

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
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WORLD  
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ORGANIZATION



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**Agenda Item 3**

**CX/NMW 00/3-Corrigendum  
October 2000**

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**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON NATURAL MINERAL WATER  
Seventh Session  
Fribourg, Switzerland, 30 October – 1 November 2000**

**Comments at Step 3 of the Procedure on the Proposed Draft General Standard for  
Packaged (Bottled) Waters Other Than Natural Mineral Waters  
(Circular Letter 1998/44-NMW and CX/NMW 00/3)**

**Governments and international organizations:**

**Canada**

### 2.1.1.1 Ground Waters [Defined by Origin]

[Ground waters defined by origin are waters that come from an underground water bearing formation that is not under the direct influence of surface water and comply with provisions outlined under section 2.1.1. These waters can be taken from wells or from spring catchment facilities].

## [3.1 MODIFICATIONS AND HANDLING OF PACKAGED WATERS]

[3.1.1 ~~Modifications to the physical and chemical characteristics of~~ Permitted physicochemical modifications and antimicrobial treatments for the waters defined by origin.

Waters defined by origin must not, prior to packaging, be modified or subjected to treatments other than those described in subsections ~~3.1.1.2, 3.1.1.3 and 3.1.1.4~~; in addition, ~~these treatments and the processes to achieve these treatments must not change the original chemical composition, with respect to the essential constituents of the waters defined by~~ below with the proviso that these modifications or treatments and the processes<sup>1</sup> used to achieve them do not change the essential ~~origin,~~ physicochemical characteristics nor compromise the chemical, radiological and microbiological safety of these ~~waters.~~ waters when packaged:

~~3.1.1.2~~ 3.1.1.1 Treatments that modify the ~~natural~~ original composition:

- reduction and/or elimination of dissolved gases (and resulting possible change in pH);
- addition of carbon dioxide (and resulting change in pH) or re-incorporation of the original carbon dioxide present at emergence;
- reduction and/or elimination of unstable constituents such as iron, manganese, sulphur (as S<sup>0</sup> or S<sup>-</sup>) compounds and carbonates in excess, under normal conditions of temperature and pressure, of the calcium-carbonate equilibrium;
- addition of air, oxygen or ozone ~~at the~~ on condition that the concentration of by-products resulting from the ozone treatment is below the tolerance established under section 3.2.1; decrease and/or increase in temperature.]

~~3.1.1.3~~ 3.1.1.2 Exception

Waters defined by origin that complied with the chemical and radiological safety criteria prevailing at the time of the establishment or the approval of the water collection operation for the production of water intended for human consumption can, in certain cases, be in contravention when new data demonstrate potential health hazards related to the levels of naturally

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<sup>1</sup> These processes include the techniques listed in Section 5.2 of the Draft Code of Hygienic Practice for the Collecting, Processing and Marketing of Packaged (Bottled) Waters Other Than Natural Mineral Waters (draft recommended for adoption by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene on December 4, 1999) with the proviso that such techniques comply with the provisions outlined in Section 3.2.1 of the present draft standard.

occurring substances found in some waters defined by origin. These waters can be subjected~~ed~~ to treatments to reduce the level of such substances to bring them in compliance with the updated maximum allowable concentrations outlined under section 3.2.1.]

~~[3.1.1.4]~~**[3.1.1.3 Antimicrobial treatments for the waters defined by origin**

Use of antimicrobial treatments such as ultra-violet light, high temperature, micro filtration or addition of carbon dioxide or ozone are permitted to be used singly or in combination solely to conserve the original microbiological safety, purity, and fitness for human consumption of waters defined by origin. Antimicrobial treatments that make use of chemicals other than carbon dioxide or ozone are ~~forbidden.~~ **prohibited.**

**[3.1.2 Physical and chemical modifications and antimicrobial treatments for prepared waters**

Prepared waters can be subjected to ~~all~~**any** microbial treatments ~~or~~**and** any treatments that modify the physical and chemical characteristics of the original water ~~to the~~**on** condition that such treatments result in prepared waters that comply with all provisions of section 3.2 and 4 regarding the chemical, microbiological and radiological safety requirements for ~~pre-~~ **pre-** packaged waters.]

**[3.2.2 Addition of minerals or other substances**

Any addition of minerals or other substances to water before packaging must comply ~~to~~**with the** provisions outlined in the present standard and **in** the Codex Standard for Food Additives (STAN 192-1995, Rev. 1-1997).]

**[4.1 Code of practice**

It is recommended that the products covered by the provisions of this standard be collected, transported, stored, if applicable treated, and packaged in accordance with the applicable sections of the International Code of Practice – General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 3-1997, Rev. 23(1997) Codex Alimentarius Volume 1-B), and in accordance with the Draft Code of Hygienic Practice for Packaged (Bottled) Waters Other Than Natural Mineral Waters (draft standard ~~adopted~~**recommended for adoption** at step 8 **by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene** on December 4, 1999).]

**6.1.1.2 Prepared waters**

~~«demineralised»~~**«demineralized** water» or «distilled water » or such an appropriate name (or names) as to designate prepared waters in accordance with sub-section 2.1.2 that have, at packaging, a mineral content of the lowest level and with additional criteria established by each country including restricting the name of such water to all, some or only

one of these names;

«drinking water» or such an appropriate name (or names) as to designate prepared waters in accordance with sub-section 2.1.2 that have, at packaging, a low or medium level of mineral content and with additional criteria established by each country including restricting the name of such water to all, some or only one of these names;

~~«mineralised~~ **«mineralized** water» or «water enriched with minerals» or such an appropriate name (or names) as to designate prepared waters in accordance with sub-section 2.1.2 that have, at packaging, a high mineral content or when minerals ~~were added in such a manner that the level~~ **are added. the resulting level of minerals** in the final product is 20% higher ~~that the original level~~ **than the level originally present** in the water supply and with additional criteria established by each country including restricting the name of such water to all, some, or only one of these names.]

#### [6.2.5 Treatments

If packaged water has been modified **by a permitted treatment** before packaging, the **modification or the** result of the ~~modifications~~ **treatment** must be declared on the label:

- disinfection treatments other than application of high temperature, ultra-violet irradiation or micro-filtration;
- addition of one or ~~many~~ **more** minerals;
- ~~reduction or removal of one or many~~ **more** minerals originally dissolved in the water at the point of collection.]