

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS



JOINT OFFICE: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00100 ROME Tel: 39 06 57051 www.codexalimentarius.net Email: codex@fao.org Facsimile: 39 06 5705 4593

Agenda Item 2

CX/FO 03/2-Add.1

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS

Eighteenth Session

London, United Kingdom, 3 – 7 February 2003

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

The 24th Session of the Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling considered *The Use of Analytical Results: Sampling, Relationship Between the Analytical Results, the Measurement Uncertainty, Recovery Factors and the Provisions in Codex Standards* on the basis of a document prepared by the United Kingdom.

The Delegation of the United Kingdom indicated that decisions regarding the acceptability of a lot or sample should be based on a concept that takes sampling and analytical aspects into consideration. The Delegation pointed out that at the present time there was no common understanding and interpretation of analytical results among Codex Members and therefore different decisions might be taken after an analysis of the same sample. This occurred because some countries took into account uncertainty for the interpretation of results while others did not and different sampling regimes were used. The Delegation proposed that when Commodity Committees develop specifications they should do it with respect to those factors which affect the interpretation of specifications. Therefore Commodity Committees should give clear guidance to the Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling on how they wished Codex specifications to be enforced.

Many delegations emphasized the importance of this issue in order to ensure consistency throughout Codex and supported efforts in this area. It was also suggested to include recommendations to Commodity Committees in the Procedural Manual in order to ensure a consistent approach throughout Codex. Some delegations were of the view that before proceeding further this problem should be addressed by Commodity Committees as they should consider how the analytical results would be used when developing provisions in Codex Standards.

The Committee agreed to forward the working document to Commodity Committees and to the Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems for their consideration and comments (ALINORM 03/23, paras. 109-117).

The Committee is invited to consider document CX/MAS 02/13, that is presented separately for ease of reference.