

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 11

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fifty-sixth Session

DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE FUTURE WORK FOR CCFA

(Comments of Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Republic of Korea)

Kenya

Comment: Recommendation 1: Kenya supports Option 3, which invites Members and Observers to submit concrete examples of problematic food categories prior to establishing and defining the scope of a working group. This pragmatic approach enables CCFA to gather evidence, prioritize real implementation challenges, and avoid unnecessary workload from a premature or broad review of the food category system.

Recommendation 2: Kenya supports a systematic review and rationalization of the food category system through the EWG to enhance consistency, clarity, and predictability, while noting the significant workload involved.

Recommendation 3: Kenya acknowledges the importance of secondary food additives and processing aids and supports Option 1, which involves first collecting national definitions and practices. This evidence-based approach will inform the need for Codex guidance while ensuring efficient use of resources.

Malaysia

Recommendation 1:

Malaysia supports Option 3, whereby Members and Observers are invited to provide concrete examples of problematic food categories as an initial step. Based on the information gathered through this process, Malaysia considers that a targeted review under Option 2 could subsequently be undertaken to address the specific food categories presenting well-documented implementation challenges.

Recommendation 2:

Malaysia has no objection to the proposed recommendation to undertake a systematic review of notes, particularly in light of the growing number of notes associated with GSFA provisions. Malaysia further suggests that, to enhance clarity, consistency, and ease of reference for users, the description of each 'Note' be displayed together with the corresponding additive on the GSFA online. This would allow users to have the information directly without the need for cross-referencing to notes page.

Recommendation 3:

Malaysia supports Option 1 and believes that collecting this information will provide a comprehensive understanding of current practices and challenges across different countries, thereby enabling Codex to determine whether additional guidance or clarification is warranted, according to CCFA work priority.

Nigeria

Nigeria supports Option 1: Establish a dedicated working group to undertake a comprehensive review of the GSFA food category system.

Justification:

Option 1 will ensure that there is no inadvertent omission of some implementation difficulties reported by Members.

Republic of Korea

1. The Republic of Korea supports 'option 2' (establishing a working group to conduct a targeted review of specific food categories that present well-documented implementation challenge) of recommendation 1.
2. The Republic of Korea supports the recommendation 2 of initiating a systematic review of notes of GSFA to improve clarity and consistency of notes.