

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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COMMENTS OF NIGERIA

Agenda item 4.1: Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs

Part 1.

Nigeria supports the final adoption of Standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries – allspice, juniper berry, and star anise

Nigeria also supports the final adoption of Standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated roots, rhizomes and bulbs – turmeric

Rationale:

Adoption of these standards are vital for ensuring consumer safety, quality assurance, fair trade practices, consumer confidence and trust

Part 2

Nigeria supports the adoption of the proposed draft Standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries – **vanilla** at step 5.

Rationale

It will provide another forum to consider the outstanding items in square brackets, as well as additional inputs from member countries.

Part 3

Nigeria supports the proposal to the Commission to approve new work on Standard for Sweet Marjoram; Dried seeds-Coriander; large Cardamom; and Cinnamon.

Rationale

Developing a worldwide standard for these commodities will help to protect consumer's health, facilitate fair trade, enhance consumer confidence and trust.

Agenda item 4.2: Codex Committee on Fats and Oils

Part 1

Nigeria supports final adoption for inclusion of Avocado oil in the Revised Standard for named vegetable oils (CXS 210-1999).

Rationale

There is still possibility for Members to collect data on other parameters that could be used to authenticate Avocado oil that could be considered by a future session of CCFO.

Nigeria supports final adoption (at step5/8) for inclusion of “High Oleic acid Soya Bean oil” on the revised Standard for named vegetable oils (CXS 210-1999).

Rationale

The standards are based on sound science, its adoption will promote consumer protection and fair trade

Part 2

Nigeria supports the proposal to the Commission to approve new work on Standard for Microbial omega-3 oils.

Rationale

Developing a worldwide Standard on Microbial OMEGA-3 Oils, will help to protect consumer's health and facilitate fair trade.

Agenda item 4.3; Codex Committee on Food Hygiene**Part 1**

Nigeria supports the final adoption of Annexes II and its subsequent inclusion in CXG 99-2023.

Rationale

The Annex took into consideration comments from Members countries and it ensures that publication of a consolidated CXG 99-2023 shall be in accordance with the Committee's terms of reference to control STEC.

Nigeria supports the final adoption of Annex III on Milk and milk products and its inclusion in CXG 100-2023.

Rationale

The Guidelines will contribute to the sustainable use of water in food production and processing.

Nigeria supports the final adoption of Guidelines for food hygiene control measures in traditional markets for food.

Rationale

Its adoption will provide competent authorities, food business operators (FBOs) and consumers with knowledge necessary to strengthen food hygienic capacities in these markets to assure food safety in the framework of a One Health approach.

Part 2

Nigeria supports approval of work for the revision of the Guidelines on the application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the control of viruses in food (CXG 79-2012).

Rationale

The revision shall provide veritable platform for incorporation of recent scientific developments in virus detection and risk assessment into the guidelines.

Nigeria supports approval of work for the revision of the Guidelines for the control of Campylobacter and Salmonella in chicken meat (CXG 78-2011).

Rationale

It will assist in maintaining food safety in the Poultry Sector, thereby control/reduce incidence of foodborne illnesses and also enhance trade opportunities by ensuring compliance with international food safety standards.

Nigeria supports approval of work for the revision of the Guidelines on the application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the control of Listeria monocytogenes in foods (CXG 61-2007).

Rationale

Nigeria supports the revision of the guideline, as Listeria is one of the ten prioritized food borne diseases of public health concern in Nigeria.

Agenda item 4.4: Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods**Part 1**

Nigeria supports the adoption of the proposed MLs for Cadmium (0.15 mg/kg) and lead (0.2 mg/kg) in quinoa.

Rationale

The Maximum Limits were established in accordance with the ALARA principle. The proposed MLs will safeguard public health, facilitate international trade and support regulatory compliance.

Nigeria supports the adoption of the sampling plan for methylmercury in fish at step 5/8 for inclusion in CXS 193-1995.

Rationale:

Evaluation of the sampling plan by two Codex Committees (CCCF and CCMAS) is adequate.

It defines conditions for representative sampling and reliable analytical results to support decision-making.

Part 3

Nigeria supports approval of the new work on the revision of CXC 55-2004.

Rationale:

Revision of the Code of Practice will ensure that new scientific information is taken into consideration in order to enhance risk management measures that will prevent and/or reduce aflatoxin contamination in peanuts, supported by scientific data.

Nigeria supports approval of the new work on a Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Cadmium Contamination in foods

Rationale:

The new work will help to reduce exposures to cadmium in food. In addition, development and implementation of this CoP will provide practical measures, supported by scientific data, to prevent or reduce cadmium contamination in wide range of foods.

Agenda item 4.5: Codex Committee on Food Additives

Part 1

Nigeria supports the adoption of the provisions presented by CCFA on this codex work item

Rationale:

The revision of provisions in the General Standard of Food Additives is based on sound scientific basis supported by evidence generated by JECFA.

The listed specifications have been fully evaluated by JECFA using available data.

Agenda item 4.6: Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling

Nigeria supports the final adoption of the three standards and related texts as submitted by CCMAS (part 1) to CAC47

Rationale:

The methods of analysis are validated and meet performance criteria.

Agenda item 4.7: Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues

Part 1

Nigeria supports the adoption of the proposed MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) and Consequential amendments to the CXLs for peppers groups/subgroups: MRLs for okra

Rationale:

The proposed MRLs presents no public health concerns according to the JMPR evaluations and have been identified as result of risk characterization and will facilitate international trade in these commodities.

Part 2

Nigeria supports the adoption of the Guidelines for monitoring the stability and purity of reference materials and related stock solutions of pesticides during prolonged storage by CAC47 at step 5.

Rationale:

The guidelines will provide support in monitoring the stability and purity of individual and mixed pesticide standard solutions during prolonged storage and identify expired materials with continued stability and purity.

Agenda item 4.9: Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems

Part 1

Nigeria supports adoption of the Draft guidelines on the prevention and control of food fraud at step 5.

Rationale:

Adoption of this work at step 5 shall consolidate on the significant progress made so far, as well as its advancement to Step 6 for further comments and consideration by CCFICS28. In addition, progressing the draft guideline would affirm the recognition and importance of the guidance to competent authorities and food

business operators on the prevention, detection, mitigation, and control of food fraud.

Part 2

Nigeria supports the proposal for new work on development of a Codex guidance on appeals mechanism in the context of rejection of imported food as well as the creation of an EWG for this work to facilitate wider participation of Codex Members and Observers.

Rationale:

The proposed work addresses critical challenges that disproportionately affects global food trade. Rejections at borders often result from issues unrelated to food safety, e.g. documentation errors, leading to significant economic losses, wasted food, and diminished trust in exports, even when the products are otherwise safe for consumption.

Furthermore, establishing a transparent and standardized appeal process, trading partners can mitigate these unnecessary losses, and ensure that products can be reconditioned or relabeled to meet import requirements rather than being out rightly discarded.

Nigeria supports the proposal to the commission to approve commencement of work on the standardization of sanitary requirements as well as the creation of an EWG for this work to facilitate wider participation of Codex Members and Observers.

Rationale:

The current system of non-standardized sanitary requirements poses significant challenges particularly in managing the complexities of international trade. Standardizing these requirements would reduce the risk of errors, streamline certification processes, and enhance transparency, thereby improving market access for exports.

Nigeria supports the approval and commencement of work on the revision of CXG 89-2016 as well as the creation of an EWG for this work to facilitate wider participation of Codex Members and Observers.

Rationale:

Principles and guidelines for establishment listings will facilitate harmonized, streamlined, and timely information sharing when such lists are justified.

Nigeria supports approval of work on the digitalization of National Food Control Systems and its commencement and the creation of an EWG to facilitate wider participation of Codex Members and Observers.

Rationale:

Development of Codex principles and guidelines for digitalization of National Food Control Systems will provide a clear pathway for digitalizing their NFCS and encourage broader adoption of digital tools and technologies that will promote faster, secure and efficient exchange of data and information and thus facilitate global food trade.

Agenda item 4.10: Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses

Part 1

Nigeria supports the adoption of the General principles for establishing Nutrient Reference Values - Requirements (NRVs-R) for persons aged 6 – 36 months (inclusion in CXG 2-1985 as Annex 1, Part B) at Step 8

Rationale:

There was unanimous support for the adoption of the FAO/WHO definition of adequate intake (AI) and majority of Members supported using the mean to determine the NRVs-R for the combined age range.

Agenda item 4.11: Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products

Part 2

Matters for information

Nigeria supports future work on Seaweed and other algae.

Rationale:

There is an apparent increase in global production and trade volume.

Agenda item 4.12: Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

Nigeria supports the adoption of MRLs for Clopidol (chicken – skin/fat, kidney, liver, and muscle) and

Imidacloprid (finfish (fillet) (muscle with skin in natural proportions and/or muscle)) at step 5/8.

Rationale:

JECFA evaluations for the two compounds indicate no safety concerns at the established MRLs. The establishment of the MRLs promotes food safety and facilitates international trade.

Nigeria support the:

- a. advancement of the proposed extrapolated MRL (1350µg/kg) for lufenuron in finfish for adoption at Step 5/8.
- b. advancement of the proposed extrapolated MRL (100µg/kg) for emamectin benzoate in finfish to CAC47 for adoption at Step 5/8, upon acceptance of the amendment to Criterion 2b (Appendix IV); and (iv)

Rationale:

The MRLs provide evidence-based risk management decisions to ensure safe residue levels and hence promote food safety and facilitate international trade

Nigeria supports adoption of the MRLs for fumagillin dicyclohexylamine (DCH) in fish fillet (10 µg/kg for the marker residue (MR) fumagillin) and honey 20 (µg/kg for the marker residue (MR) DCH) at step 5.

Rationale:

Setting MRLs upon substantially addressing Member's concerns, ensures evidence based risk management decisions to ensure safe residue levels and hence promote food safety and facilitate international trade.