



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEx COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fifty-fifth Session

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 47TH SESSION OF THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CAC47) AND THE 86TH AND 87TH SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CCEXEC86 AND CCEXEC87)

47th Sessions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC47)

Standards and related texts adopted by the Commission¹

1. CAC47(2024) adopted:

- (i) the specifications for the identity and purity of food additives arising from the 96th and 97th JECFA meetings;
- (ii) the revision of the *Class names and the international numbering system for food additives* (CXG 36-1989) except the International Numbering System (INS) number for carbomer (INS 1210) and carbomer should be referred to CCFA55 for reconsideration of the appropriate INS number;
- (iii) the relevant food additive provisions of the *General standard for food additives* (GSFA, CXS 192-1995);
- (iv) the following revisions to the GSFA:
 - o revision to the descriptors to Annex B (FC 01.4.3) and Annex C of the GSFA preamble;
 - o revised food additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the alignment of two standards from the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP), four standards from the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV), two standards from the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNE), two standards from the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Asia (CCASIA), and one standard from the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Latin America and Caribbean (CCLAC);
 - o consequential amendments to the Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3 of the GSFA due to the change of INS Number for gellan gum to INS 418(i);
- (v) revised food additive sections of two standards from CCMMP i.e., *Standards for fermented milks* (CXS 243-2003); *cream and prepared creams* (CXS 288-1976), one standard from CCPFV, i.e., *Standard for table olives* (CXS 66-1981), one standard from CCASIA i.e., *Regional Standard for laver products* (Asia) (CXS 323R-2017) and one standard from CCLAC, i.e., *Regional standard for yacon* (Latin America and the Caribbean) (CXS 324R-2017);
- (vi) revisions to the food additives provisions in the *Standards for pickled cucumbers* (cucumber pickles) (CXS 115-1981); and *jams, jellies and marmalades* (CXS 296-2009);
- (vii) editorial corrections to the *General standard for cheese* (CXS 283-1978); and
- (viii) consequential amendments to the *Standard for aqueous coconut products – coconut milk and coconut cream* (CXS 240-2003) due to the change of INS number for gellan gum to INS 418(i).

¹ REP24/CAC paragraph 73 and Appendix II

Approval², Revocation³, and Discontinuation of work⁴

2. CAC47:

- (i) approved the proposals for new food additive provisions of the GSFA, priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA, and the development of a standard for baker's yeast;
- (ii) revoked the food additive provisions of the GSFA; and
- (iii) discontinued work on certain draft and proposed draft food additive provisions for the GSFA.

Future of Codex⁵

3. CCEXEC86(2024):

- encouraged more Members to take leadership roles in committee working groups to ensure their sustainability and inclusiveness, while recognizing the challenges these Members may face and further encouraged the Codex Secretariat and experienced working group Chairs to proactively seek engagement of other Members and provide guidance and support.
- reminded Codex committees of the importance of good work management practices and prioritization of work to avoid the establishment of too many electronic working groups (EWGs) and the related burden on all concerned and ensure that agenda items can be adequately discussed within the available plenary session time.

Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031⁶

4. CCEXEC86 and CCEXEC87 (2024) discussed the draft of the elements to be included in the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 and recommended its adoption by CAC47.

5. CAC47:

- adopted the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031; and
- noted that the Codex Secretariat would present a monitoring framework at CCEXEC88 (July 2025) for review, and that comments on the revised version of the monitoring framework would then be sought from Members and Observers through a CL with the aim of submitting a final version to CAC48 for approval.

Guidelines for new work proposals⁷

6. CCEXEC87 welcomed the Codex Secretariat's plans to develop practical guidelines for Members on the development of new work proposals and proposed that:

- the guidelines should encourage: development of group commodity standards; the drafting of commodity standards so as to facilitate future enlargement of their scope by adding similar products; and a review of standards that may have been developed by other organizations for commodities for which there is established international trade; and
- the Codex Secretariat engages with Members through the forthcoming FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees to build awareness of the development of these guidelines, and the Handbook on EWGs, and seek input on issues that Members would wish to see included in these guidelines.

7. CCEXEC87 encouraged Members to respond to committees' Circular Letters seeking proposals for new work and prioritisation of compounds for evaluation, within the deadlines set out in those Circular Letters.

8. CAC47 welcomed the publication of the Handbook on EWGs and encouraged its use and noted the ongoing work on developing a practical guide on the preparation of new work proposals, noting the opportunities for Members to provide input.

² REP24/CAC paragraph 169(i) and Appendix V

³ REP24/CAC paragraph 88 and Appendix IV

⁴ REP24/CAC paragraph 89 and Appendix VI

⁵ REP24/EXEC1, paragraph 61

⁶ REP24/EXEC1, paragraphs 77 and 79 (i) (iv); REP24/EXEC2, paragraph 108 and Appendix II; REP24/CAC, paragraph 216 and Appendix IX

⁷ REP24/EXEC2 paragraph 64(i); REP24/CAC Paragraph 22 (ii and iii)

MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND OTHERS

43rd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling⁸ (CCMAS43)

9. CCMAS43 (2024) noted the explanations that after multiple sessions' discussions, CCFA51 decided to establish ingoing and residual levels for nitrates and nitrites in the GSFA. Subsequently, CCFA52 requested CCMAS to address specific questions related to testing methods, including development methods for determining proposed residual levels for representative provisions in dairy (cheese), meat, and seafood.

10. CCMAS43 agreed to continue its work on this matter to respond to all CCFA's questions.

44th Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses⁹ (CCNFSDU44)

11. CCNFSDU44 (2024) agreed to inform CCFA that:

- there was no technological need for the use of guar gum (INS 412), distarch phosphate (INS 1412), phosphated distarch phosphate (INS 1413), acetylated distarch phosphate (INS 1414) and hydroxypropyl starch (INS 1440) in foods conforming to *Standard for infant formula and formulas for special medical purposes intended for infants* (CXS 72-1981); and
- *Standard for canned baby foods* (CXS 73-1981) permitted the use of the food additives listed in the *Advisory lists of nutrient compounds for use in foods for special dietary uses intended for infants and young children* (CXG 10-1979) Part D as nutrient carriers.

12. CCNFSDU44 noted that gum arabic (Acacia gum) (INS 414), silicon dioxide, amorphous (INS 551), mannitol (INS 421), and sodium ascorbate (INS 301) would be included as batch 6 in the work plan for future technological justification appraisal.

13. CCNFSDU44 agreed to continue its work on appraising technological justifications for several food additives in commodities covered by CCNFSDU.

Matters from the Codex Secretariat

Issues relating to Notes XS130 and XS67

14. The *General standard for dried fruits* (CXS 360-2020), which includes annexes for dried apricots, dates, and raisins, has been adopted and published on the Codex website. Consequently, the *Standards for dried apricots* (CXS 130-1981); *dates* (CXS 143-1985), and *raisins* (CXS 67-1981) have been revoked.

15. However, since XS130¹⁰ and XS67¹¹ are included in the GSFA, CCFA55 should consider appropriate Notes to replace those for XS130 and XS67.

The provisions for Jagua (genipin-glycine) blue (INS 183) in FCs 01.1.4 and 01.7

16. As submitted by CCFA54, the provisions for Jagua (genipin-glycine) blue (INS 183) in FCs 01.1.4 and 01.7 had been adopted by CAC47 without Note XS243¹².

17. However, during the discussions of the alignment EWG, it had been noted that if the provisions for Jagua (genipin-glycine) blue (INS 183) in FCs 01.1.4 and 01.7 advanced through the Step Process, Note XS243 should be included in the GSFA (see [CX/FA 24/54/6](#)).

18. In light of this, CCFA55 should consider whether these provisions need to be revised to include Note XS243.

RECOMMENDATIONS

19. CCFA55 is invited to:

- (i) note the information provided above;
- (ii) consider:
 - a. the requests from CAC47 regarding the appropriate INS number for carbomer (paragraph 1(ii));
 - b. replies from CCNFSDU44 outlined in paragraph 11; and
 - c. suggestions from the Codex Secretariat outlined in paragraphs 15 and 18.

⁸ REP24/MAS paragraph 76

⁹ REP24/NFSDU paragraphs 76, 84 and 85

¹⁰ Note XS130: Excluding products conforming to the Standard for Dried Apricots (CXS 130-1981)

¹¹ Note XS67: Excluding products conforming to the Standard for Raisins (CXS 67-1981)

¹² Note XS243: Excluding products conforming to the Standard for Fermented Milks (CXS 243-2003)