

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 and 9

CRD12

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fifth Session

Kampala, Uganda

27 - 31 January 2025

Comments by Kenya

Agenda Item 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

CX/AFRICA 25/25/1

Kenya supports the adoption of the Provisional Agenda items as circulated.

Agenda Item 2: KEYNOTE ADDRESS - HARMONIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY STANDARDS IN AFRICA: OPPORTUNITIES FOR HARNESSING COLLABORATION BETWEEN CODEX AND ARSO

CX/AFRICA 25/25/2

Kenya recommends adapting the existing Codex texts, such as the Guidelines for Food Hygiene Control Measures in Traditional Markets and the Guidelines for Developing Harmonized Food Safety Legislation for the CCAFRICA Region (CXG 98-2022), along with any other relevant Codex guidelines. Additionally, Kenya proposes the creation of awareness and sensitization campaigns to ensure the effective implementation of these guidelines across the region. These efforts will help enhance understanding and facilitate the adoption of best practices for food safety and hygiene, promoting regional food security and trade.

Agenda Item 3: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES

CX/AFRICA 25/25/3

Position: Kenya appreciates the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies for their efforts in ensuring food safety and facilitating trade; specifically,

1. Kenya notes the key matters for information arising from the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), the Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC), the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS), the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL), and the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP). Kenya recognizes the importance of staying informed on the discussions and recommendations from these committees and urges continued engagement with the outcomes to enhance our national food safety systems.

2. Kenya endeavours to actively engage in all Codex discussions.

3. Response to CCMAS

Comment: Kenya proposes retaining the two methods as type III.

Rationale: The determination of Chlorides using the two methods may not be as accurate because there could be other sources of chlorides in the meat sample that can erroneously sum up to the total sodium content.

Test methods that analyze the salt content (mainly sodium content) by indirect determination express sodium chloride in terms of chloride concentration. This can potentially give an inaccurate concentration for sodium if the source of chlorides in the sample emanates from alternative sources. Therefore, an overestimation of sodium may be reported in such instances. The AOAC Sub-Saharan Africa (White Paper on the Quantification of sodium and salt in foods) elaborates.

Comment: Kenya proposes that CCAFRICA develop the proposed sampling plan by forming an EWG to develop the sampling plan using CXG 50-2005 as a basis.

4. Review of Regional Guidelines for Street-Vended Foods (CXG 22R-1997):

Kenya supports the review of the Regional Guidelines for the Design of Control Measures for Street-Vended Foods (Africa) (CXG 22R-1997). Kenya recommends the formation of a regional Electronic working group to undertake the review and update CXG 22R-1997 to ensure consistency with the general Codex guidelines, specifically CXC 1-1969, and the newly established guidelines for food hygiene control measures in traditional markets.

Agenda Item 4: FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY IN THE CCAFRICA REGION CX/AFRICA 25/25/4

Position: Kenya appreciates FAO and WHO efforts in the region on issues of Food Safety and quality. Kenya notes that FAO and WHO continued to provide capacity-building support to members to improve their food control systems which ultimately contributes to enhancing intra-Africa trade in safe and quality food products and agricultural commodities and agrees with the recommendations put forward in Para 24 of CX/AFRICA 25/25/4. Kenya requests additional support on food safety activities by WHO including World Food Safety Day.

Agenda Item 5: CODEX WORK RELEVANT TO THE REGION CX/AFRICA 25/25/5

Position: Kenya takes note and appreciates the work of the coordinator to progress the work of Codex in the region. Kenya endeavors to actively participate in codex work in the region and to continue implementation of Codex texts through incorporation into national food safety legislation.

Agenda Item 6: CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025: IMPLEMENTATION BY CCAFRICA CX/AFRICA 25/25/6

Position: Kenya notes that the participation of countries that were previously active in Codex has declined. A mechanism be developed to monitor the functioning of all CCPs, while active members are encouraged to mentor the less active Members.

Agenda Item 7: CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2031: STATUS AND NEXT STEPS CX/AFRICA 25/25/8

Position: Kenya proposes the formation of an Electronic working group to identify priority areas and develop a draft Work plan for consideration by the region.

Agenda Item 9: PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK CX/AFRICA 25/25/10

Position: Kenya appreciates Senegal for the draft text on the Development of a Regional Standard for Ketiakh, a braised or boiled dried fish product, and fully supports this new work item.

Rationale: Ketiakh is already widely consumed in the Western Africa region and has gained popularity in other parts of the world. The development of Codex standards for this product will facilitate trade and ensure food safety for consumers globally, promoting public health while supporting international market access.

Agenda Item 9.1: Proposal for the development of a standard for kethiakh CX/AFRICA 25/25/10 Add. 1

Position: Kenya appreciates Senegal for the draft text on the Development of a Regional Standard for Pre-Cooked Cereal and/or Other Vegetable Flour Granules (Thiakry) and supports this new work item.

Rationale: The establishment of a Codex standard for thiakry will help regulate quality and safety, supporting trade within the region and internationally while ensuring consumer protection.