

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Items 4.3, 4.4, 4.9, 4.13, 11, new work proposal

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Forty-seventh Session

Geneva, Switzerland, CIG

25-30 November 2024

COMMENTS OF SURINAME

Suriname, through its Codex Contact Point, hosted by the National Institute of Food Safety (NIVS) would like to submit the following comments in relation with agenda items to be discussed at the 47th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), scheduled to take place physically in Geneva, Switzerland from 25-30 November 2024.

Agenda item 4: Work of Codex Committees (Adoption, new work, revocation, discontinuation and amendments to Codex texts proposed by the Committee)

Agenda Item 4.3 – Work of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) – Document CX/CAC 24/47/5

Part 1: Standards Submitted for Final Adoption:

- Suriname supports the adoption at Step 5/8 of:
 - o Annex II on leafy vegetables and Annex III on Sprouts of the Guidelines for the control of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in raw beef, fresh leafy vegetables, raw milk and raw milk cheeses, and sprouts,
 - o Annex III related to Milk and Milk products of the Guidelines for the safe use and reuse of water in food production and processing
 - o The Guidelines for food hygiene control measures in traditional markets for food

Part 2: Standards and related texts submitted for adoption at Step 5

- Suriname supports the adoption at Step 5, as a draft standard of:
 - o The Revised Guidelines on the application of the general principles of food hygiene to the control of pathogenic *Vibrio* species in seafood (CXG 73- 2010)

Part 3: Proposals to undertake new work or revise a standard

- Suriname supports the new work agreed to be carried out by CCFH:
 - o New work proposal on the revision of the Guidelines on the application of general principles of food hygiene to the control of viruses in food (CXG 79-2012)
 - o New work proposal on the revision of the Guidelines for the control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* in chicken meat (CXG 78-2011)
 - o New work proposal on the revision of the Guidelines for the control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* in chicken meat (CXG 78-2011)

Agenda Item 4.4 – Work of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF) – Document CX/CAC 24/47/6

Part 1: Standards Submitted for Final Adoption:

- Suriname supports the adoption at Step 5/8 of:
 - o The MLs for lead in spices, dried aril; dried seeds (including a separate ML for celery seeds); dried rhizomes and roots; dried floral parts; and spices, dried fruit and berries (including

separate MLs for Sichuan pepper, star anise, paprika and sumac) for inclusion in the General standard for contaminants and toxins in food and feed (CXS 193- 1995)

- The Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of ciguatera poisoning
- The Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of ciguatera poisoning

Part 2: Standards and related texts submitted for adoption at Step 5

- Suriname Supports the adoption at Step 5 – as a draft standard of
 - The MLs for lead in dried bark and dried culinary herbs for inclusion in the General standard for contaminants and toxins in food and feed (CXS 193-1995)
 - The Sampling plans for total aflatoxins and ochratoxin A in certain spices (dried chilli pepper and paprika, and nutmeg) for inclusion in the General standard for contaminants and toxins in food and feed (CXS 193-1995)

Part 3: Proposals to undertake new work or revise a standard

- Suriname supports the following proposed new work to be carried out by CCCF:
 - New work on the revision of the Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of aflatoxin contamination in peanuts (CXC 55-2004)
 - New work on a code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in foods

Part 4: Work proposed for discontinuation

- Suriname supports the discontinuation of the following Standard:
 - Draft MLs for lead in dried spice, flowers; and fresh culinary herbs in CXS 193-1995

Agenda Item 4.9 - Work of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) - Document: CX/CAC 24/47/11

Part 1: Standards and related texts submitted for adoption at Step 5

- Suriname supports the adoption at Step 5 of the Draft guidelines on the prevention and control of food fraud and would call on added work be considered on food fraud to support countries in operationalizing the principles agreed-upon in these guidelines into more practical guidance to be applied by food competent authorities as well as Food Business Operators

Agenda Item 4.13 Codex Committee on Food Labelling – Document CX/CAC 24/47/15

Part 1: Standards and related texts submitted for final adoption

- Suriname supports the adoption of the following provisions / standards at Step 8:
 - Revision to the General standard for the labelling of prepackaged foods (CXS 1-1985): Provisions relevant to allergen labelling,
 - Guidelines on the provision of food information for prepackaged foods to be offered via e-commerce,
 - Guidelines on the use of technology to provide food information in food labelling.

Part 2: Standard and related text submitted for adoption at Step 5

- Suriname Supports the adoption at Step 5, as a Draft Standard of the proposed Annex to the General standard for the labelling of prepackaged foods (CXS 1-1985): Guidelines on the use of precautionary allergen labelling

Furthermore, Suriname would like to ensure that consideration be made for capacity building related to the way Food Business Operators would develop qualitative and/or quantitative risk assessment, as part of their consideration of the necessity to apply PAL.

Part 3: Proposal to undertake new work or revise a standard

- Suriname supports the new proposal of new work on the application of food labelling provisions in emergencies.

Agenda Item 11: Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 - Document: CX/CAC 24/47/21

- Suriname would like to congratulate the CCEXEC and members of the Commission for the progress achieved to reach the current version of the strategic plan, particularly subsequent to CCEXEC87.

- Suriname thanks the Chair, the Vice Chairs and the Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean for the engagement sessions organized to review the proposed new plan and solicit input.
- Suriname supports the 4 agreed-upon strategic goals, and the associated activities as presented in the report of CCEXEC87

Proposed New Work – CRD 03 by the United Arab Emirates – Document CAC47/CRD03

Suriname notes the proposal brought forward by the United Arab Emirates and several countries of Africa, the Near East, Europe on new work related to Camel Milk Products.

Suriname notes that this new work is listed as part of the United Nations Year designation of the 2024 as the International Year of Camelids (IYC 2024) to spotlight the overlooked potential of camelids.

Suriname supports any effort the Commission would undertake to enable the development of this new work, in line with the current goals of the strategic plan 2020-2025 (as well the proposed goals of the new Strategic Plan 2026-2031) for Codex to be responsive to its members needs and to address emerging issues.

The proposal clearly articulates an issue where several Codex members are seeking the intervention of Codex, as the reference food standard setter, to intervene through the elaboration of a standard or update of existing standards that would enable the development of the Camel milk production value chain, because of the specificities of this commodity.

This is essential to achieve the goals of the IYC and to ensure that Camelids, through the provision of milk and meat, contribute significantly to the advancement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically those addressing hunger, the elimination of extreme poverty, the empowerment of women, and the sustainable utilization of terrestrial ecosystems.