

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 3

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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

Forty-fifth Session

Budapest, Hungary

9-13 March 2026

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION ON SAMPLING PLANS SUBMITTED BY CCASIA FOR CCMAS' ENDORSEMENT**

*(Submitted by Japan as the Coordinator for Asia)*

1. CCASIA23, held in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China from 22-26 September 2025, discussed sampling plans to be used for 8 regional standards. Detailed information is available in REP 25/ASIA, CRD1 and CRD 15 of CCASIA23. The overview of the discussion is as follows.
2. CCASIA first considered stringency, fitness for purpose, specification limits, lot homogeneity, distribution of the characteristic, lot standard deviation, measurement uncertainty and lot size as described in CXG 50. In addition to this, the trading practice and the nature of these commodities were taken into account in order to make the sampling plan feasible and practicable.
3. It was noted that although it was possible to establish plans to specify both PRQ and CRQ, it would be more practicable to set AQL followed by calculation of PRQ and CRQ for evaluation. It was agreed that AQL of 6.5% could be used as the default, and the meeting then evaluated PRQ and CRQ.
4. The meeting also agreed that taking into account the fact that it was recommended to use international standards when available and applicable, ISO 2859-1 and ISO 3951-1, which are included in CXG 50 as well, were used as the starting point for consideration.
5. The meeting concluded that the following should be considered specific factors/situations that have to be considered, in particular that may alter AQLs from the default or need consideration on special values of CRQ/PRQ.
6. It was identified that in all regional standards, provisions are related to quality. Special situations to alter AQLs or set special CRQ/PRQ were not identified.
7. It was suggested that the number of analysis should be reduced as much as possible, and in that sense it was proposed to use variable plans in addition to attribute plans. The proposal was due to avoid spending high cost for analysis, which would result in the prices of commodities at consumer level.
8. CCASIA evaluated the CRQ and PRQ when ISO sampling plans were used with AQL of 6.5% and concluded that even though CRQ and PRQ were not low (e.g. CRQ of 68% and PRQ of 2.5% for lot size of 2-15 at normal inspection level), these sampling plans were fit for purpose, considering the feasibility and practicability.