

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - Fax: (+39) 06 5705 4593 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Item 2(a)

CX/FFV 12/17/2

June 2012

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

17th Session
Mexico City, Mexico, 3 – 7 September 2012

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Decisions of the Commission in regard to the work of the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

34th Session of the Commission (July 2011)

Draft and proposed draft standards adopted at Steps 8 or 5/8 (with omission of Steps 6/7)

Tree Tomatoes

1. The Commission adopted the draft Standard for Tree Tomatoes with an editorial amendment to the table on sizing by diameter (section 3, table A) to change the range of size code E from “35- 45” to “45- 35” for consistency.¹

Fresh Chilli Peppers

2. The Commission adopted the Standard at Step 5/8 with the following amendments: the reference to bulk transportation was deleted for consistency with the previous decision of the Committee to delete provisions concerning transportation in bulk throughout the Standard as not appropriate to this product (section 4) and to provide for voluntary labelling of the level of pungency of the chilli pepper in retail and non retail containers (sections 6.1.1 and 6.2.2) as not all countries would have the capacity to implement this provision since they did not have adequate data to classify varieties according to the level of pungency and no reference methods of analysis were identified in the Standard for this purpose.

3. The Representative of the UNECE indicated that the UNECE would be pleased to see the Standard for Chilli Peppers adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission at Step 5/8. This Standard had been under discussion at the UNECE for several years. In May 2011, the UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables converted the text of the Codex Standard into the UNECE Standard Layout, reviewed it and submitted it to the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards for adoption as a Recommendation for a trial period of one year. The trial period would allow countries to clarify some technical provisions, e.g. 2 and 3% allowances for skin defects for classes I and II, to check the botanical names of the species covered by the Standard, with a view to harmonizing the UNECE text with that of Codex, as well as to verifying the methods for testing pungency. Based on the feedback that would be received from countries, the Recommendation would be revisited by the Specialized Section in May 2012 with a view to its adoption as a Standard by the Working Party in 2012. The results of the discussion at the Specialized Section would be presented to the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for consideration.²

Proposed draft standards adopted at Step 5

4. The Commission adopted the Proposed draft Standard for Pomegranate at Step 5 and advanced it to Step 6 for additional comments and further consideration at the next session of the Committee.³ Further information on this item is provided under Agenda Items 4 (a) and (b).

Approval of new work

5. The Commission approved the elaboration of a Standard for Golden Passion Fruit as new work for the Committee.⁴ Further information on this item is provided under Agenda Item 5.

6. The Commission also approved the elaboration of a Standard for Durian as new work for the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables or the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia.⁵ Further information on this item is provided under Agenda Item 6.

1 REP11/CAC, para. 70, Appendix III.

2 REP11/CAC, paras. 71-72, Appendix III.

3 REP11/CAC, Appendix IV.

4 REP11/CAC, Appendix VI.

5 REP11/CAC, paras. 132-134, Appendix VI.

Revision of the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

7. The Commission agreed to recommend to the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables to consider its Terms of Reference and that the result of its consideration could be forwarded to the Committee on General Principles for review if necessary.⁶ Further information on this item is provided under Agenda Item 9.

STANDARDS FOR FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

8. All standards for fresh fruits and vegetables are available on the Codex website: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/> in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish. Translation in Russian will be completed shortly.

⁶ REP11/CAC, paras. 254-257.