

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



World Health Organization

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Agenda Item 5

CX/FFV 14/18/7-Add.1

February 2014

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**  
**CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Session**  
**Phuket, Thailand, 24 – 28 February 2014**  
**PROPOSED DRAFT CODEX STANDARD FOR OKRA AT STEP 4**  
**(Comments at Step 3 submitted by Egypt and Kenya)**

**EGYPT**

Referring to your document CX/FFV14/18/7 dated December 2013 concerning Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Okra. Please find enclosed EOS comments.

1. Egypt thanks the efforts done by the working group to develop this standard for okra which will help in defining quality requirements of this product.
2. Egypt indicates its view in a table guide to add other graduated types for another Variety of okra which is widely produced in our country as follows:

**PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING:**

Size Code	Length in cm
A	1 – 2
B	2 - 3
C	3 – 4
D	Above 4

3. And we see that the above mentioned table should be mandatory Considered as main provisions for tolerances Size code with length in cm in the table guide in item 6.2.4 to Commercial Identification Size length in minimum and maximum length must be in cm ( not in **mm** ) please confirm.

**KENYA**

First we would like to appreciate the work of eWG led by India to come up with this document for our comment.

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS**

**5.2.1 Description of Containers**

Insert the words "**shall clean and**" in the second sentence below the sub heading.

Packages must be **clean and** free of all foreign material and smell.

**JUSTIFICATION**

It is important that the cleanliness of the packages is emphasized for the assurance of food safety.

**COMMENTS ON 6.1.1 Nature of Produce**

**6.1.1 ~~Nature of Produce~~ Name of the Product**

We proposes that the subheading is changed to reflect the information provided below (~~Nature of Produce~~ **Name of the produce**) or the information provided below the subheading is changed to bring it in line with the subheading title.

~~“If the produce is not visible from the outside, Each package shall be labelled as to the name and the variety of the produce. and may be labelled as to the name of the variety.”~~

**JUSTIFICATION**

The information provided under the subheading “**Name of product**” would bring it in line with the subheading and make it clearer to the user of the standard.

**6.2.4 Commercial Identification**

**Comment**

Change the units of maximum length from millimetres (mm) to **centimetres (cm)**

**Justification**

This is to ensure consistency with the units of length (**centimetres**) used in the Table in Section 3, Provisions Concerning Sizing. This will also ensure that it is in line with other relevant codex standards.