



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

Twentieth Session

Chiang Mai (Thailand), 18 – 22 February 2013

MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND  
OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 35<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

**Standards and Related Texts adopted at Step 5<sup>1</sup>**

1. The 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6 the proposed draft Principles and Guidelines (Introduction and Section 1-3), as proposed by the CCFICS. The Commission invited delegations to resubmit the comments at Step 6 in order to be considered by the present Session of CCFICS.
2. A number of delegations, while not opposed to the adoption at Step 5 of the proposed draft Principles and Guidelines (Introduction and Section 1-3), noted that some parts needed further discussion, including definitions and some principles, as indicated in the written comments provided at the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission.

MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

**Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (32<sup>nd</sup> Session, Bali, Indonesia, 1-5 October 2012)<sup>2</sup>**

3. The Committee had some discussion on Section on “Determination of added water” (see below) in the draft Standard for Raw, Fresh and Quick Frozen Scallop Products. The chairperson proposed to delete the provision as fair trade practices were already sufficiently covered in other sections of the standard, e.g. labelling. While some delegations supported the proposal to delete this section, several other delegations supported its retention as the provision could draw the attention of countries to the possibility of developing criteria and discussions on a bilateral basis on the implementation of these criteria. It was further recalled that this text was a result of long discussion and compromise over many sessions. A delegation also expressed the view that such provisions should not be included in commodity standards but could be more appropriately addressed in a more horizontal way. In view of the discussion, the Committee agreed to retain the section in square brackets (see below). The Committee further agreed to request the advice from CCFICS on whether it was appropriate to have such provisions in commodity standards and the implications thereof or whether the matter could be addressed through a more general text.

*[ 8.7 Determination of added water*

*In order to check the conformity with subsections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, a country may establish a scientifically supported criterion. Where a country has relevant scientific information on the characteristics of the scallop species it exports, it may approach an importing country to discuss the implementation of this criterion on a species by species basis. ]*

4. The Committee **is invited** to provide the advice to CCFFP on whether exchange of information between importing and exporting countries is already addressed in text(s) developed by CCFICS.

<sup>1</sup> REP12/CAC paras 123-124 and Appendix IV

<sup>2</sup> REP13/FFP para. 62 and Appendix IX