

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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COMMENTS OF AZERBAIJAN

AGENDA ITEM 4.3

CX/CAC 25/48/5, CX/CAC 25/48/5 Add.1

Work of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS) - Adoption of “Methods of analysis / performance criteria / sampling plan for provisions in Codex standards, REP25/MAS, paragraphs 19, 27, 45, 59(i) and 86(i), Appendix II, Part 1” and “Inclusion of “Nitrogen to protein conversion factors” as an Annex to the Recommended methods of analysis and sampling (CXS 234-1999), REP25/MAS, paragraph 11(vi), Appendix III”:

Azerbaijan expresses its great appreciation to Hungary, as Chair of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS), and to all Members and experts who contributed to the Committee's work. Azerbaijan acknowledges the technical depth and collaborative approach demonstrated throughout the 44th Session of CCMAS.

Having carefully reviewed the related documents, Azerbaijan supports the adoption of the updated Methods of Analysis, Performance Criteria, and Sampling Plans for Provisions in Codex Standards and considers that these updates strengthen harmonization across Codex standards and enhance the reliability of analytical results.

Azerbaijan also supports the inclusion of Nitrogen to Protein Conversion Factors as an Annex to the Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CXS 234-1999). The consolidated list enhances transparency and harmonization of analytical practices. Azerbaijan appreciates the efforts made to ensure accuracy and alignment of conversion factors across Codex texts and encourages continued attention to maintaining consistency as the Annex is finalized and implemented.

AGENDA ITEM 5

CX/CAC 25/48/10

The conversion of the Regional standard for laver products (Asia) (CXS 323R2017) into an international standard:

Azerbaijan notes with appreciation the initiative of CCASIA to explore the conversion of the Regional Standard for Laver Products (Asia) (CXS 323R-2017) into an international Codex standard. We recognize the growing global trade and consumption of seaweed and other macroalgae products and agree that this development highlights the importance of establishing harmonized Codex guidance in this area.

Azerbaijan acknowledges that the existing regional standard provides a useful technical foundation that could inform future Codex work. However, any progression toward an international standard should follow the established Codex procedures for initiating new work, ensuring that the process includes comprehensive consultation and reflects the production, trade, and consumption contexts of all regions.

We also see merit in considering whether the scope could be broadened beyond laver to include other macroalgae with similar characteristics and processing methods. Such an approach could enhance the standard's relevance and long-term value while avoiding the need for multiple separate texts.

Azerbaijan supports continued discussion of this matter within the appropriate Codex committee, noting that the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP) may be well placed to lead future work, given its technical expertise on aquatic products.

Proposal on the development of principles for the risk analysis of new food sources and production systems (NFPS)

Azerbaijan is pleased to welcome and consider the European Union's proposal to initiate new work on the Principles for the Risk Analysis of New Food Sources and Production Systems (NFPS). The rapid development of innovative food sources and production technologies presents both opportunities and challenges for food safety, trade, and consumer confidence. Codex has the potential to contribute to the establishment of a harmonized, science-based framework that can guide national authorities in addressing these developments.

Azerbaijan believes that developing clear principles for the risk analysis of NFPS will help Members, including those with evolving food control systems, to ensure that innovation advances in a way that protects public health and supports fair trade. Establishing internationally agreed definitions for "new foods," "new food sources," and "new production systems" will be essential to achieving consistency and predictability in regulatory approaches.

Azerbaijan also supports the inclusion of elements such as risk assessment, risk management, and risk communication tailored to the specific characteristics of NFPS, as well as provisions promoting international cooperation and information exchange. Attention should be given to foods that may be traditional in one region but new in another, to ensure that the principles remain globally applicable while respecting regional diversity.

Therefore, Azerbaijan supports the commencement of this new work and encourages Codex to ensure that it builds upon existing Codex texts on risk analysis while maintaining the flexibility needed to address future technological developments in the food sector.