

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda item 6

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ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE NEAR EAST

Twelfth Session

Muscat, Oman

28 September - 2 October 2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW STANDARD ON FOLLOW-UP FORMULA

Comments by the International Special Dietary Foods Industries (ISDI)

ISDI is committed to implementing the revised *Standard for follow-up formula for older infants and product for young children* (CXS 156-1987). ISDI notes the importance of ensuring a smooth transition to new national regulatory frameworks based on the revised Standard. We therefore recommend that once a national framework is adopted for:

- A transition of three years with exhaustion of stocks;
- The general possibility for companies to put products on the market when they are compliant with the new regulation ahead of the transition deadlines.

ISDI emphasizes that the changes are not related to food safety. The transition should allow for the coexistence of products for a certain time. The Follow-up formula for Older Infants and Product for Young Children undertake fundamental changes with the revised Standard.

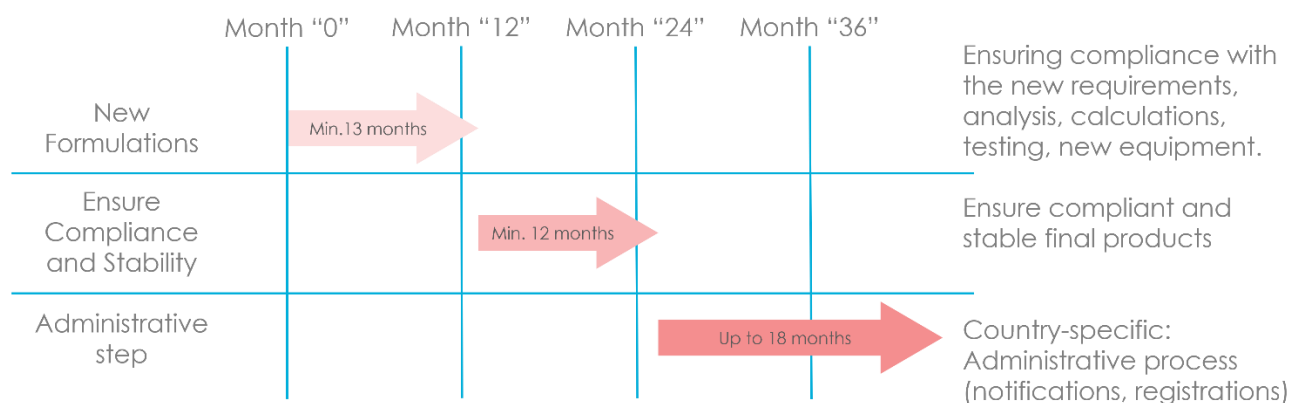
Manufacturers will need time to adapt to the new requirements once adopted at the national level.

In addition, as foods for special dietary uses, these products tend to be traded more globally than general food. Smooth transitions with national authorities at national level should help, as the global regulatory landscape for these products

will evolve at different speeds, following the publication of the new Codex Standard.

Herewith a schematic overview on the need for transition:

Implementing the Standard – Transition



Further reading

The benefit of adaptations to compositional and labelling requirements for Follow-up Formula for Older Infants and Product for Young Children require a transition period of at least 36 months ([link](#))

ISDI guidelines on Follow-up formula ([link](#)) : This brochure aims to facilitate the transition from the Standard for follow-up formula of Codex Alimentarius to the new Standard for Follow-up formula for older infants and Product for Young Children*. It also provides background information to facilitate the understanding of the revised Standard. Indeed, harmonized interpretation and implementation are very important to avoid barriers to trade.

*Other equivalent names for this product are Drink for Young Children with added nutrients, or Product for Young Children with Added Nutrients, or Drink for Young Children