



Agenda Item 2

CX/ASIA 10/17/2 Add.1
October 2010

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA

Seventeenth session

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 22 – 26 November 2010

COMMENTS AND INFORMATION ON MATTERS REFERRED FROM THE 64TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE 33RD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

(replies to CL 2010/32-ASIA and CL 2010/42-ASIA of Nepal and IDF)

PROCESSED CHEESE

IDF

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) would like to comment with regard to the possible further work on Codex standard(s) for processed cheese as follows:

1. The term “processed cheese” covers a diverse range of products, and the term is used in various ways to describe the products. It is therefore difficult to identify products in trade and to obtain reliable trade statistics, but it is safe to say there are large volumes of processed cheese products produced and traded internationally as is underlined also in para. 89 of ALINORM 10/33/REP. The development of regional standards which may vary from one region to another will inevitably create obstacles to existing trade.
2. In view of the significance of this type of product, the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP) has deployed intensive efforts and resources to develop an international standard on processed cheese for more than a decade but could not reach agreement in particular on the compositional aspects due to the wide variety of products currently traded. Indeed, IDF has been closely involved in all these efforts and is thus very familiar with the issues that have inhibited progress. IDF believes that further work by CCMMP or work of regional FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees on this subject is unlikely to be conclusive. Indeed, IDF supports the view of CCMMP that it is impossible to further progress the work on a proposed draft Standard for Processed Cheese.
3. According to IDF knowledge there is no evidence of any significant problem in the international trade in processed cheese products.

PREPARATION OF THE REVISED STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2013 – 2018

NEPAL

The current five goals are relevant. As it is pointed out, measurable indicators needs to be incorporated and should be incorporated in new plan. LDCs faced challenges to participate in codex meetings because of shortage of funds. The Government is also unable to support codex participation.

Therefore, Codex should encourage LDCs participation in forthcoming meetings.