



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS
PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING**

Forty-ninth Session

Ottawa, Canada

11 - 15 May 2026

PROPOSAL FROM IN-SESSION WORKING GROUP:

**AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL STANDARD FOR THE LABELLING OF PRE-PACKAGED FOODS
(CXS 1- 1985): PROPOSED PROVISIONS RELEVANT TO JOINT PRESENTATION AND MULTIPACK
FORMATS**

(Prepared by Canada as Electronic Working Group Co-Chair)

Canada, as co-chair, along with Colombia participating virtually as chair of the EWG, held an in-session working group with interested members and observers and revised the proposed draft text below following the discussion in plenary at CCFL49 on Agenda item 6. The plenary version, along with the subsequent changes agreed to by the in-session working group are presented in this CRD.

4.2 *List of Ingredient*

NEW Text to appear after existing text in 4.2.1:

Plenary version – no changes made in in-session working group:

- 4.2.1 (bis)** For pre-packaged foods subject to section 8.1.3.1, ~~[where the lists of ingredients are not readily legible and discernible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods.] / [where the information is provided on the outer packaging,]~~ either separate lists of ingredients for each type of individually packaged food that makes up the container, or a combined list of ingredients shall be declared, as appropriate to the nature of the food such as whether the individually packaged foods are intended to be consumed separately or together.

Clean Version:

- 4.2.1 (bis)** For pre-packaged foods subject to section 8.1.3.1, where the information is provided on the outer packaging, either separate lists of ingredients for each type of individually packaged food that makes up the container, or a combined list of ingredients shall be declared, as appropriate to the nature of the food such as whether the individually packaged foods are intended to be consumed separately or together.

4.3 *Net contents and drained weight*

Plenary version:

- 4.3.4** For pre-packaged foods that are subject to section 8.1.3.1 ~~[where the number of individually packaged foods cannot be easily counted or the net contents are not readily discernible and legible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods and intended to be consumed separately]~~ **[where the information is provided on the outer packaging]**, the net contents shall be declared by indicating:

1. the total net contents of the pre-packaged food sold as a single unit; and/or
2. the number of individually pre-packaged foods per type and their respective net contents., ~~either on the outer container or on the individually packaged foods that make up the container, if they cannot easily be counted and their net contents per type are not clearly discernible and legible.~~

In-session Working Group Version (new text in bold and underlined):

- 4.3.4** For pre-packaged foods that are subject to section 8.1.3.1 ~~[where the number of individually packaged foods cannot be easily counted or the net contents are not readily discernible and legible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods and intended to be consumed separately]~~ **[where the information is required to be provided on the outer packaging, or where the number of individually packaged foods**

in the container cannot be easily counted], the net contents shall be declared **on the outer packaging** by indicating:

1. the total net contents of the pre-packaged food sold as a single unit; and/or
2. the number of individually pre-packaged foods per type and their respective net contents, ~~either on the outer container or on the individually packaged foods that make up the container, if they can easily be counted and their net contents per type are clearly discernible and legible.~~

Clean Version:

4.3.4 For pre-packaged foods that are subject to 8.1.3.1, where the information is required to be provided on the outer packaging, or where the number of individually packaged foods in the container cannot be easily counted, the net contents shall be declared on the outer packaging by indicating:

1. the total net contents of the pre-packaged food sold as a single unit; and/or
2. the number of individually packaged foods per type and their respective net contents.

4.7 *Date marking and storage instructions*

4.7.1 If not otherwise determined in an individual Codex standard, the following date marking shall apply, unless Section 4.7.1 (vii) applies:

Plenary version – no changes made in in-session working group:

4.7.1 (vi) bis For pre-packaged foods subject to section 8.1.3.1, **where the earliest best-before date, best quality-before date, use-by date, or expiration date, is not readily discernible or legible, the date [where the information is provided on the outer packaging,] at least the earliest** ~~the best-before date, best quality-before date, use-by date, or expiration date, which is shall be declared on the outer packaging, shall correspond to the earliest date of the individually packaged foods that make up the container when these differ.~~ If the individually packaged foods have more than one type of date marking, the earliest date of the foods that fall under section 4.7.1(i) must be declared.

Clean version:

4.7.1 (vi) bis For pre-packaged foods subject to section 8.1.3.1, where the information is provided on the outer packaging, at least the earliest best-before date, best quality-before date, use-by date, or expiration date shall be declared. If the individually packaged foods have more than one type of date marking, the earliest date of the foods that fall under section 4.7.1(i) must be declared.

8. PRESENTATION OF MANDATORY INFORMATION

8.1 *General*

8.1.3 Where the container is covered by a wrapper, the wrapper shall carry the necessary information or the label on the container shall be readily legible through the outer wrapper or not obscured by it.

Plenary version:

8.1.3.1 A container of pre-packaged food that is sold as a single unit and consists of more than one identical or different individually packaged foods, whether intended to be consumed together or separately, shall include on the outer packaging the mandatory labelling information for that container, as set out in Sections 4 and 5, unless the mandatory labelling information is readily legible and discernible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods that make up the container.

[a. Any mandatory labelling information applicable to the pre-packaged food sold as a single unit that differs from the information shown on the individually packaged foods that make up the container must appear on the outer packaging.]

In-session Working Group version (changes in strikeout):

8.1.3.1 A container of pre-packaged food that is sold as a single unit and consists of more than one identical or different individually packaged foods, whether intended to be consumed together or separately, shall include on the outer packaging the mandatory labelling information for that container, as set out in Sections 4 and 5, unless the mandatory labelling information is readily legible and discernible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods that make up the container.

~~[Any mandatory labelling information applicable to the pre-packaged food sold as a single unit that differs from the information shown on the individually packaged foods that make up the container must appear on the outer packaging.]~~

Clean version:

- 8.1.3.1 A container of pre-packaged food that is sold as a single unit and consists of more than one identical or different individually packaged foods, whether intended to be consumed together or separately, shall include on the outer packaging the mandatory labelling information for that container, as set out in Sections 4 and 5, unless the mandatory labelling information is readily legible and discernible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods that make up the container.