

codex alimentarius commission

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

JOINT OFFICE:

Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00100 ROME: Tel. 57971 Cables Foodagri

ALINORM 81/28

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Fourteenth Session

Geneva, 29 June - 10 July 1981

REPORT OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

Dakar, 25-29 May 1981

INTRODUCTION

1. The Fifth Session of the Codex Coordinating Committee for Africa was held in Dakar, by courtesy of the Government of Senegal.
2. The Session was attended by the following Member Countries: Benin, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Upper-Volta, Zambia, and observer countries: Angola, France, Lesotho.

The following International Organizations were also represented: African Groundnut Council; International Federation of Margarine Associations, Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

The list of participants, including officers from FAO and WHO, is included as Appendix I to this report.

3. The Coordinator for Africa, Dr. Thianar N'Doye acted as Chairman of the Session. In welcoming the Participants, Dr. N'Doye recalled the aims of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and stressed the importance of work in the field of food standards and food control.

The representative of the Codex Secretariat recalled the important contribution of Senegal, of Senegalese experts and of Dr. N'Doye to the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and expressed his thanks to the Government of Senegal and to Dr. N'Doye for their valuable support. The WHO Programme Coordinator for Senegal and the FAO Country Representative also expressed their thanks to the Government of Senegal for hosting the Fifth Session of the Coordinating Committee for Africa.

4. The Session was formally opened, on behalf of the Minister of Public Health, by Mr. Libass Seck, First Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health. He welcomed the Participants and expressed his Government's support of the aims and objectives of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. In achieving these aims it was necessary to foresee the elaboration of regional standards in the light of negotiations concerning economic considerations. Collaboration between the Coordinating Committee for Africa and the Regional Community Organizations was essential in this regard and should be formulated in concrete terms. Mr. Libass Seck expressed his appreciation of the assistance provided by AID and the various UN Agencies in furthering the realization of food policies

and establishment of infrastructures in the African Region. He stressed the importance of the work of the Coordinating Committee in attempting to resolve the numerous problems leading to facilitation of trade and protection of the health of the consumer.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE SESSION

5. The Committee unanimously elected Dr. Ati Randolph (Togo) as Vice-Chairman of the Session.

APPOINTMENT OF RAPPORTEURS

6. The Committee appointed Dr. J.K. Misoi (Kenya) and Mr. Cheikh Kane (Senegal) as Rapporteurs.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. On the proposal of the delegation of Senegal, the Committee agreed to add item 5(e) dealing with the question of mango nectar and mango juice. It was noted that no documents were available for item 12.

MATTERS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM CODEX SESSIONS

(a) Codex Alimentarius Commission (13th Session)

Economic Impact Statements

8. The Committee was informed that the Commission, at its 13th Session, had included reference to economic impact statements in the Codex Procedures for the development of regional standards and for maximum limits for pesticides residues. It was noted that the procedure for the elaboration of regional standards was also amended in such a way as to require members of the region concerned to give due consideration to the views of other members of the Commission (see paras 39-41, ALINORM 79/38). The Committee noted these changes with satisfaction.

Nutritional Considerations

9. The Committee noted that the 13th Session of the Commission had reviewed its nutrition related activities and the activities of FAO and WHO in this field (paras 81-93, ALINORM 79/38) and that a further review would be carried out by the 14th Session of the Commission. The representative of the Joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and Nutrition Commission for Africa pointed to the emphasis FAO, WHO and OAU were placing on the integration of nutrition into development and investment projects and the need to introduce nutritional considerations into food standards work (para 86,88 ALINORM 79/38).

10. During the discussion of this question, delegations stressed the need for this Committee to give consideration to nutritional aspects. In this respect, the need for more research and information was stressed in order to identify the foods which should be covered by appropriate standards and nutrition related provisions, as set out in paras 82 and 87 of the report of the 13th Session of the Commission (ALINORM 79/38).

11. The Committee was aware of the importance which African Heads of States were attaching to food and nutrition as reflected in the Lagos Plan of Action. Actions such as those relating to the prevention of food losses, the maintenance of food security stocks, development of agriculture and food processing required food standards and nutritional considerations. In the light of the remarks made by the Delegations and in view of the above considerations, the Committee fully endorsed the action by the Commission concerning the nutritional aspects of food standards work and agreed that

this matter be again placed on the agenda of the Coordinating Committee's future sessions.

Reorientation of the Work of the Commission

12. The Committee noted with satisfaction the development concerning the reorientation of the work of the Commission and the actions taken by FAO and WHO in this regard (see paras 94-116, ALINORM 79/38). As regards the importance of the role which coordinators played in giving effect to this reorientation, the Committee agreed to discuss this matter under item 6 of the Agenda when discussing the question of collaboration between the Coordinating Committee and the Regional Community Organizations (see paras 32-36).

Code of Ethics for the International Trade in Food

13. The Committee noted that the 13th Session of the Commission had adopted the above Code with some amendments and that it had been published by the Secretariat under reference CAC/RCP 20-1979. The hope was expressed that the Code of Ethics would be respected in international trade in food and that the African Region would promote the use of this document.

Salt

14. The Committee had before it the Draft Standard for Food Grade Salt (see Appendix I, CX/AFRO 81/14) on which its comments had been requested by the Codex Committee on Food Additives (WG on Salt). It was pointed out that the standard included provisions relating to nutritional, commercial and health considerations and that these should be considered by the appropriate Codex Committees. The appropriateness of the analytical figure of 97% for NaCl was questioned. It was also suggested that consideration might be given to the practice of fortification of salt, as well as different types of salts such as table, kitchen and food industry salts.

15. The Committee noted that the standard required further revision in the light of information and comments from countries and urged members of the African region to send their comments to the Secretariat. The representative of WHO suggested the following amendments to the draft standard for salt:

" 3.3 salt mixed with small amounts of fluoride, iodide, iron, vitamin A, etc.. Countries where deficiencies of these nutrients exist and are of public health significance, should consider the feasibility and effectiveness of fortifying salt with one or more of these nutrients.

7.1.3 Fortified salt

Where salt is fortified, for instance, with iodide or iodate for control of endemic goitre, or iron or vitamin A the product should be appropriately labelled, e.g. as "iodated salt" (where iodate is used), "iodized salt" (where iodide is used), "iron fortified" or "vitamin A-fortified" and the level of fortification should be stated. Appropriate levels of fortification with iodine are given in WHO Monograph 44."

Regional European Standard for Honey

16. The Committee noted the request of the Executive Committee that the views of Coordinating Committees be sought on the question whether (a) there is a need to amend the regional European standard for honey; (b) the standard be developed as a world-wide standard and (c) which Committee should undertake this task. The delegations of Kenya and Benin informed the Committee that variety of honeys produced in their countries did not correspond to the requirements of the European Standard in certain

aspects. For this reason, their countries recommend revision of the Codex Regional Standard. The delegation of Senegal stressed the need for further research on this matter before reaching conclusions on the question of the need to amend the honey standard and its development as a worldwide standard.

17. The Committee agreed that this product was of sufficient significance in world trade and of potential interest to some countries in the Region of Africa as an export item to warrant its development as a worldwide standard. Governments were requested to send their comments to the Secretariat for forwarding to the relevant Committee selected by the Commission for dealing with this matter.

(b) Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (12th Session)

18. The Committee was informed that the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues had strongly recommended that countries replace technical HCH by lindane or by other alternative pesticides, wherever possible. In this connection, the Committee noted that in giving effect to this recommendation, there must be concerted action between the various interested ministries and agencies (e.g. those responsible for pesticides used in agriculture and in vector control).

19. The Committee learned with satisfaction of the activities of the newly established Working Group on Pesticide Problems in Developing Countries within the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) (see Appendix V, ALINORM 81/24). The delegation of Senegal presented a written statement concerning the Resolution of the Senegalese Working Group setting out the problems in connection with the safe and proper use of pesticides. The statement stressed the need for rapid, official and regular method of information on pesticides (their use, storage, formulation, safety measures, etc.) in order to be in a position to control the importation and use of pesticides.

20. The remark was also made that often pesticides not properly cleared from the point of view of safety or not permitted in the country of origin are sold in countries lacking the ability to control the use and sale of pesticides. In this connection, the strengthening of existing national infrastructures was stressed so as to enable the countries to control and monitor the importation, distribution and use of pesticides.

21. The Committee was in general agreement with the Resolution of the Working Group of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues and agreed that the remarks made during the Session be brought to the attention of the appropriate Codex Committees and Divisions of FAO and WHO.

Model Food Law

22. The Committee invited delegations to indicate what action had been taken in their countries in connection with the FAO Model Food Law which is intended for the guidance of Governments and which is given in the Annex to the document CX/Latin America 78/7 or in Appendix I of the FAO publication "Guidelines for Developing an Effective National Food Control System: FAO Food Control Series No.1".

23. During the Session, delegations made brief statements on action taken by their Governments. These are given in Appendix II to this Report. The Secretariat informed the Committee that the Codex Committees on Pesticide Residues and Food Additives were considering regulatory aspects which would complement the above Model Food Law.

(c) Joint ECE/Codex Group of Experts on Fruit Juices

24. The Committee was informed that its opinion had been requested on the use of the term "juice" in connection with a product consisting of a minimum of 50% mango pulp plus water and sugars and the use of "nectar" for a product containing 30% mango

pulp. It was noted that pulp meant the fleshy part of the fruit after removal of the skin. It was also noted that mango juice and other mango products were a subject of study by some countries in Africa and that technical information would be forthcoming in the near future.

25. The delegation of Senegal indicated that mangoes did not lend themselves to the extraction of juice unlike, say, Citrus fruit and that, therefore, the term "juice" may not be strictly appropriate. The delegation of Tanzania informed the Committee that the undiluted "pulp" and a "juice" consisting of not less than 50% pulp were marketed in that country. It was noted that the term "juice" was also being used in Benin.

26. Noting that mango products had an export potential and that products under designations such as mango "pulp", "nectar" and "juice" were being marketed, it was agreed that Countries in the Region of Africa be urged to send their technical comments to the Commission or to the appropriate committee dealing with this matter.

COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA AND AFRICAN REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

27. The Committee had before it document CX/AFRO 81/2 on the above subject which had been prepared by Dr. Souleymane Samba (Senegal). The author briefly outlined the discussions which had taken place at the previous session of the Committee (see ALINORM 79/28, paras 39-43 and Appendix IV) and the decision of the Codex Alimentarius Commission at its 13th Session which had led to the preparation of the present document which listed the Regional and Sub-Regional Organizations and their functions and made recommendations as to how the Committee could establish effective collaboration with them (see paras 19-25 of the paper).

28. The Committee had lengthy discussion on the recommendations contained in paras 13(a) and (b) of the paper concerning the role of the Coordinator and the establishment of a permanent office in one of the Member Countries of the Committee which would serve as his supporting body and the proposed functions of such a body as listed in para 15 of the paper. Regarding the strategy to be adopted in establishing collaboration with Regional Organizations, the Committee noted that this was divided into three phases, the first two of which had already been accomplished and a third phase, yet to be implemented, which proposed effective liaison missions and meetings of experts from the Coordinating Committee for Africa and from the different Regional and Sub-regional Organizations to define the nature and modalities of collaboration.

29. The Committee was informed that invitation to the present session and a copy of the consultant's document had been sent to the Organizations concerned and noted with appreciation the presence of a representative from the African Groundnut Council, who briefly outlined the activities of his Organization and expressed its willingness to cooperate with the Committee. The nature of this cooperation would be discussed by the appropriate bodies of the Council.

30. In view of the fact that the other Organizations listed in the document had not yet made their intentions known, the Committee accepted a suggestion, supported by several delegations that members of the Committee in whose countries the headquarters of such Regional and Sub-regional Organizations were located, should make every effort to establish contact in order to inform them of the objectives of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and of the activities of the Coordinating Committee for Africa and in order to ascertain their interest in cooperating with the Committee. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the Sixth Session. The Committee noted that cooperation with these Organizations might be facilitated if the Coordinating Committee defined sub-regional areas of common interest.

31. The delegation of Tanzania informed the Committee of the work of the Commonwealth Science Council which had organized regional programmes on standardization and quality control and which would hold a second meeting on these subjects in Tanzania in 1983. It was agreed to add the Council to the list of interested organizations and the offer of the delegation of Tanzania to inform the Council of the work and aims of this Committee was accepted with appreciation.

32. Concerning the proposals of para 13 of the paper, the Committee noted that there was general agreement in principle with the proposal that the Coordinator should be provided with adequate means and with secretarial facilities to carry out his duties effectively.

33. Some delegations were of the opinion that this should take the form of a permanent office in one of the Member Countries of the Region.

34. Concerning the mandate of the Coordinator, the Committee noted that the rules of the Commission (see Procedural Manual 4th Edition, Rule II 4(a)) provided for the term of the Coordinator to comprise three successive sessions of the Commission. Under the circumstances, where a Coordinator was reappointed for a second term of office, this could allow a Coordinator to hold office over a considerable period of time.

35. The Committee further noted that the Coordinating Committee for Europe had been continuously hosted by the Government of Austria but that in the case of the three other Coordinating Committees there had been successive changes in the countries hosting the Coordinating Committees.

36. The Committee agreed that the possible cooperation between regional and sub-regional organizations and the Coordinating Committee might require a more sustained term of office for the Coordinator and consequently reinforced the need for secretarial facilities. It agreed to consider the matter more in detail at the Sixth Session when examining the question of intra-regional cooperation.

REVIEW OF ACCEPTANCES

37. The Committee had before it a review of acceptances, indicating the latest position regarding notifications by Governments of their acceptance of Codex recommended standards and maximum residue limits (CX/AFRO 81/3). The Secretariat, in introducing the paper, informed the Committee of recent developments in the Codex Committee on General Principles as regards the revision of the Codex Procedure for the Elaboration of Standards. It also pointed out that the acceptance of maximum residue limits presented particular problems and also that the different forms of acceptance of Codex maximum residue limits implied various types of regulatory approach to controlling pesticide residues in food.

38. The Committee noted that, from amongst the 36 Members of the Region, around 21 countries had responded to letters issued by the Directors General of FAO and WHO inviting governments to accept the various recommendations of the Commission. The Committee also noted that notifications (whether positive or negative or purely indicative of action being taken) were useful and urged governments to inform the Secretariat accordingly.

39. The Secretariat informed the Committee that an analysis of the acceptances of Codex recommended maximum residue limits revealed that over 80% of the replies were positive and also that a greater percentage of developing countries were accepting Codex recommendations than developed ones. This situation was, however, changing as more and more of developed countries were sending in their acceptance responses. The situation seemed to be similar with Codex commodity standards.

40. During the Session, delegations of those countries which had not yet sent in their notifications of acceptance informed the Committee concerning action being taken in their country. The delegations of Senegal and Kenya indicated that Codex standards were being used as basis for preparing their national standards and regulations or updating them. The delegation of Kenya indicated that official communication on acceptance would be made in the near future. The delegation of Senegal pointed out, however, that Codex maximum residue limits needed to be checked out in the light of local residue data before the acceptance of the limits could be considered.

The delegation of Benin, Upper Volta, Togo and Gabon indicated that their countries were in the process of establishing the necessary infrastructures and that, in due course, they would transmit their notifications of acceptance to the Secretariat.

41. Other countries which had previously notified the Secretariat of their acceptances of Codex recommendations also indicated their position; the delegation of Nigeria indicated that Nigeria was using Codex standards where a national standard did not exist; Zambia indicated that, like Kenya, it had used Codex Standards where possible, but that difficulties were being experienced with maximum residue limits since it was necessary to identify first the pesticides of interest in relation to acceptances; Tanzania had also considered Codex standards in drawing up its regulations and would notify the Secretariat of further acceptances after they have been studied by the Tanzanian National Codex Committee. As regards the recommended Codex maximum residue limits, Tanzania was first concentrating on setting up pesticide registration procedures, before communicating their acceptances.

42. The delegate of Lesotho expressed his country's interest in becoming Member of the Commission and undertook to study all Codex recommendations on the basis of full documentation supplied by the Secretariat.

43. The Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a paper for the next Session of the Committee giving more details concerning the acceptance by countries of the Region of Codex recommendations.

CONSIDERATION OF MAIZE AND MAIZE PRODUCTS

(a) Draft Standard for Maize

44. The Committee was informed that the Draft African Regional Standard for Maize advanced to Step 5 at the 4th Session of the Committee (see Appendix VI, ALINORM 79/28) had been developed by the newly established Codex Committee on Cereals and Cereal Products into a worldwide draft standard. This draft standard will be referred to the Codex Alimentarius Commission at Step 8 of the Procedure.

45. The Secretariat indicated that comments had been invited by the Codex Committee on Cereals and Cereal Products, at Step 6 of the Procedure, on the draft included in Appendix III, ALINORM 81/29. This draft had been extensively redrafted by the Committee on Cereals at its Second Session.

46. The Coordinating Committee regretted that the text of this redrafted standard was available to the present Session in English only and as a room document distributed during the Session. While the Committee was in agreement that maize represented an important commodity which required standardization at the worldwide level, it expressed its concern that the proposed draft African regional standard at Step 5 had been advanced to Step 8 of the Codex Procedure as a worldwide standard in the short space of time which had elapsed since the 4th Session of the Coordinating Committee in September 1979. It also noted that the phasing of the sessions of the Committees concerned and the 14th Session of the Commission did not allow time for countries to satisfy the requirements of the Step 8 Procedure for the submission of written amendments. The Secre-

tariat indicated that all efforts were being made to issue the report of the Second Session of the Cereals Committee as soon as possible.

47. The Chairman of the Committee urged participants to study the version of the draft standard which will be distributed by the Secretariat so that they should be in a position to comment on it during the 14th Session of the Commission. He also pointed out that it is possible to review worldwide standards in the light of acceptances by members of the African Region.

(b) Maize Meal and Maize Grits

48. At its Fourth Session, the Coordinating Committee for Africa postponed discussion of the need to develop standards for maize meal and maize flour, pending the preparation of an appropriate report on these products (para 52, ALINORM 79/28 and CL 1980/18). The newly established Codex Committee on Cereals and Cereal Products, at its First Session, decided to commence elaboration of worldwide standards for whole maize meal and recommended that the Coordinating Committee for Africa submit its views on specific requirements for these products in the African Region (paras 103-108, ALINORM 81/29).

49. Due to postponement of the Coordinating Committee for Africa, the draft standard for maize meals, under elaboration by the Codex Committee on Cereals and Cereal Products, could not be considered by the Coordinating Committee prior to the second Session of the Committee on Cereals (held from 27 April to 1 May 1981) nor could the Coordinating Committee provide information on these products as requested. For this reason, Member Countries of the Codex Region of Africa were requested by the Secretariat, through Circular Letter CL 1980/47 (CCP), to submit their comments and information on whole maize meals directly to the Codex Committee on Cereals and Cereal Products.

50. The Committee considered that the best course of action under the circumstances, was for the Member Countries and interested International Organizations in the Codex Region of Africa to comment on the proposed worldwide draft standard on maize meals and degermed maize meals at Step 3 of the Codex Procedure in order to ensure that their technical views are considered by the Third Session of the Codex Committee for Cereals and Cereal Products (tentatively scheduled for the end of October 1982).

PROPOSED DRAFT REGIONAL AFRICAN STANDARD FOR GARI

51. The Committee had before it a revised version of the above standard prepared by Togo, Nigeria and Benin (CX/AFRO 81/5). Dr. Randolph of Togo indicated that few comments had been received in response to CL 1980/30. The Committee agreed to discuss the revised version of the standard for gari at Step 4 of the Procedure. The standard, as amended, is given as Appendix III to this report.

Title of the Standard

52. It was agreed that the term "gari" was appropriate to describe the product and that countries where this term was not used, could employ another term which will accurately describe the product. The name "gari" was, therefore, taken out of quotation marks or square brackets.

2.1 Definition of the Product

53. After a thorough discussion, the Committee agreed that gari was a product obtained using a process in which fermentation played an essential part. Thus products prepared without fermentation or inadequate fermentation (i.e with total acidity less

than 1% expressed as lactic acid) would not correspond to the definition. The Committee also made certain other changes to the product definition in order to ensure that the definition covered both the artisanal and industrial product especially in respect to drying of the paste prior to toasting.

2.2 Classification

54. The Committee noted that the revised classification included more than the original four categories based on fineness of the grains (i.e five categories based on fineness and one category of unclassified product). The unclassified category was intended to cover the artisanal product. Some delegations felt that there was no need to have more than four categories while other delegations pointed to existing manufacturing practices requiring the categories included in the revised text. The opinion was also expressed that classification of gari on the basis of organoleptic properties and the presence of ingredients might also be required.

55. As regards the figures in square brackets (describing sieve apertures, etc.) the Committee agreed that these could now be regarded as firm proposals and that the square brackets in 2.2 should be removed. Sub-section 2.2.5 covering the product "garikou" was deleted as the product was not considered to fall under the provisions of the standard for gari.

3. ESSENTIAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY FACTORS

3.1 Raw Materials

56. The wording of this sub-section was changed to require the use of clean and sound raw material. the proposal was made that the words be added "free from impurities". This was not considered necessary since the standard required the use of washed (section 2.1) and clean (section 3.1) tubers and since the presence of traces of soil or dust were unavoidable even under good manufacturing practices.

3.3.4 Inacceptable fibre content

57. On the suggestion of the Secretariat, the Committee agreed to change the title of this sub-section to "crude fibre" noting that the fibre originated from the inner core of the tuber. It also noted that the method of analysis would define the exact meaning of fibre.

3.4 Optional Ingredients

58. After some discussion, the Committee agreed that reference to vitamins and proteins represented a national policy of enrichment of foods. It agreed that this question should be included under a separate section (e.g 3.6) using wording such as adopted for certain cereal products.

59. The representative of FAO of the Regional Office (Accra) stated that if gari and other cassava products were enriched in an acceptable manner, the food and nutritional problems of the people in West and Central Africa would have been partially solved. He indicated that there were several ways in which gari could be improved:

- (i) Use of high-protein varieties such as are already produced in Latin America;
- (ii) Use of varieties low in cyanogenic glucosides;
- (iii) Enrichment with locally available protein-rich foods, such as legumes;
- (iv) Fermentation to increase nutrients.

Cassava is high-yielding and easy to grow under various agricultural conditions and deserves greater attention in order to alleviate its nutritional shortcomings.

Analytical Figures

60. The Committee agreed that the analytical figures included in Section 3 were appropriate and that the square brackets could be deleted.

4. FOOD ADDITIVES

61. It was agreed that neither the artisanal nor the industrial processing of cassava into gari required the use of food additives.

5. CONTAMINANTS

62. The Committee noted the views of the Secretariat that reference to maximum limits for pesticide residues (MRLs) was not desirable since both the elaboration and acceptance of MRLs followed separate procedures. Furthermore, the documents quoted in Section 5 did not contain any recommendations for MRLs regarding cassava tubers.

63. The Committee also noted that pesticides were seldom used in the protection of cassava tubers although, in some countries, systemic pesticides were employed. The possibility existed of some residues in gari. The Committee agreed that countries should analyse cassava tubers and products made from them and report their results to the Committee and to the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues.

64. On the question raised concerning the possible presence of other contaminants, e.g. heavy metals, the Committee decided to leave the wording of the Section 5 unchanged pending further information on the matter.

6. HYGIENE

65. Following a discussion on whether it was possible to be more specific concerning microbiological criteria, the Committee adopted the general text included in similar Codex standards which made reference, in general terms, to pathogenic microorganisms, substances originating from microorganisms and other similar contaminants.

7. LABELLING

66. The Committee discussed whether there was a need for date marking of this product. Noting that gari with a moisture content of below 12 percent had sufficient shelf-life, provided it was packaged in an appropriate manner, the Committee decided that a declaration of the date of manufacture or packaging and a declaration of the date of minimum durability should be required on the label.

8. PACKAGING

67. The Committee agreed to add as Sub-section 8.1 the wording in the standard for sorghum referring to packaging, transport and storage and to re-number the present text of section 8 as sub-section 8.2. The Secretariat was requested to revise these two sub-paragraphs editorially in order to avoid overlap between sub-sections 8.1 and 8.2.

9. METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

68. The Committee accepted the recommendations of the authors, as presented by Dr. Randolph of Togo, regarding methods of analysis and sampling, noting that these methods would be submitted to the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling for endorsement (see section 9 of the Standard in Appendix III to this Report)

STATUS OF THE STANDARD

69. The Committee decided to advance the Draft Regional African Standard for Gari to Step 5 of the Codex Procedure for the Elaboration of Regional Standards.

PROPOSED DRAFT REGIONAL AFRICAN STANDARD FOR SORGHUM GRAINS
PROPOSED DRAFT REGIONAL AFRICAN STANDARD FOR MILLET GRAINS
PROPOSED DRAFT REGIONAL AFRICAN STANDARD FOR MILLET FLOUR

70. The Committee had before it first drafts of the above regional African standards which had been prepared by the delegation of Senegal as a consequence of the decision taken at the 4th Session (see ALINORM 79/28, para 46 and ALINORM 79/38, paras 257-260).

71. The Committee was informed by the Chairman of the Codex Committee on General Principles that, at its last Session (ALINORM 81/33) the General Principles Committee had recommended to the 14th Session of the Commission (which will meet in Geneva, 29 June - 10 July) that the Codex Procedure for the Elaboration of Standard be simplified. One of the proposals was to telescope Steps 1, 2 and 3 so that proposed draft standards would be sent directly to Governments for first round of comments.

72. The Committee noted that the above draft Regional African standards had been distributed for the first time during the Session and that they, therefore, could not be considered in detail. It was the general opinion, however, that the draft texts were suitable for circulation to Governments for comments and in view of the recommendation made by the Codex Committee on General Principles it was agreed that they should be issued after the 14th Session of the Commission and after editorial amendments and translation by the Secretariat, at Step 3 of the Procedure.

ELABORATION OF REGIONAL STANDARDS FOR LEGUMES

73. The Committee noted that the above subject had been discussed at its previous session with particular reference to dried pulse for direct human consumption and groundnut paste (peanut butter) by several countries of the Region both for intra and extra-regional trade.

74. In view of the increasing trade in the product and its high nutritional value, the Committee agreed that the Secretariat should prepare a document on production, trade and consumption of groundnut paste (peanut butter) so that the Codex Alimentarius Commission can decide whether a subsidiary body should elaborate a standard for the product.

75. On the general subject of standards for grain legumes, the Committee was informed that, because of their importance in the diets of West African Countries, cowpeas (black-eye peas), bambara nuts and kidney beans should have high priority.

76. The Committee agreed on the importance of grain legumes for nutrition in Africa. Various legumes constituted important sources of protein in most African countries, and were usually the cheapest protein source available. There was currently an FAO-sponsored project in fourteen Western African countries for promotion of grain legumes. The quality of legumes, conditions of storage and marketing, etc., were of great importance to the consumer. The adoption of standards for legumes was, therefore, of great importance to Africa. It was noted that a background document on the subject of legumes had been prepared for consideration at the 14th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission on the basis of which it was expected that the Commission would decide whether to pursue worldwide standards for legumes, through a subsidiary body. The Committee, therefore, limited itself to stressing the urgency as well as the importance of grain legumes and it requested the Commission to take immediate steps to ensure the formulation of global standards for all legumes of importance in international trade and to refer back to the Codex Committee for Africa those grain legumes which are not considered of global importance. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the 6th Session of the Committee at which time the decision of the Commission could be taken into account.

Quick Frozen Foods

77. The Committee noted that there was comparatively little trade in these products in the Region and did not pursue the question of standardization but recommended that the Countries of the Region should improve freezing facilities in order to minimize losses and to maintain the quality of frozen products. It was informed that the Joint ECE/Codex Group of Experts on Quick Frozen Foods had adjourned sine die.

Fruits and Vegetables in Africa

78. The Committee was informed that there had been considerable research on the conservation and processing of such products, including guavas and Citrus fruits in Senegal by ITA (Institute Technologique Agricole) and that a background document would be prepared by the delegation of Senegal for consideration at the Sixth Session.

79. The Committee suggested that a consultant be recruited by FAO in order to study fruits and vegetables of interest in the Region of Africa and to prepare a report for the Committee.

EXISTING AND PROPOSED ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELDS OF FOOD AND FOOD CONTAMINATION CONTROL

(a) Food Control Activities

80. The Committee had before it for discussion documents CX/AFRO 81/11 entitled "Report on Activities of FAO/WHO in the Field of Food Control Projects in the Region of Africa" and CX/AFRO 81/12 entitled "Report on Activities of FAO/WHO in the Field of Food Contaminants".

81. In introducing working paper CX/AFRO 81/11 the Secretariat acknowledged the fact that WHO had not implemented many food control related projects in the African Region. Reference was, however, made to the importance of bacterial and viral contamination of food in the etiology of acute diarrhoea. This latter disease is dramatic in infancy and childhood and is responsible for the death of 3-5 million children up to the age of five years, per year, on a worldwide basis. With its breast feeding campaign and its diarrhoea disease control Programme, WHO had taken two important steps toward the prevention and control of acute diarrhoea. The Organization is now developing a component of the Food Safety Programme in order to specifically contribute to the reduction of food borne diseases. The above activities, together with the UN Drinking Water and Sanitation Decade, in which WHO also plays a major role, were expected to go a long way in the prevention and control of food and water borne diseases, all of which have a major importance from the public health point of view.

82. The two WHO Regional Office in Alexandria and Brazzaville were planning to organize regional consultation or workshops on food safety during 1982/83. The aims of these activities were inter alia to create awareness in governments regarding the importance of food safety in reaching the target of "Health for all by the year 2000".

83. FAO activities in the field of food quality control were always geared towards protecting the health of the consumer as well as his economic interests. This effort had now acquired a more significant meaning in the context of the Lagos Plan of Action. Food quality and food standardization were referred to as an essential component in African countries economic integration, whether at the sub-regional or at the regional level. The information contained in CX/AFRO 81/11 was updated with that concerning recent consultancy missions to Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire. The need for Member States to initiate food quality control activities using available resources was emphasized. This could be started while efforts were made to secure funds for strengthening existing structures. Information on possible sources of financial support to such projects was also provided.

84. The Committee was informed that various FAO publications pertaining to food quality control, food export, food inspection were available in the Series FAO Food and Nutrition Paper No. 14/1, 14/2, 14/3, 14/4, 14/5 and 14/6, presently in English which would be of assistance to food control laboratories in the countries of the Region.

(b) Food Contaminants

85. In introducing working paper CX/AFRO 81/12 the Secretariat referred to the Joint FAO/WHO Food and Animal Feed Contamination Monitoring Programme, being carried out under UNEP funding. Only two countries (Egypt and Kenya), within the African Region, had been designated as Collaborating Centres to collaborate with the Central Unit of this Programme in Geneva. A basic requirement before a country could take part in the programme was the availability of food quality control facilities including a reasonably well equipped analytical laboratory, capable of analyzing heavy metals, pesticide residues and mycotoxins. On-going food contaminant monitoring programmes would also be an asset. The historical background of the programme was also provided by the Secretariat, as well as its objectives. It was pointed out that not much emphasis had so far been given to the animal feed component of this programme, because of financial restrictions. The same reasons prevented the inclusion of stronger technical cooperation component, which would have enabled developing countries, desiring to take an active part, to strengthen their laboratory facilities.

86. Information was provided on the recent Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Wholesomeness of Irradiated Foods held in Geneva, November 1980. The above Expert Committee had concluded that the irradiation of any food commodity up to an overall average dose of 10 KGy presents no toxicological hazard and that toxicological testing of foods so treated is no longer required.

87. Information was also provided on the Joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and Nutrition Commission for Africa. Following the FAO Director-General's Circular State Letter to eligible African countries, 34 African countries had so far expressed their desire to be Members of the Joint Commission. The Second Session of the Joint Commission is scheduled to take place in Accra, Ghana, from 8-11 December 1981. The documents which had been prepared for the Session seek to follow up the guidelines of the OAU Lagos Plan of Action for achieving food self-sufficiency and improved nutrition and quality of life in the African Continent. African Member States are, therefore, called upon to participate fully in the forthcoming Second Session of the Joint Commission.

88. The Committee was informed about the reasons that prevented the Secretariat from achieving a full implementation of the suggestion that a new questionnaire should be sent to all the countries of the Region seeking information on food control facilities. This suggestion was made at the 14th Session of the Committee. The Committee noted that the results of a survey carried out by the WHO Regional Office for Europe had now been published under the WHO Series: Food Safety Services No. 14, WHO, Copenhagen, Denmark. Countries may wish to contact Regional Offices, should they require copies of this publication.

89. The delegation of Kenya, supported by other delegations, expressed its appreciation of the efforts made by FAO in assisting the African Region in the field of food safety and food quality control. It was recommended that future technical cooperation programmes should endeavour to solve, in a larger number of countries, the following urgent issues:

1. Basic needs of the Region or Country
2. Establishment of facilities to implement the needs
3. Availability of technical personnel
4. Availability of necessary funds
5. There must be a programmed action with target dates for implementation and review or adjustments

6. The International Organizations in all cases must set up practical goals trimmed to the identified specific requirements.
7. If need be a regional priority setting should be established so that a proper coordination is made.
8. Governments should also set their own priorities and should ensure that any project proposed is feasible within the available means.

NOMINATION OF COORDINATOR

90. The Committee noted that under Rule II 4 of the Commission (4th Edition of the Procedural Manual) the present Coordinator for Africa, Dr. Thianar N'Doye would end his term of office at the end of the 14th Session of the Commission. Since Dr. N'Doye had now served two consecutive terms of office he was ineligible for re-appointment and the Committee should proceed with nomination of a new Coordinator.

91. The delegation of Togo, referring to a previous decision to alternate the appointment of Coordinator and host country for the Committee between English and French speaking countries of the Region, found this decision outdated since another language group had been formed by the former Portugese colonies gaining independence. It requested that linguistic division should be set aside and proposed alternating between geographical and economic regions of the Continent (West, Equatorial, Southern Africa, Africa north of the Sahara or mediterranean Africa). While these were important points, the delegation was of the opinion that other criteria were also of importance, for instance, active participation of the country at sessions of the Coordinating Committee, whether the country had a well established National Codex Committee or a person with sound knowledge of Codex matters and whether a country could undertake the financial burden of hosting the Committee. The delegation also underlined that, to date, West Africa had provided three Coordinators to the Committee for consecutive periods and that, logically, it should yield the post of future coordinator. On the basis of all the arguments indicated above, the delegation of Togo proposed to consider Kenya or Tanzania as host countries for the Committee.

92. The delegation of Tanzania informed the Committee that, because of its comparatively recent experience of the Codex system and the activities of the Regional Coordinating Committee, it was not in a position to offer a candidate and proposed the nomination of Dr. J.K. Misoi of Kenya as Coordinator. The nomination had unanimous approval by the Committee.

93. The delegation of Kenya pointed out that it was in a delicate situation regarding the unanimous request to its country to offer the next Codex Coordinator for the African Region. The delegation, while appreciating the honour and respect accorded to it by the delegates, made it clear that it had no mandate or power to endorse the nomination because no prior consultation had been made with the appropriate authorities. The delegation stressed that the offer of a coordinator by a country had far-reaching implications, both in terms of manpower resources for the Secretariat and financial impact. The delegation of Kenya, therefore, was not in a position to commit its Government in any way and wished to express its reservation on the nomination issue which is the subject of its Government's consideration and clearance.

94. The Committee agreed that the decision of the Government of Kenya should be communicated to the Secretariat, if possible before the 14th Session of the Commission or, if this was not possible, at the appropriate time during the Commission's discussion.

95. The Committee also noted with appreciation a statement made by the delegation of Egypt that should Kenya be unable to host the 6th Session of the Committee, its Government would possibly consider hosting the Sixth Session in Cairo with Dr. Misoi as Coordinator.

OTHER BUSINESS

96. No other matters were brought to the attention of the Committee.

DATE OF NEXT SESSION

97. The Committee noted that the Sixth Session of the Committee was tentatively scheduled to be held in February 1983.

VALEDICTION

98. The Committee expressed its warm appreciation to the Coordinator for Africa, Dr. Thianar N'Doye, for his valuable contribution to the work of the Coordinating Committee and expressed its satisfaction at the great progress the Committee had made in its programme of work during his term of office. It looked forward to continued support by Dr. N'Doye who, as one of the founders of the Coordinating Committee, had long experience in the work of the Committee.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS
LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES

Chairman
Président
Presidente

Dr. Thianar N'Doye
Coordonnateur du Codex pour l'Afrique
BANS 153
Rue Blanchot x Rue Victor Hugo, Dakar
Senegal

BENIN

Nathanaël AVOUNDOGBA
Directeur de la
Direction de l'Alimentation et de la
Nutrition Appliqué
BP. 295
Porto-Novo
Benin

**EGYPT
EGYPTIE
EGIPTO**

Dr. Zeinal Abd El HALEEM
Food Control Department
Ministry of Health
Cairo, Egypt

GABON

Jean NGOUA-MBA
Directeur de l'Inspection du Contrôle de
la Qualité des Denrées Alimentaires
Ministère de l'Agriculture des Eaux et
Forêts et du Développement Rural
Inspection Générale
BP 551
Libreville, Gabon

GHANA

John BUCKNER
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Box M 53
Accra, Ghana

**UPPER VOLTA
HAUTE VOLTA
ALTO VOLTA**

Bomane SIRY
Nutritionniste
Ministère du Développement Rural
BP 7028
Ouagadougou, Upper Volta

Michel BALMA
Laboratoire du Service de Contrôle du
Conditionnement et de la Qualité des
Produits
Direction des Services Agricoles
Ministère du Développement Rural
BP 7028
Ouagadougou, Upper Volta

KENYA

J.K.A. MISOI
Principal Standards Officer
Kenya Bureau of Standards
P.O. Box 54974
Nairobi, Kenya

J.M. KABUGA
Ministry of Agriculture
Kilimo House
Box 30028
Nairobi, Kenya

M.G. NYAMBATI
Kenya Industrial Research and Development
Institute
Box 30650
Nairobi, Kenya

APPENDIX I (cont'd.)

NIGERIA

A.O.C. OYEJOLA
Nigerian Standards Organization
Federal Ministry of Industries
4 Latunde Labinjo Avenue
Plam Grove
Lagos, Nigeria

N.N. ANYAEGBUNAM
Chief Agricultural Planning Officer
Federal Department of Agriculture
Federal Secretariat, Phase I
Ikoyi
Lagos, Nigeria

SENEGAL

Papa Assane CAMARA
Centre National de Recherches Agronomiques
Bambey
Sénégal

Ngatam DIALLO
Ministère du Commerce
Direction du contrôle économique
BP. 2050
Dakar, Senegal

Abdoulaye DIOUF
Ingénieur, Chef de Division Agroalimentaire
ISN
Secrétariat d'Etat à la Recherche Scientifique
et Technique du Senegal
Dakar, Senegal

Samba FALL
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Direction des Affaires Economiques et
Techniques
Dakar, Senegal

Dr. Georges GRAS
Laboratoire de Toxicologie
Faculté de Médecine et Pharmacie
Dakar, Senegal

Mactar DIOP
Adjoint du Dr. Thianar N'Doye
S.A.N.A.S
153 Rue Blanchot x Victor Hugo
Dakar, Senegal

SENEGAL (contd.)

Cheikh KANE
Directeur de l'Institut Sénégalais de
Normalisation
Secrétariat d'Etat à la Recherche Scientifique
et Technique
BP. 3218
Dakar, Senegal

Fatou LAKH
Direction du Contrôle Economique
BP 2050
Dakar, Senegal

Mohamadou LY
Centre de Recherches Agronomiques
Bambey, Senegal

Ibra MBAYE
Institut Sénégalais de Normalisation
61 Boulevard Pinet Laprade
BP 3218
Dakar, Senegal

Mme Mayé NDIAYE
Institut de Technologie Alimentaire
BP 2765
Dakar, Senegal

Dr. Cheikh NDIAYE
Chef de Department
Institut de Technologie Alimentaire
Dakar, Senegal

Birame NDOUR
Ministère du Commerce
Direction du Contrôle Economique
Laboratoire de la répression des fraudes
BP 195
Dakar, Senegal

Amadou POUYE
Institut de Technologie Alimentaire
BP 2765
Dakar, Senegal

Souleymane SAMBA
Chef de Service de la Répression des
Fraudes
Direction du Contrôle Economique
BP 2050
Dakar, Senegal

SOKHNA
Chef de Service Produit
Centre Sénégalais du Commerce Extérieur
(CSCE)
BP 8166
Dakar Yoff, Senegal

APPENDIX I (contd.)

TANZANIA
TANZANIE

Ms. Charys KAHURANANGA
Standards Officer
Tanzania Bureau of Standards
P.O. Box 9524
Dar-es-Salaam
Tanzania

Olof ÅGREN
Senior Food Consultant
Tanzania Bureau of Standards
P.O. Box 9524
Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

TOGO

Dr. Ati RANDOLPH (Vice Chairman of the Session)
Responsable de la Division de la Législation
de la Normalisation et du Contrôle des Denrées
Alimentaires
Direction de la Nutrition et de la Technologie
Alimentaire
Lomé-Cacaveli, Togo

ZAMBIA
ZAMBIE

Dr. Jassie ZULU
Lecturer, University of Zambia, UNZA
Box 32379
Lusaka, Zambia

Dr. K. KAMANGA
Kitwe City Council, Public Health Department
Medical Officer
Box 20070
Kitwe, Zambia

S.A. GOMA
Ministry of Health
Executive Secretary, Food and Drug Control
Box 30205
Lusaka, Zambia

OBSERVERS
OBSERVATEURS
OBSERVADORES

ANGOLA

Julio Fernando LEITE CONCEICAO
Ministerio da Saude da R.P.A.
Luanda (Minsa), Angola

FRANCE
FRANCIA

Charles CASTANG
Directeur du Centre National de
Formation et de Documentation de
la Direction et de la Qualité
et du Service de la Répression
des Fraudes
2 Rue St. Pierre
(34) Montpellier, France

LESOTHO

Chobokoane CHOBOKOANE
Deputy Director
Food and Nutrition Coordinating Office
Private Bag
Maseru - 100, Lesotho

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES
ORGANIZACIONES INTERNACIONALES

Conseil Africain de l'Arachide (CAA)

Bakary COULIBALY
Secrétariat
Conseil Africain de l'Arachide
P.O. Box 3025
Lagos, Nigeria

Institute of Food Technologists (IFT)

D.M.A. SERRUYS
21 Toutefais
9720 De Pinte, Belgium

International Federation of
Margarine Associations (IFMA)

Clemence MUCHEMWA
Marketing Manager Foods
Lever Brothers
2 Stirling Road
P.O. Box 950
Salisbury, Zimbabwe

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE
ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL DE LA SALUD

Dr. Kenneth BAILEY
WHO Scientific Secretary
Joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and
Nutrition Commission for Africa
POB 1628, Accra, Ghana

APPENDIX I (contd.)

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR
L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA
AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

Dr. E.O. IDUSOGIE
FAO Regional Food Policy and Nutrition Officer
Coordinator
Joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and Nutrition
Commission for Africa
P.O. Box 1628
Accra, Ghana

FAO/WHO SECRETARIAT
SECRETARIAT FAO/OMS
SECRETARIA FAO/OMS

J.M. HUTCHINSON
Food Standards Officer
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme
FAO
Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

G. KOUTHON
Nutrition Officer
Food Policy and Nutrition Division
FAO
Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Dr. F.K. KÄFERSTEIN
Responsible Officer, Food Safety Programme
Division of Environmental Health
WHO
CH-1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland

Dr. L.G. LADOMERY (Secretary of the Session)
Food Standards Officer
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme
FAO
Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

STATEMENTS BY DELEGATIONS ATTENDING THE 5TH
SESSION OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA
ON ACTION TAKEN CONCERNING THE FAO MODEL FOOD LAW

(see paras 22-23, ALINORM 81/28)

BENIN

The People's Republic of Benin has undertaken, since October 1980, work on the elaboration of a modern food law which will be accompanied by decrees and regulations; the elaboration of standards and codes of practice for food also form part of this undertaking by Benin.

The Committee's attention is drawn to the fact that in the framework of project GCP/BEN 045/NOR/FAO for the strengthening of food control system, Benin will be, from October 1982, in a position to carry out food quality control both imported or exported.

GABON

The Government of Gabon has on 22 June 1976 given its agreement, through the Council of Ministers, to a project designed to establish the necessary infrastructures for food control and has stipulated, during that Session, a proposal to the ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

This proposal involves three objectives:

1. Establishment of food legislation;
2. Creation of a National Codex Alimentarius Committee;
3. Creation of an official and approved laboratory for the analysis of food products.

As a result of these objectives, and through the work of FAO experts who came to Gabon in connection with these questions, the competent services of the Ministry of Agriculture have, in 1978, published an Ordinance relating to the quality control of foods and food products and the repression of frauds, i.e. Ordinance 50/78 of 21 August 1978.

Thus, general legal provisions have been promulgated and now it is necessary to elaborate the texts for the application of the said Ordinance. At the moment, a decree relating to the creation of a National Codex Alimentarius Committee is in the course of being signed. Its creation will reinforce the food control structure which the Government of Gabon, through the Council of Ministers on 6 March 1981, has recently decided upon.

Thus, of the three measures taken by the Council of Ministers on 22 June 1976, two may be considered to have been realized. At the moment, there remains the establishment of an official and approved analytical laboratory. Its realisation, which includes the participation of UNDP, is actually behind schedule. In fact, for numerous reasons, its inclusion in this programme has been often deferred. We are expecting its realisation during the period 1982/83.

Our actual project consists of the creation of a complex which will include this laboratory and an institute of food technology.

In conclusion, it can be said that in Gabon the legal framework and the administrative structures already exist; their function will be operational as soon as the other

APPENDIX II (contd.)

accompanying measures indicated here will have been realised. The absence of these accompanying measures and, in particular, of the laboratory does not permit us for the moment to study the standards which are submitted to us.

SENEGAL

During the Fourth Session in Dakar, the delegation of Senegal prepared a comparative study of the Model Food Law and the Law relating to food control.

This comparative study was considered by the countries of the Region of Africa as a great step forward in the adoption or rejection of the Model Food Law.

Subsequently, Senegal was provided with an FAO consultant to put its law into effect in order to permit better harmonization of its legislation on the one hand with countries of the Region of Africa, and on the other hand with the other Members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

In fact, in the draft revision certain definitions have been taken from the Model Food Law which seemed important to us for a better understanding of the text from the point view of consumers and traders.

The draft revision is entitled "Law relating to the Repression of Frauds and the Protection of the Consumer"; it will have the advantage in that it will apply to all merchandise, to services rendered and to advertising.

The draft revision includes a prohibition of the manufacture and sale of food products the wholesomeness of which is not guaranteed, notwithstanding the fact that the Model Food Law is silent on this point.

Lastly, the draft revision will not escape from the rule that in Senegal it is only the National Assembly which is empowered to adopt a law following the opinion of all competent institutions.

Senegal hopes to start the year 1982 on a new basis which will allow it to be more freely engaged in its transactions.

TANZANIA

The delegation of Tanzania informed the Committee that considerable help had been derived from the FAO/WHO Model Food Law when the Food Quality Control Act No.10 of 1978 was prepared.

Furthermore, the Model Food Law was used when two implementing regulations under the Food Act for food hygiene and importation of food were recently drafted.

TOGO

Food control in Togo is within the legal frame relating to texts emanating from colonial times and especially relating to the French law of 1905 and decree No.1120 of 31 December 1954 concerning the inspection of foodstuffs as well as products and by-products of animal origin. This legal framework has been reinforced by Ordinance No. 17 of 7 September 1972 relating to phyto-sanitary legislation. However, the texts in force no longer correspond to the needs of the country.

A draft law regulating the control of foodstuffs has been elaborated by the Nutrition Division and sent to the Government of Togo in April 1979. This draft has been recently revised and will be presented at the beginning of next year to the National Assembly. In general terms, it reflects the Model Food Law.

UPPER VOLTA

If Upper Volta has not yet given its definite view on the regulatory texts proposed by Codex, it is mainly because of lack of infrastructures relating to control, especially as regards pesticides. However, Upper Volta has a laboratory equipped for various types of analysis.

At the moment, regulations on cereals, fruits and vegetables and oil seeds have been finalized. They differ somewhat from those of the Codex as regards moisture content. Observations will be sent to the Secretariat as soon as experiments on the effect of moisture on long term storage of cereals will have been completed.

A systematic study of all the Codex texts will be undertaken on a continuing basis by the National Consultative Committee on packaging. In this respect, Upper Volta requests the Secretariat to supply it with one copy of all the Codex texts together with the necessary acceptance forms.

ALINORM 81/28
APPENDIX III

DRAFT AFRICAN REGIONAL STANDARD FOR GARI
(Advanced to Step 5)

1. SCOPE

This standard applies to gari.

2. DESCRIPTION

2.1 Definition of the Product

Gari is the finished product obtained by artisanal or industrial processing of cassava tubers (Manihot utilissima, Manihot palmate). The processing consists of peeling, washing and grating of the tubers followed by fermentation, pressing, drying if necessary, sifting and toasting. Gari is presented as flour of variable granule size.

2.2 Classification

Gari grains are classified in five categories as follows:

2.2.1 "Extra-fine grain gari" or "extra-fine gari"

This is gari of which not less than 80 percent of the weight shall pass easily through a sieve whose bottom plate is pierced by circular apertures having a diameter of 0.40 to 0.25 mm, but of which less than 80 percent of the weight passes through a sieve whose bottom plate is pierced with circular apertures 0.20 mm in diameter.

2.2.2 "Fine grain gari" or "fine gari"

This is gari of which not less than 80 percent of the weight shall pass easily through a sieve whose bottom plate is pierced by circular apertures having a diameter of 1 mm, but of which less than 80 percent of the weight shall pass easily through a sieve whose bottom plate is pierced by circular apertures 0.50 mm in diameter.

2.2.3 "Medium grain gari" or "medium gari" or "common gari"

Gari of which not less than 80 percent of the weight shall pass easily through a sieve whose bottom plate is pierced by circular holes having a diameter of 1.25 mm, but of which less than 80 percent of the weight shall pass through a sieve whose bottom plate is pierced by circular apertures 0.50 mm diameter.

2.2.4 "Gari with coarse grain" or "coarse grain gari" or "coarse gari"

This is gari of which not less than 80 percent of the weight shall pass easily through a sieve whose bottom plate is pierced by circular apertures, of 2 to 1.40 mm in diameter, but of which less than 80 percent shall pass through a sieve whose bottom plate is pierced by circular apertures of 1 mm in diameter.

2.2.5 Unclassified gari

Gari which has not been classified by the sieve method to determine its category according to grain size.

3. ESSENTIAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY FACTORS

3.1 Raw materials

Gari shall be prepared from clean cassava tubers in good physiological condition.

APPENDIX III (contd.)

3.2 Organoleptic Properties

The colour, taste and odour of gari shall be characteristic of the product.

3.3 Analytical characteristics

3.3.1 Total acidity

The total acidity of gari shall not be less than 0.6 percent nor more than 1 percent m/m, measured as lactic acid.

3.3.2 Hydrocyanic acidity and its glucids

Hydrocyanic acidity shall not exceed 2 mg/kg.

3.3.3 Moisture

The water content of gari shall not exceed 12 percent m/m.

3.3.4 Crude fibre content

The crude fibre content of gari shall not exceed 2 percent m/m.

3.3.5 Ash content

The ash content shall not exceed 2.75 percent m/m.

3.4 Extraneous vegetable matter

The extraneous vegetable matter shall not exceed 0.5 mg/kg.

3.5 Optional ingredients

Gari may contain one or several of the following ingredients:

3.5.1 Edible fats or oils.

3.5.2 Salt.

3.6 Enrichment

The addition of vitamins, proteins and other nutrients shall be in conformity with the legislation of the country in which the product is sold.

4. FOOD ADDITIVES

No food additives shall be added to gari.

5. CONTAMINANTS

Maximum residue limits for pesticides shall be those recommended by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC/RS 65-1974, CAC/RS 71-1976, CAC/RS 100-1978).

6. HYGIENE

6.1 It is recommended that the product covered by the provisions of this standard should be prepared in accordance with the International Code of Hygienic Practice entitled "Recommended International Code of Practice, General Principles of Food Hygiene" (CAC/RCP 1-1969, Rev.1).

6.2 When tested by appropriate methods of sampling and examination, the product:

- (a) shall be substantially free from pathogenic microorganisms;
- (b) shall be substantially free from substances originating from microorganisms in amounts which may represent a hazard to health; and
- (c) shall not contain any other poisonous or deleterious substances in amounts which may represent a hazard to health.

7. LABELLING

In addition to sections 1, 2, 4 and 6 of the General Standard for Labelling of Prepackaged Food Products, the following particular provisions shall apply:

7.1 Name of the Product

The name of the product to be shown on the label shall be "gari" preceded or followed by the common or ordinary name legally accepted in the country where the product is sold. The name shall show the size of the grain in accordance with the descriptions contained in section 2.2.

7.2 List of Ingredients

A complete list of ingredients shall be declared on the label in descending order of proportion.

7.3 Net Weight

Net weight shall be shown either according to the metric system ("International System" units) or the Avoirdupois system or in both systems of measurement in accordance with the requirements of the country where the product is sold.

7.4 Name and Address

The name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, importer, exporter, or vendor of the product shall be declared.

7.5 Date marking

The date of manufacture or packaging and the date of minimum durability shall be declared.

7.6 Country of Origin

7.6.1 The country of origin of the product shall be declared if its omission would mislead or deceive the consumer.

7.6.2 When the product undergoes processing in a second country which changes its nature, the country in which the processing is performed shall be considered to be the country of origin for the purposes of labelling.

8. PACKAGING, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE

8.1 Gari shall be packaged, transported or stored in containers which will safeguard the hygienic, nutritional, technological and organoleptic qualities of the product.

8.2 The packaging material shall be such as to protect the product against bacteriological and other contamination; it shall protect the product as far as possible against any infiltration of moisture, dehydration and against leaking. The packaging material should not impart any odour taste or colour or any other extraneous property to the product and should not result in contamination of the product with substances of which the packaging material is made.

9. METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

The methods of sampling and analysis indicated hereafter are international reference methods.

9.1 Sampling

According to ISO 2170-1972 Cereals and pulses - sampling of milled products. AOAC section 10.125 Sampling Cereal Adjuncts (see also section 10.092).

9.2 Determination of Granularity

According to ISO 2591-1973 Test sieving. The sieves used are AFNOR sieves.

9.3 Determination of Moisture

According to ISO 712-1979 Cereals and cereal products - determination of moisture (routine method). This method measures water content by determining loss of weight of the sample heated under given conditions.

9.4 Determination of Ash

According to ISO 2171-1972 Cereals, pulses and derived products - determination of ash.

9.5 Determination of Acidity

According to AOAC Methods 14.064-14.065 (Official methods of the AOAC, 12th Ed., 1975, page 232).

9.6 Determination of Crude Fibre

According to ISO/DIS 5498 Draft Standard for agricultural food products - Determination of crude fibre content - general method, or ISO/DIS 6541 Draft Standard for agricultural food products - Determination of crude fibre content - modified Scharrer method.

9.7 Determination of Proteins

9.7.1 According to ISO 1871-1975 Agricultural food products - General directions for the determination of nitrogen by the Kjeldahl method, or by AOAC method 14.026 (official methods of the AOAC, 12th Ed., 1975, page 226). Protein content is calculated by multiplying the nitrogen content by 5.7.

9.7.2 A joint AOAC/ISO method for the determination of total nitrogen (Kjeldahl) is in preparation.

9.8 Determination of Fat

According to the AOAC section 14.067.

9.9 Determination of hydrocyanic acid

(To be included later).

INVENTORY - FOOD CONTROL FACILITIES AND AVAILABLE STAFF
 IN THE AFRICAN REGION (see also Appendix III, ALINORM 79/28)

Name of Country	Food Laws and Regulations	Adequately Trained Field Inspection Staff	Competent Chemists and Microbiologists	Laboratory Facilities	Administrative Personnel	Training Facilities
TOGO	-Phytosanitary regulations Ordinance No. 17 of 7/9/72 and subsequent texts -Decree No.1120 of 31/12/54 concerning foodstuffs, products and by-products of animal origin and subsequent texts -Draft food law in preparation	Team of specialists in plant protection and veterinary services	3 plant pathologists 3 chemists 2 biologists 10 veterinary inspectors	-Laboratory for the protection of agriculture -Laboratory for nutrition -Laboratory for packaging of agricultural products	Administrative team	Foreign Universities National University (UB) Meetings Seminars Colloquia