

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
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Agenda Item No. 5(d)

CX/FL 12/40/10-Add.2

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING**

Fortieth Session

Ottawa city, Ontario, Canada, 15 – 18 May 2012

**GUIDELINES FOR THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, LABELLING AND MARKETING OF
ORGANICALLY PRODUCED FOODS (GL 32-1999)
(TO INCLUDE AQUACULTURE ANIMALS AND SEAWEED)**

COMMENTS AT STEP 3

COMMENTS FROM:

NIGERIA

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Nigeria commends the e-Working Group led by the European Union for the good work done on the PROPOSED DRAFT REVISION OF THE GUIDELINES FOR THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, LABELLING AND MARKETING OF ORGANICALLY PRODUCED FOODS (GL 32-1999) (TO INCLUDE AQUACULTURE ANIMALS AND SEAWEED) and comments as follows:

Foreword, Paragraph 6

Nigeria supports the addition of "and aquatic" after "soil" in the last phrase of paragraph 6 to read:

"The primary goal of organic agriculture is to optimize the health and productivity of interdependent communities of soil **and aquatic** life, plants, animals and people."

Justification:

The addition of the word **aquatic** will expand the scope of this guideline and the aquatic population which was left out in the guideline would now be covered.

Section 2.2

Nigeria support the addition of the FAO definition as stated herein:

"Aquaculture means the farming of aquatic organisms involving intervention in the rearing process to enhance production and the individual or corporate ownership of the stock being cultivated"

Justification:

It as a requirement as per CAC 20th Edition.procedural manual

Annex 1 paragraph 7

Nigeria supports the addition of this proposed 'conversion period' to the guideline which states that:

"Aquaculture products can be sold as organically produced when these Guidelines have been complied with for at least one year. In cases where the water can be drained and the facility cleaned and disinfected, a shorter period of six months may apply. In the case of non-enclosed marine locations a shorter period of three months may apply. During the conversion period the stock should not be subject to treatments or exposed to products which are not permitted for the production of organic foods."

Justification:

The addition of this proposed 'conversion period' will take care of the aquatic animals which were omitted in the guideline.

Annex 1 paragraph 8

Nigeria support the inclusion of the new statement, as presented below, as part of the guideline:

"It is preferable that locally grown aquatic species be used for organic farming where possible. Following the conversion period if organic aquaculture animals are not available, young non-organic aquaculture stock may be introduced for on-growing provided that the latter two thirds of their production cycle is under organic management and providing the stock is healthy. Breeding stock should come from organic production units, where the parent stock have been under organic management for at least three months prior to breeding. Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) must not be used"

Justification:

To ensure Good practice for organic production and also ensure that the parental farm is produced and maintain under organic management.

Annex 1 paragraph 15

Nigeria supports the inclusion of the nutrition clause in the guidelines.

Justification:

The inclusion of the nutrition clause in the guidelines is necessary to ensure the physiological needs of aquaculture and also to ensure that consumers are not deprived of the essential fatty acids.

Annex 1 paragraph 16 Bullet 1

Nigeria recommends that the phrase '**with organic disinfectant**' be added after the word premises in bullet 1 to read:

- 'ensuring that the siting and design of the production unit is optimal and that there is regular cleaning and disinfection of premises **with organic disinfectant** where appropriate'.

Justification:

To make it clear that only organic disinfectants are allowed to be used.

Section B.2: Seaweeds

Nigeria supports the addition of the section B:2 to take care of the seaweed which was just introduced in the guideline.

Justification:

The inclusion of the farmed and wild seaweeds is important for the sake of food safety and trade of the same.