

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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COMMENTS OF NIGERIA

ITEM 3: Amendments to the Procedural Manual

Nigeria supports the approval of the amendments as provided in CX/CAC 23/46/2 annexes I and II.

Rationale: The amendments are necessary in preparing to digitize the Codex procedural manual.

ITEM 4.3: Codex Committee on Food Hygiene

Part 1 – Standards and related texts submitted for final adoption

Guidelines for the control of Shiga Toxin Producing Escherichia coli (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts (General Section, Annex I on raw beef and Annex III on raw milk and raw milk cheeses)

Nigeria supports the adoption of the General Section and Annexes I on Raw Beef as well as Annex III on Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses at Step 5/8

Rationale:

The General Section and annexes provide useful information, guidance, and adequate guidelines for the control of shiga toxin-producing E. Coli from primary production to consumption. Adoption of these guidelines will provide much-needed reference for developing strategies and mitigations for managing this biological contamination.

Guidelines for the Safe Use and Reuse of Water in Food Production and Processing (General Section and Annex I)

Nigeria supports the adoption of Guidelines for the Safe Use and Reuse of Water in Food Production and Processing (General Section and Annex I) at step 5/8

Rationale:

Nigeria recognized that water is increasingly becoming a scarce resource globally resulting in to reuse of water in both primary production as well as during processing. It is therefore important to have guidelines on the appropriate safe use and reuse of available water while protecting the safety of the consumers and environment. These guidelines will go a long way in providing risk-based decision-making for the supply, use and recycling of water fit for its intended use in primary production operations, handling, conservation, and processing.

Part 2 – Proposals to undertake new work or revise a standard

New work proposal on the development of Guidelines for food hygiene control measures in traditional markets for food

Nigeria supports the adoption of this new work on developing guidelines for food hygiene control measures in traditional food markets.

Rationale:

There is a need for guidelines on traditional markets given that they present globally with some studies showing that in certain regions have shown that up to 85% of food is purchased at these markets. In most cases, these markets often lack the infrastructure and hygienic conditions necessary for food safety and can present food-related risks hence the need for guidelines.

Furthermore, the work is directly supporting objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Codex Strategic plan.

Proposed Revision of the Guidelines on the Application of the General Principles of food Hygiene to the control of Pathogenic Vibrio Species in Seafood (CXG 73-2010)

Nigeria supports approval of this new work on the revision of the Guidelines on the application of general principles of hygiene on the control of *Vibrio* spp. in seafood (CXG 73-2010).

Rationale

The revision will support food business operators to implement practical interventions to reduce the risk of Vibriosis. The work supports objectives 1 and 5 of the Codex strategic plan 2020-2025.

ITEM 4.5: Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

Part 1 – Standards and related texts submitted for final adoption

MRLs for Ivermectin (sheep, pigs and goats – fat, kidney, liver and muscle)

Nigeria supports the final adoption of MRLs for) Ivermectin (sheep, pigs and goats – fat, kidney, liver and muscle) at Step 5/8.

Rationale

These compounds are extensively used in Africa and therefore limits for residues in the different commodities need to be established by Codex to protect consumer health and to promote international trade.

MRLs for Nicarbazin (chicken)

Nigeria supports the final adoption of MRLs for Nicarbazin (chicken) from 100 to 50 for the new ADI were adequately addressed by JECFA.

Rationale

Nicarbazin is used extensively in Africa and therefore limits for residues in the different commodities need to be established by Codex to protect consumer health and to promote international trade

MRLs extrapolated to ruminants and finfish

Nigeria supports the final adoption of MRLs for extrapolated to ruminants and finfish at step 5/8

Rationale

For the extrapolated MRLs for different compounds, the extrapolation was done in line with the rules spelled out in the “Approach for the extrapolation of maximum residue limits for veterinary drugs to one or more species” that was adopted by CAC44.

Part 2 – Approval of new work

Priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA

Nigeria supports the approval of the priority list of veterinary drugs (Parts I and V) by CAC46

Rationale:

The use of the compounds globally is increasing and thus the need to establish the safety MRLs applicable to them to assure consumers' safety.

ITEM 4.6: Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses**Part 1 – Standards and related texts submitted for final adoption****Review of the Standard for Follow-up Formula (CXS 156-1987)**

Nigeria supports the adoption of the **Review of the Standard for Follow-up Formula (CXS 156-1987)** texts at Steps 5/8 as proposed by the committee.

Rationale:

The concerns raised during the review of the follow-up formula were extensively discussed and consensus built was on all aspects.

Amendments to the Standard for Canned Baby Foods (CXS 73-1981) and the Advisory list of nutrient compounds for use in foods for special dietary uses intended for infants and young children (CXG 10-1979)

Nigeria supports the adoption of Amendments to the Standard for Canned Baby Foods (CXS 73-1981) and the Advisory list of nutrient compounds for use in foods for special dietary uses intended for infants and young children (CXG 10-1979) at step 8

Rationale:

There is a sound scientific basis supporting the proposed amendments.

ITEM 4.7: Codex Committee on Food Additives**Part 2 – Proposals to undertake new work or revise a standard****1. Proposals for new food additive provisions of the GSFA****2. Priority List of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA.**

Nigeria supports the adoption of these new works by CCFA.

Rationale:

The proposed new work items are consistent with the scope of the committee of ensuring the safety of food additives and maintain GSFA.

ITEM 4.8: Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods**Part 1 – Standards and related texts submitted for final adoption****Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in cassava and cassava-based products.**

Nigeria supports the adoption Code of Practice for prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in cassava and cassava-based products at step 8

ML of 20 µg/kg for aflatoxin in chili pepper and nutmeg (dry/dried).

Nigeria supports the adoption of ML of 20 µg/kg for aflatoxin in chili pepper and nutmeg (dry/dried) for adoption at Step 5/8.

ITEM 4.9: Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems**Part 1 – Standards and related texts submitted for final adoption****Guidelines on Recognition and Maintenance of Equivalence of National Food Control Systems (NFCS)**

Nigeria supports the adoption of:

1. Guidelines on Recognition and Maintenance of Equivalence of National Food Control Systems (NFCS) at step8
2. Principles and Guidelines on the Use of Remote Audit and Inspection in Regulatory Frameworks.

Rationale:

The Committee has taken into consideration the technical comments raised during the committee stage with text providing practical guidance for recognition and remote audits.

Part 2 – Proposals to undertake new work or revise a standard**Review and update of Principles for Traceability/Product Tracing as a Tool within a Food Inspection and Certification System (CXG 60-2006)**

Nigeria supports the adoption of a new work proposal for the revision of the Principles for Traceability/Product Tracing as a Tool within a Food Inspection and Certification System (CXG 60-2006).

Rationale:

To ensure that the principles are aligned with the current and emerging regulatory and industry good practices and advances in technology.

ITEM 4.10: Codex Committee on Food Labelling**Part 1 – Standards and related texts submitted for adoption at Step 5****Revision to the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985): Provisions relevant to allergen labelling**

Nigeria supports the adoption of Revision to the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985): Provisions relevant to allergen labelling at step 5.

Rationale:

The adoption of the agreed text will enable the committee to progress discussions on the remaining parts in square brackets in the next session without the need to open discussion on areas where agreements have been reached and facilitate a fast conclusion of the standard to address the concerns.

Part 2 –Proposals to undertake new work or revise a standard**Amendments to the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985): Labelling of pre-packaged foods in joint presentation and multipack formats**

Nigeria supports the adoption of a new work proposal for the Amendments to the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985): Labelling of pre-packaged foods in joint presentation and multipack formats by the commission.

ITEM 4.12: Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues**Part 1 – Standards and related texts submitted for final adoption**

Nigeria supports the Consequential amendment to the:

1. Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989) (additional commodity groups in Class A – Primary food commodities of plant origin and Class D – Processed commodities of plant origin; and
2. Principles and Guidance on the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of MRLs to Commodity Groups (CXG 84-2012) (revised Group 12C – Eggplant and eggplant-like commodities, Table 2).

Rationale

The proposed animal grouping (fresh and processed) with the representative commodities will allow the extrapolation MRLs for the commodities within the groups and subgroups. The representative commodities are commercially important and have similar residue characteristics to the other commodities in the group and subgroup.

Part 2 – Proposals to undertake new work for approval**Priority list of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR**

Nigeria supports the approval to undertake new work on the priority list of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR.

Rationale:

There is need for evaluation or continued evaluation of MRLs for the different pesticides/commodity(ties) combinations to facilitate trade in safe food commodities.

Furthermore, the identified compounds meet the prioritization criteria of being registered in some countries and there is proof of both residue and toxicological data submission. Other compounds are listed for periodic review in accordance with the 15-year rule.

ITEM 4.14: Codex Committee on General Principles**Part 1 – Proposals submitted for approval**

Nigeria supports the proposals for the approval of:

1. Review of the procedures in section 3 of the PM, guidelines for subsidiary bodies.
2. Issuing of a Circular Letter soliciting proposals from Members on inconsistencies in language, and superseded content of the PM, apart from section 3.

Rationale:

Digitalization of the Codex procedural manual will improve the usability of the manual while making its update easy.

ITEM 4.15: Draft MRLs for zilpaterol hydrochloride in cattle liver, kidney and muscle

Nigeria supports the final adoption of the MRLs for zilpaterol hydrochloride set by JECFA in cattle as follows:

0.5 µg/kg for beef muscle

3.5 µg/kg for liver

3.3 µg/kg for kidney

Rationale:

Nigeria supports the science-based and progressive approach to the resolution of the issue of zilpaterol hydrochloride and the robust risk assessment of JECFA recognized by all and concerning cattle muscle, kidney and liver.