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Project document for a regional standard for date paste

Submitted by Tunisia on behalf of the CCNEA

1. Purpose and scope of the standard

Establishing a regional standard for date paste to control its production and ensure its compliance with agreed norms among the countries of the region with the purpose of protecting the consumer and facilitating trade between countries. This standard concerns date paste made of the Phoenix Dactylifera date palm fruit and prepared for immediate consumption.

2. Relevance and timeliness

The high consumption of this product and the widespread use of inadequate elements in its production could inflict harm on the consumers or lead to unfair competition between the manufacturers as they look for low-quality products to make higher profits. It was necessary to establish this standard to include the safety requirements, quality factors and other conditions that would adequately characterize this product.

3. Main aspects to be covered

This document includes the definitions as well as the safety and quality requirements relative to the date paste product and also the label, transportation and storage requirements..

4. Assessment against the criteria for the establishment of work priorities

4.1 Volume of trade between countries

Date paste production in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Date paste production (in tonnes)	10112	8778	7165	6809	6265	7634

4.2 Opportunities in foreign markets

Tunisia's export date paste:

country	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q
ALLEMAGNE	4 080	25 003	56 948	18 863	6 256
ANGLETERRE	1 440	1 440	0	1 040	1 920
AUTRICHE	480	640	3 120	1 360	800
BELGIQUE	19 760	28 720	20 160	9 300	12 800
CANADA	12 992	17 224	7 640	38 236	37 672
ESPAGNE	54 032	12 775	74 794	136 584	19 887
FRANCE	397 472	514 453	267 032	392 575	200 712
GRECE	5 008	0	0	0	2 148
ILE MAURICE	0	320	0	0	0
ITALIE	3 008	6 656	7 072	0	0
BRESIL	0	0	0	0	0
EGYPTE	0	0	0	74 000	0
JORDANIE	0	0	20 800	0	0
LA SYRIE	0	0	220	0	2 574
LETTONIE	0	0	750	0	0
LIBYE	573 376	877 452	919 448	709 336	551 940
MALAISIE	3 000	500	2 000	0	0
MALTE	25 697	18 000	34 420	208	1 050
MAROC	289 210	477 899	279 579	330 717	66 580
RUSSIE	0	0	0	2 500	0
SUEDE	0	0	0	1 080	2 160
SUISSE	480	0	20 000	32	64
USA	19 748	67 500	0	0	0
TOTAL	1 409 783	2 048 582	1 713 983	1 715 831	906 563
Organic Date paste	58344	126036	80760	105110	51600
TOTAL	1 468 127	2 174 618	1 794 743	1 820 941	958 163

Tunisia's export organic date paste:

country	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q
ALLEMAGNE	13050	59838		3890	4320
ANGLETERRE	0				960
FRANCE	45294	66198	80760	86700	46320
USA	0			14520	
total	58344	126036	80760	105110	51600

Jordan's export:

	2009	2010
Date paste	345,593	242,819
molasses	93,941	24,957

Egypt :

Import of dates during the period from 2008 to 31/05/2011:

Country of origin	2008		2009		2010		2011	
	Number of packages	weight T	Number of packages	weight T	Number of packages	weight T	Number of packages	weight T
Arabie Saoudite	9	920	52	588	35	641	7	44
Iraq	27	4271	43	7534	20	4110	22	3618
L'Inde	5	182	2	46				
USA					1	0		
Iran	1	13						
Afrique du sud					2	22		
Emirats arabes unis	7	124	21	2067	6	24		
Syrie	4	478	3	203	1	50	1	50
Liban					2	1		
Total	53	5986	121	10438	67	4848	30	3713

Import of dates during the period from 2008 to 31/05/2011

Category name	year	Number of packages	weight T
Dates natural semi-dry	2008	53	5986
	2009	121	10438
	2010	67	4848
	2011	30	3713
Total		271	24985

Export dates and dates derived during the period from 2008 to 31/05/2011:

Pays Country	2008		2009		2010		2011	
	Number of packages	weight T	Number of packages	weight T	Number of packages	weight T	Number of packages	weight T
Ethiopie					1	30		
Espagne	2	51			1	13		
Australie	1	1	1	0,3	2	13		
Argentine	2	63	2	90	2	130		
Jordanie	1	546	1	922	2	670	1	141
Emirats arabes unis	3	68	2	43	3	134	1	18
Bahreïn	1	1	1	2	1	2		
Portugal	1	0,2					1	0,1
Tchèque	1	4	1	11				
Danemark					1	13		
Arabie Saoudite	2	127	2	60	3	13	1	15
Sénégal			1	9	1	26		
Soudan	1	0,2	1	4	3	19	1	4
Suède	1	20						
Chine							1	2
Iraq			1	21				
Koweït	3	13	2	58	2	52	1	3
Maldives	1	4	1	5	3	14		
Allemagne	2	38	2	57	3	55	1	6
Hongrie					1	0,03		
Maroc	4	683	2	4118	3	5720	3	4114
Mexique							1	15
Angleterre	3	43	2	22	2	14	2	20
Autriche	2	2	1	2	2	3		
Inde	1	41	1	25	1	0,1		
Japon					2	10	2	18
Yémen			2	14	1	40		
Grèce	2	22	2	6	2	36		
USA	2	41	2	3	1	45		
Indonésie	3	3027	3	5107	2	6000	2	6029
Ouganda	1	0,4	1	1				
Ukraine					1	44		
Islande			1	25				

Italie	2	55	2	26	2	51	1	19
Belgique	1	2	1	7	1	12		
Bengladesh					1	156		
Pologne	3	104	1	17				
Thaïlande	1	3	1	1	2	2		
Taiwan					1	13		
Turquie	1	0,01	1	75	1	60		
Tunisie			1	0,06				
Gambie	1	39			1	10	1	16
Afrique du sud	2	89	3	99	1	66	1	66
Géorgie					1	21		
Autres pays	1	26	2	104	1	50		
Russie	2	33			1	25		
Roumanie	1	16						
Zambie	1	1						
Singapore	3	135	2	164	2	137	2	211
Syrie	2	506	1	654	2	899	2	351
Suisse	1	1	2	1				
Serbie	1	25						
Oman			1	58	1	0,04		
Ghana	1	0,2	1	1	1	0,3	1	0,3
France	1	6	1	5	1	1		
Palestine	2	467						
Vietnam S	2	33	1	42	1	150		
Vietnam N	2	33						
Chypre	3	109	3	87	2	100		
قطر	2	1	4	5	2	4	1	1
Croatie			1	32				
Canada	2	37	2	11	2	7		
Corée S			1	1	1	1	1	1
Kenya	1	0,4	1	0,4				
Lettonie	1	19						
Liban	2	630	3	649	1	866		
Lybie	1	309	3	26	1	11		
Malgache	1	0,4						
Malaisie	4	3697	3	8230	3	5070	3	4037
Madagascar			1	30				
Macédoine	1	25	2	30	1	28		
Mauritanie			1	12				
Iles Maurice	1	2	1	12	2	42	1	15
Mozambique			1	0,1				
Nigéria	1	0,1	1	0,5	1	0,2		
Nouvelle Zélande			1	6				
Hongkong	3	79						
Hollande	1	2	2	23	1	1		
Total	95	11277	87	21011	84	20876	32	15103

United Arab Emirates:

code	Years	Countries	Import AED	Import KG	Export AED	Export KG	Rexport AED	Rexport KG
8041010	2007	AUSTRALIA	13 663	13 760	794 161	148 099	0	0
		AZERBAIJAN	0	0	8 200	803	0	0
		BAHRAIN	0	0	24 536	3 656	22 947	1 288

BANGLADESH	0	0	297 473	270 000	4 328 907	2 653 275
BENIN	0	0	65 581	18 552	0	0
BRAZIL	0	0	0	0	11 001	1 075
CAMBODIA	0	0	0	0	220 363	160 000
CANADA	0	0	0	0	23 995	16 334
CHINA	0	0	123 565	121 339	1 513 988	1 017 000
DJIBOUTI	0	0	18 509	16 800	0	0
EGYPT	4 411	2 608	0	0	0	0
ERITREA	0	0	26 662	17 000	30 371	18 000
ETHIOPIA	0	0	0	0	72 963	45 000
GERMANY	0	0	300	160	3 201	242
GREECE	0	0	0	0	2 000	190
HONG KONG	0	0	8 821	96	205 660	140 000
INDIA	1 000 000	1 004 880	83 841	64 740	9 082 476	10 481 794
INDONESIA	23 761	747	1 131 586	818 049	630 623	509 850
IRAN	6 053 245	5 616 789	22 074	24 250	15 950	7 200
IRAQ	19 175 051	18 312 460	0	0	797	282
JORDAN	2 467 367	273 038	67 474	8 000	119 053	63 186
KENYA	0	0	24 800	4 439	0	0
KOREA SOUTH	0	0	98 948	12 886	0	0
KUWAIT	0	0	51 622	13 574	35 316	5 799
LEBANON	0	0	30 000	1 000	47 510	58 862
MALAYSIA	0	0	503 474	92 785	109 326	54 056
MALDIVES	0	0	114 694	75 000	40 656	32 933
MAURITANIA	0	0	150 152	128 939	0	0
MAURITIUS	0	0	75 001	60 000	1 038	124
MOLDOVA	0	0	315 000	40 000	0	0
MOROCCO	0	0	2 594 662	1 675 427	933 258	678 260
MOZAMBIQUE	0	0	65 925	14 238	0	0
NEW ZEALAND	0	0	14 512	6 958	0	0
NIGERIA	0	0	4 588	10 000	1 050	130
OMAN	65 182	43 570	0	0	148 600	118 000
PAKISTAN	16 890	19 073	87 390	61 500	983 986	1 178 096
PHILIPPINES	0	0	420 000	40 000	0	0
QATAR	4 351	1 450	46 014	9 010	130 807	96 988
RUSSIA FEDERATION	0	0	0	0	1 500	83
SAUDI ARABIA	16 367 620	2 825 869	14 000	12 209	5 000	790
SENEGAL	0	0	426 916	98 670	95 206	41 280
SINGAPORE	0	0	279 552	67 266	232 290	194 320
SOMALIA	0	0	54 001	19 265	0	0
SOUTH AFRICA	200 463	4 960	0	0	98 840	79 420
SRI LANKA	87 621	75 168	420 000	40 000	108 979	179 201
SUDAN	0	0	50 001	40 000	0	0
SWITZERLAND	0	0	975	311	0	0
TANZANIA	0	0	133 816	84 497	0	0
THAILAND	0	0	17 346	10 022	0	0
TUNISIA	1 925 905	279 217	0	0	0	0
TURKEY	0	0	131 170	10 617	0	0
UKRAINE	0	0	28 932	26 000	0	0
UNITED KINGDOM	100	17	19 673	676	1 600	72
USA	881 902	33 752	4 000	300	0	0

	VIET NAM	0	0	286 216	216 490	767 435	420 210
	YEMEN	0	0	3 570	119	2 200	300
	Total	48 287 532	28 507 358	9 139 733	4 383 742	20 028 892	18 253 640
2008	ARGENTINA	0	0	0	0	14 734	3 031
	AUSTRALIA	34 620	4 500	628 078	93 936	9 823	2 120
	BAHRAIN	1 700	137	249 668	46 756	30 886	2 011
	BANGLADESH	0	0	2 943 536	3 210 791	2 593 698	3 274 060
	BELGIUM	0	0	0	0	1 899	72
	CAMBODIA	0	0	0	0	57 842	35 000
	CHINA	0	0	1 369 020	1 747 120	1 147 898	1 454 328
	COMOROS ISLANDS	0	0	559 619	35 000	0	0
	CZECH REP.	0	0	0	0	102 408	9 295
	DENMARK	0	0	0	0	132 800	16 000
	DJIBOUTI	0	0	18 573	16 800	35 609	30 000
	EGYPT	56 831	17 506	247 014	63 378	261 906	330 070
	FRANCE	4 725	39	6 874	447	0	0
	GERMANY	0	0	15 800	15 088	15 351	5 014
	HONG KONG	0	0	367	202	37 092	50 000
	INDIA	21 637	4 662	12 914 284	8 608 582	28 766 160	31 013 895
	INDONESIA	443 790	16 944	12 889 500	5 074 000	1 169 375	993 000
	IRAN	8 698 540	6 420 641	0	0	79 010	39 675
	IRAQ	15 403 200	11 265 551	5 499	1 104	0	0
	IVORY COST	0	0	0	0	24 861	6 000
	JAPAN	0	0	318	166	0	0
	JORDAN	2 278 899	239 640	639 100	53 180	38 325	23 000
	KUWAIT	111 019	5 000	151 720	30 452	27 410	2 710
	LEBANON	82 379	8 258	625 000	50 000	254 836	323 340
	MALAYSIA	0	0	4 155 721	1 625 265	636 169	327 925
	MALDIVES	0	0	61 888	18 029	9 679	667
	MAURITANIA	0	0	32 982	20 290	103 950	77 000
	MOROCCO	27 500	2 068	3 304 357	2 743 620	1 271 077	715 220
	MOZAMBIQUE	0	0	418 720	252 864	0	0
	NAMIBIA	10 000	288	0	0	0	0
	NETHERLANDS	0	0	123 511	62 733	0	0
	NEW ZEALAND	0	0	0	0	9 823	2 214
	OMAN	1 825 589	295 345	104 000	22 730	240 764	164 100
	PAKISTAN	29 129	17 656	185 124	228 760	687 418	935 252
	PALESTINE	477 903	15 000	0	0	0	0
	PHILIPPINES	8 004	1 801	570	19	0	0
	QATAR	11 390	613	28 820	11 524	230 000	164 040
	RUSSIA FEDERATION	0	0	0	0	221 054	44 965
	SAUDI ARABIA	11 582 651	2 007 866	22 629	3 409	358 790	164 148
	SENEGAL	0	0	71 459	49 099	35 000	26 062
SINGAPORE	0	0	124 114	52 000	1 102	137	
SOMALIA	0	0	0	0	35 000	45 000	
SPAIN	300 000	733	0	0	0	0	
SRI LANKA	96 806	19 135	497 654	382 500	741 178	645 098	
SUDAN	0	0	0	0	25 469	23 788	
SWITZERLAND	0	0	133 100	13 285	100	42	
SYRIA	37 900	2 240	4 452 270	2 257 500	0	0	
TANZANIA	0	0	206 170	161 902	40 534	22 000	

	THAILAND	92 279	7 476	0	0	0	0
	TUNISIA	2 425 876	327 402	0	0	0	0
	TURKEY	74 266	3 414	320 583	20 058	20 000	1 717
	UNITED KINGDOM	36 326	1 920	27 508	1 752	0	0
	USA	1 257 269	30 397	15 450	515	1 000	100
	VIET NAM	0	0	0	0	401 358	281 070
	YEMEN	17 520	2 248	936 065	386 124	228 252	257 048
	ZIMBABWE	0	0	1 919	145	0	0
	Total	45 447 748	20 718 480	48 488 584	27 361 125	40 099 640	41 510 214
2009	AFGHANISTAN	0	0	0	0	70 696	3 052
	ALGERIA	2 034	72	0	0	0	0
	AUSTRALIA	0	0	467 749	78 050	8 590	455
	AZERBAIJAN	0	0	5 738	1 070	4 254	880
	BAHRAIN	0	0	4 951	879	37 122	3 004
	BANGLADESH	0	0	1 215 600	777 000	7 536 662	9 136 700
	BELGIUM	0	0	220	41	0	0
	BRAZIL	100 982	26 064	367	72	0	0
	BULGARIA	0	0	39 521	6 750	5 046	1 000
	CAMBODIA	0	0	0	0	86 786	49 890
	CHINA	0	0	144 696	224 670	659 349	859 400
	DJIBOUTI	0	0	37 463	30 000	103 000	72 000
	EGYPT	59 301	16 231	321 264	240 961	0	0
	GAMBIA	0	0	0	0	55 080	15 000
	GERMANY	0	0	5 857	290	20 093	25 241
	GUINEA	0	0	0	0	113 614	106 050
	HONG KONG	0	0	4 949	193	1 034	184
	INDIA	1 726	325	13 487 723	8 413 312	43 336 414	44 004 370
	INDONESIA	0	0	6 238 184	2 594 012	2 509 343	2 645 820
	IRAN	15 124 723	8 804 481	0	0	0	0
	IRAQ	95 336 726	52 956 695	0	0	0	0
	ITALY	0	0	20 129	2 775	0	0
	JORDAN	2 303 459	212 951	70 955	7 160	0	0
	KENYA	0	0	57 840	60 530	361 481	100 948
	KOREA SOUTH	0	0	78 956	30 000	0	0
	KUWAIT	0	0	63 531	17 782	1 036	510
	LEBANON	21 262	1 549	191 760	156 850	447 316	675 063
	LIBYA	0	0	100	8	0	0
	MALAYSIA	249 309	6 338	2 601 847	1 190 550	1 207 147	486 934
	MAURITANIA	0	0	55 000	28 000	0	0
	MAURITIUS	0	0	798	196	7 000	663
	MOROCCO	0	0	223 375	128 400	624 607	378 000
	MOZAMBIQUE	0	0	75 975	17 566	126 600	39 888
	OMAN	4 546 049	992 114	5 700	3 600	109 460	54 390
	PAKISTAN	1 623	144	96 487	110 830	1 045 886	1 437 498
	PALESTINE	490 469	15 000	0	0	0	0
	PANAMA	2 000 000	1 197 000	0	0	0	0
	QATAR	6 243	400	449 899	33 947	250 950	103 696
	RUSSIA FEDERATION	0	0	55 080	25 000	1 900	450
	SAUDI ARABIA	7 398 671	713 847	220 380	150 000	123 490	26 326
	SENEGAL	0	0	258 638	105 000	0	0
	SEYCHELLES	0	0	367	154	0	0

	SINGAPORE	0	0	450	30	8 079	750
	SOMALIA	40 000	20 000	0	0	300 806	224 000
	SOUTH AFRICA	266 589	8 966	184	35	0	0
	SRI LANKA	0	0	58 677	103 080	576 997	620 960
	SWAZILAND	0	0	1 200	178	0	0
	SWITZERLAND	0	0	1 604	256	0	0
	SYRIA	35 000	1 910	2 392 433	1 290 651	1 560	113
	TANZANIA	0	0	230 193	134 648	659 365	138 410
	THAILAND	10 015	761	0	0	0	0
	TUNISIA	3 203 949	873 075	0	0	0	0
	TURKEY	0	0	67 584	46 000	0	0
	UNITED KINGDOM	78 508	6 409	27 690	22 869	50 294	1 571
	USA	981 958	31 548	788	183	752	15
	VIET NAM	0	0	200 438	121 405	567 883	294 984
	YEMEN	8 000	441	400 258	619 517	1 233 500	692 880
	Total	132 266 596	65 886 321	29 882 598	16 774 500	62 253 192	62 201 095
2010	AFGHANISTAN	0	0	0	0	497 475	61 500
	ALGERIA	301 743	22 016	0	0	0	0
	AUSTRALIA	0	0	57 350	7 140	3 690	327
	AZERBAIJAN	0	0	2 519	316	8 102	1 246
	BAHRAIN	8 200	410	1 823	299	25 244	10 853
	BANGLADESH	0	0	122 445	94 012	11 781 478	11 988 493
	BELGIUM	0	0	188 883	24 725	0	0
	CAMEROON	0	0	13 500	7 800	0	0
	CANADA	0	0	800	136	0	0
	CHINA	0	0	703 303	739 635	852 534	998 810
	DJIBOUTI	0	0	0	0	49 040	22 650
	EGYPT	589 810	105 660	1 812	343	0	0
	ERITREA	0	0	321 122	360 000	37 800	18 000
	ESTONIA	0	0	0	0	5 752	385
	ETHIOPIA	0	0	0	0	86 037	62 380
	FRANCE	0	0	2 234	402	0	0
	GERMANY	0	0	6 681	1 439	5 735	372
	GREECE	0	0	0	0	17 350	12 740
	HONG KONG	0	0	635	103	0	0
	INDIA	34 294	6 316	228 473	206 725	43 528 767	42 159 896
	INDONESIA	3 896	356	390 000	260 000	2 459 701	1 708 460
	IRAN	49 709 351	25 681 492	69 647	54 000	600	100
	IRAQ	92 266 515	48 818 704	0	0	0	0
	ITALY	0	0	260	26	0	0
	JAPAN	0	0	114 936	48 000	330	20
	JORDAN	2 426 391	266 959	227 501	73 671	31 843	22 528
	KAZAKHSTAN	0	0	100 986	30 008	0	0
	KENYA	495	423	596 000	197 250	762 867	165 081
	KOREA SOUTH	0	0	0	0	49 775	4 098
	LEBANON	3 086	957	7 650	1 511	7 955	801
	LIBYA	185	100	8 000	524	0	0
	MALAWI	0	0	2 257	299	0	0
	MALAYSIA	0	0	1 692	60	492 182	40 388
	MALI	0	0	0	0	4 000	66
	MAURITIUS	0	0	500	35	0	0
	MOROCCO	0	0	308 308	172 368	209 624	189 158

NAMIBIA	968 958	20 070	0	0	0	0
NEW ZEALAND	0	0	0	0	100	3
NORWAY	0	0	122 232	11 994	0	0
OMAN	1 999 716	491 343	11 600	8 000	424 720	128 660
PAKISTAN	1 414	130	799 696	321 539	392 360	454 479
PALESTINE	206 015	5 663	0	0	0	0
QATAR	11 163	925	52 308	22 238	246 580	112 590
RUSSIA FEDERATION	0	0	0	0	31 841	15 807
SAINT PIERRE And MIQ	500	45	0	0	0	0
SAUDI ARABIA	9 269 297	743 911	12 000	1 540	32 650	20 000
SENEGAL	0	0	7 000	850	0	0
SEYCHELLES	0	0	183	210	0	0
SOMALIA	0	0	0	0	81 077	63 000
SOUTH AFRICA	135 264	4 403	1 303	155	2 779	421
SPAIN	0	0	200	10	0	0
SRI LANKA	1 876	320	45 092	42 950	612 368	615 000
SWITZERLAND	0	0	3 744	364	0	0
SYRIA	4 927	325	700	699	0	0
TANZANIA	0	0	269 150	81 678	569 431	95 496
THAILAND	3 465	440	0	0	0	0
TUNISIA	2 889 774	374 156	0	0	0	0
TURKEY	2 880	1 440	123 815	84 355	0	0
TURKMENISTAN	0	0	0	0	5 898	15 107
UGANDA	0	0	0	0	9 600	933
UKRAINE	0	0	0	0	79 315	72 000
UNITED KINGDOM	13 491	750	198 193	32 978	19 463	1 309
USA	714 657	17 421	49 158	4 412	0	0
VIET NAM	0	0	200	30	747 641	511 850
YEMEN	0	0	48 301	43 858	194 731	287 950
ZAMBIA	0	0	432	56	510	25
Total	161 567 363	76 564 735	5 224 624	2 938 743	64 368 945	59 862 982

Export of Algeria:

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Algerian exports in tons of dates	12330	13360	10060	8950	16040	28140

5. Relevance to the codex strategic objectives

This project is expected to meet objective 1/2 of the Codex Strategic Plan (2008-2013) on reviewing and establishing Codex standards and the texts related to food quality.

6. Information on the relation between the proposal and other existing Codex documents

This project will take into consideration all the valid Codex documents on food hygiene, packages, labels etc..

7. Expert scientific advice and its availability

None

8. Identification of any need for technical input to the standard from external bodies

None

9. The proposed time-line for completion of the new work

The draft regional document for date paste will be submitted to the Executive Committee on its 67th session in 2012 and the 35th Session of the Commission for approval as new work. It is expected to be completed in 2015.