

codex alimentarius commission

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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Agenda Item 3 (b)-(g)

CX/MMP 06/7/4 Add. 1
March 2006
(English only)

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

Seventh Session

Queenstown, New Zealand, 27 March - 1 April 2006

DRAFT STANDARD FOR A BLEND OF EVAPORATED SKIMMED MILK AND VEGETABLE FAT; DRAFT STANDARD FOR A BLEND OF SKIMMED MILK AND VEGETABLE FAT IN POWDERED FORM; DRAFT STANDARD FOR A BLEND OF SWEETENED CONDENSED SKIMMED MILK AND VEGETABLE FAT; DRAFT REVISED STANDARD FOR CHEDDAR (C-1); DRAFT REVISED STANDARD FOR DANBO (C-3); AND DRAFT REVISED STANDARD FOR WHEY CHEESE

COMMENTS AT STEP 6

Comments from: The European Community and India

B) DRAFT STANDARD FOR A BLEND OF EVAPORATED SKIMMED MILK AND VEGETABLE FAT

C) DRAFT STANDARD FOR A BLEND OF SKIMMED MILK AND VEGETABLE FAT IN POWDERED FORM

D) DRAFT STANDARD FOR A BLEND OF SWEETENED CONDENSED SKIMMED MILK AND VEGETABLE FAT

INDIA

As proposed, the draft standards are acceptable. The proposed draft standards do not specify any minimum levels for milk fat, but specifies minimum levels for total fat only. This is acceptable so long as the name of the food includes the words "skimmed milk", as has been done in the proposed standards. As presently drafted, the consumer would not be misled whatever be the milk fat level in the product. However, if the name of food is changed by replacing the words 'skimmed milk' with any other term, the consumer would presume that the product would be containing milk fat, even though the product could contain negligible milk fat since there is no specification for minimum level of milk fat. He would thus be misled. Hence the name of the product should not be changed.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Mixed Competence

European Community Vote

The European Community and its Member States (ECMS) support the advancement of these standards to the next step in the Codex procedure.

The ECMS wish to underline the need to retain provisions dealing with the names of the products in its current state, as they prevent any confusion between the products covered by these standards and products exclusively made of milk and offer in addition a degree of flexibility for the use of names recognised in national legislation.

As regards item 3d (Blend of Sweetened Condensed Skimmed Milk and Vegetable Fat), the ECMS would favour in section 3.4 Composition the setting of the minimum total fat level at 8%.

As regards second paragraph of section 7.2, the ECMS wish to support the position expressed by Canada in document CX/MMP 06/7/4 and also recalls that the proposed amendment (“... *When required by the country of retail sale, the common name **of the vegetable** from which the fat or oil is derived shall be included in the name of the food **or** as a separate statement*”) was agreed during the adoption of the report of the 6th Session of CCMMP.

E) PROPOSED DRAFT REVISED STANDARD FOR CHEDDAR (C-1)

F) PROPOSED DRAFT REVISED STANDARD FOR DANBO (C-3)

INDIA

Section 3.1: Raw-materials includes “cows’ milk or buffaloes’ milk or their mixtures” as raw-materials for these cheeses. This is acceptable to us. We, however, need to ensure that this is not changed. More specifically, we have to ensure that buffaloes’ milk remains included in this section and is not deleted or changed or revised in a manner which is not acceptable to us.

G) PROPOSED DRAFT REVISED STANDARD FOR WHEY CHEESE

INDIA

Section 3.1: Raw-materials includes “milk”, among others, as raw-materials for whey from which these cheeses are made. This is acceptable to us as this includes buffalo milk by definition. We, however, need to ensure that the word “milk” is not changed or revised in a manner which is not acceptable to us.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Mixed Competence

Member States Vote

The European Community and its Members States (ECMS) wish to underline that products covered by this standard are characterised by an enrichment of whey proteins. The ratio whey protein/casein should therefore be higher than the ratio found in milk¹. During its 6th Session, the CCMMP could not agree on a justifiable specific value, mainly because this could lead to the exclusion of products currently traded.

The ECMS therefore suggest replacing the sentence at the end of 2.1(2) by: “***The ratio of whey protein to casein in the product obtained by whey coagulation shall distinctly exceed that of milk***”.

¹ Under natural conditions, this ratio in cow milk is around 0.25.