

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda item 3.1

CX/NE 25/12/4 Add.1
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

**ALIGNMENT OF REGIONAL STANDARDS: PROVISIONS ON THE LABELLING
OF NON-RETAIL CONTAINERS IN CCNE COMMODITY STANDARDS**

Comments in reply to CL 2025/46-NE

Submitted by:

Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and United States of America (USA)

Background

1. This document compiles comments received through the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS) in response to CL 2025/46-NE¹ issued in July 2025. Under the OCS, comments are compiled in the following order: general comments are listed first, followed by comments on specific sections.

Explanatory notes on the Annex

2. The comments submitted through the OCS are hereby annexed and presented in tabulated format.

¹ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>

<https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/related-circular-letters/en/?committee=CCNE>

ANNEX I

GENERAL AND SPECIFIC COMMENTS

COMMENT	MEMBER / OBSERVER
Egypt would like to express its appreciation for the valuable work undertaken in preparing the proposed amendments related to the inclusion of labelling provisions for non-retail containers under the Regional standard for canned hummus with tehena (CXS 257R-2007) , Part b - Regional standard for canned fowl medames cxs 258r-2007 , Part c - Regional standard for tehena cxs 259r-2007 , Part d - Regional standard for harissa (red hot pepper paste) cxs 308r-2011 , Part e - Regional standard for halwa tehenia cxs 309r-2011, Part f - regional standard for date paste cxs 314r-2013 , Part a - Regional standard for doogh cxs 332r-2018 and Part b - Regional standard for mixed zaatar cxs 341r-2020	Egypt
Agree with the proposed amendments of the standards	Iraq
Saudi Arabia supports the alignment of provisions on labelling of non-retail containers in CCNE commodity standards, as presented in the proposed inclusion and revision in the CL to ensure consistency and facilitate trade.	Saudi Arabia
United Arab Emirates welcomes the work on the alignment of provisions on labelling of non-retail containers in CCNE commodity standards. To ensure a better alignment with Codex texts, UAE would suggest that the labelling of non-retail containers of (Canned humus with tehena, canned fowl medames, Regional standard for tehena, red hot pepper paste, halwa tehenia, date paste, doogh and mixed zaatar) should be in accordance with the <i>General standard for the labelling of non-retail containers of foods</i> (CXS 346-2021).	United Arab Emirates
The United States appreciates the opportunity to comment as an Observer on the alignment of non-retail container (NRC) labelling provisions in CCNE commodity standards. The United States supports advancement of the NRC provisions and standards as presented in CX/NE 25/12/4 to CAC for adoption and forwarding the provisions to CCFL for endorsement as needed. We commend the EWG Chair, Co-chair, and Members for their diligent review of the relevant commodity standards and the resulting alignment with the Codex Procedural Manual and General Standard for the labelling of non-retail containers of foods (CXS 346-2021).	USA