldwide standards and related texts for all types of processed fruits and vegetables, including but not limited to canned, dried and frozen products as well as fruit and vegetable juices and nectars ~~and related products.~~"

Rationale

Fruit and vegetable juices are processed products derived exclusively from fruits and vegetables and thus they perfectly fit under the remit of CCPFV. At this point in time, there is no immediate specific need for new work in relation to fruit and vegetable juices as a specific task force completed the Codex General Standard for Fruit Juices and Nectars (CODEX STAN 247-2005) in 2005 but such need could arise in the future. For this reason, the EUMS are in favour of including fruit and vegetable juices and nectars in the Terms of Reference of the CCPFV, but wish to **clearly exclude composite products where fruit juice is only one ingredient**. Including composite products would be inappropriate taking into account the diversity of products on the market, the absence of trade problems, and the fact that these products are not regulated in most countries.

International Federation of Fruit Juices Producers

The IFU as the global organization representing the fruit and vegetable juice producers and as a participant in the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV) appreciates the opportunity to make the following comments.

1. Due to the fact that fruit and vegetable juices were not represented on any Codex Committee after the dissolution of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Fruit and Vegetable Juices in 2005, the 32nd (2009) Session of the Commission asked the CCPFV to review its terms of reference to consider the inclusion of fruit and vegetable juices (ALI NORM 09/32/REP, para. 228).

In consideration of the above, the 25th Session of CCPFV which took place in October 2010 in Bali, Indonesia proposed to change the CCPFV terms of reference to:

*"To elaborate worldwide standards and related texts for all types of processed fruits and vegetables, including but not limited to canned, dried and frozen products as well as fruit and vegetable juices and nectars and **related products**"*

The IFU believes that including "related products" in the proposed amendment to the terms of reference has significantly broadened the terms of reference contemplated by the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Fruit and Vegetable Juices and by the Commission.

The IFU also believe that as a direct result of proposing to include the non-specific term "related products" in the terms of reference, the 25th session already initiated discussion on water-based flavored drinks which are clearly not "processed fruits or vegetables" and therefore are outside the CCPFV mandate.

The IFU respectfully requests that the commission consider deleting "related products" from the proposed terms of reference and revising the amendment to read:

"To elaborate worldwide standards and related texts for all types of processed fruits and vegetables, including but not limited to canned, dried and frozen products as well as fruit and vegetable juices and nectars".

2. The IFU also respectfully requests that the Commission directs the CCPFV to discontinue work on water-based flavored drinks which are clearly not within the CCPFV mandate.