



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

73rd Session

WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland

10 - 13 July 2017

CRITICAL REVIEW

This document compiles information on the work carried by Codex subsidiary bodies, which met from 1st January 2017 to 31 March 2017¹

1. Background and structure of the document are provided in CX/EXEC 17/73/2.²

OBSERVATIONS OF THE CODEX SECRETARIAT

2. In general, the work of the four committees under review is progressing according to schedule. The following specific observations and recommendations are brought to the attention of the CCEXEC:

CCAFRICA22

3. The proposed draft regional standard for unrefined shea butter forwarded to CAC40 for final adoption has duly followed the development process. However, the food labelling provisions of the standard will be considered for endorsement only after CAC40. As no difficulties are foreseen with the endorsement, it is recommended to propose to CAC40 to consider the adoption of the standard subject to CCFL44 endorsement.
4. With regard to the workload of the Committee and the proposals for new work that will be considered by CCAFRICA23, it is recommended to invite CCAFRICA to prioritise and phase the work on the development of regional standards in order not to impact negatively on its capacity to comply with its RCC role and manage the items on the horizontal agenda of RCCs.

CCSCH3

5. The draft standards for cumin and thyme and the proposed draft standard for black, white and green pepper forwarded to CAC40 for final adoption have duly followed the development process. However, the food labelling provisions of the standards will be considered for endorsement only after CAC40. As no difficulties are foreseen with the endorsement, it is recommended to propose to CAC40 to consider the adoption of the standards subject to CCFL44 endorsement.
6. It is recommended that CCEXEC propose to CAC40 an extension of the deadline as requested by CCSCH3 for the completion of work on the draft standard for oregano.
7. With regard to the workload of the Committee and the proposals for new work (group standards) that will be considered by CCSCH4, it is recommended to invite CCSCH to phase the work on the development of standards in order to efficiently manage its work.

CCFO25

8. The draft standard for fish oils forwarded to CAC40 for final adoption has duly followed the development process. However, the food labelling provisions of the standard will be considered for endorsement only after CAC40. As no difficulties are foreseen with the endorsement, it is recommended to propose to CAC40 to consider the adoption of the standard subject to CCFL44.

¹ Information related to CCPFV28 and CCCF9 will be included in CX/EXEC 17/73/2 Add.2.

² Comments of the Chairs that were not received at the time of publication of this document will be compiled in CRDs.

9. With regard to the workload of the Committee and the proposals for new work, it is recommended to note the initiative of the Committee to develop guidance for revision of parameters or inclusion of new parameters and editorial amendments to existing fats and oils standards as this guidance will help the Committee to expedite its work.

CCFA49

10. It is recommended to note the initiative of the Committee to develop a discussion paper on future strategy for CCFA that will assist the Committee to better allocate resources, prioritize the works and tackle the outstanding issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS

11. CCEXEC is invited to critically review the work of the committees in accordance with the *Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts*, Part 2, and in particular, for each Committee, to:

- (i) Examine standards and related texts submitted to the Commission for adoption;
- (ii) Review the status of development of standards against the timeframe agreed by the Commission;
- (iii) Review proposals for development / revision of standards;
- (iv) Consider the recommendations of the Codex Secretariat.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa, Twenty-second session (16-20 January 2017)
- Appendix 2: Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs, Third session (6-10 February 2017)
- Appendix 3: Committee on Fat and Oils, Twenty-fifth session (17 February – 3 March 2017)
- Appendix 4: Committee on Food Additives, Forty-ninth session (20-24 March 2017)

Appendix 1**FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA (22ND SESSION, 16-20 JANUARY 2017) (REP17/AFRICA)****Texts forwarded to CAC40 for adoption**

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Proposed draft Regional standard for unrefined shea butter	N08-2015	2019	5/8	1.2	-	Ref. para. 77 and Appendix III CCAFRICA22 noted that no outstanding issues existed for the draft regional Standard and therefore agreed to forward it to CAC40 for adoption. Endorsement Methods of analysis to be endorsed by CCMAS (May 2017) Labelling to be endorsed by CCFL (October 2017)
Comments by the Chairperson:						
The Chair underscores the cooperation and interest demonstrated by the delegates leading to endorsement of the document on shea butter. The work has been completed ahead of schedule.						
The Committee notes with appreciation the support rendered by the Codex Secretariat that resulted in accomplishment of the work.						

Texts forwarded to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Proposed draft Regional standard for fermented cooked cassava (<i>Manihot</i> spp.) based products	N07-2015	2019	5	1.2	-	Ref. para. 73 and Appendix II CCAFRICA22: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted that substantial progress had been made on the draft standard but that some issues needed to be further clarified and discussed, i.e. quality factors (specific criteria); contaminants; other names for inclusion in the Annex. Agreed to forward the proposed draft Regional standard to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5.
Proposed draft Regional standard for <i>Gnetum</i> spp. leaves	N09-2015	2019	5	1.2	-	Ref. para. 82 and Appendix II CCAFRICA22:

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that substantial progress had been made on the draft standard but that a few issues needed to be further clarified and discussed, i.e. the relationship between the proximate composition table and the scope; the layout of the standard. • Agreed to forward the proposed draft Regional standard to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5.
<p>Comments by the Chairperson:</p> <p>There were in-session Working Groups during the plenary sessions for the two proposed draft regional standards. The in-session groups were geared towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonising the diverse opinions expressed by the delegates • Offsetting the limited participation by members during the electronic working groups. ‘ <p>The in-session Working Groups helped advance the documents to step 5.</p>						

Ongoing Work (Step 2/3 and 4)

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Proposed draft Regional standard on dried meat	N07-2016	2019	2/3	1.2	-	Ref. para. 70 CCAFFRICA22 agreed to re-establish an EWG to continue preparing the proposed draft regional standard, taking into consideration comments from this committee, and report back at the next session of CCAFRICA.
<p>Comments by the Chairperson:</p> <p>CCAFRICA noted that there was a need to re-establish electronic Working Groups. This was aimed to facilitate inclusion of identified areas and also to broaden participation by experts.</p>						

Discussion Papers and others

Documents	Explanatory Notes
Monitoring of the Strategic Plan for CCAFRICA 2014 – 2019:	Ref. para. 62 CCAFRICA22 noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance to continue the implementation of the regional Strategic Plan for CCAFRICA 2014-2019 and agreed to use the current regional strategic plan as well as comments provided at this session to provide inputs during the development of the new global Codex Strategic Plan (2020-2025). • The implementation of the Strategic Plan was the responsibility of all Members of the Region. • The importance to develop a data bank for experts and agreed that the Coordinator working closely with CCPs would reactivate the concept of developing a regional databank of experts.
Discussion paper on a regional standard for a fermented non-alcoholic cereal based drink (Mahewu)	Ref. para. 87 CCAFRICA22 noted the information provide and encouraged Swaziland to submit a discussion paper along with a draft project document including a draft proposal at its next session.
Discussion paper on a harmonised food law for the CCAFRICA region	Ref. paras 28 and 49 CCAFRICA22 requested Kenya to prepare and submit a discussion paper together with a project document and a draft harmonized food law for the African region for consideration at its next session.
<p><u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u></p> <p><u>Monitoring of the Strategic Plan for CCAFRICA 2014 – 2019:</u> The Committee recognized that the current Regional Strategic Plan was a starting point to input of the global strategic plan. The Committee lauded with thanks the achievements of Codex Trust Fund -1 towards effective participation in Codex meetings. The delegates however felt that financial assistance focused on participation is still essential.</p> <p><u>Discussion paper on a regional standard for a fermented non-alcoholic cereal based drink (Mahewu)</u> The Committee supported the proposal of new work by Swaziland as the commodity is widely consumed in the CCAFRICA region.</p> <p><u>Discussion paper on a harmonised food law for the CCAFRICA region.</u> The Committee unanimously recognized the urgent need of a model food law to protect consumers' health, reduce the burden of food borne diseases and enhance intra-Africa trade in food. The Committee encouraged Kenya to develop the project document and the discussion paper.</p>	

Overall workload of the Committee

Committee sessions	Step 8 and 5/8	Step 5	Other texts for adoption	Ongoing work	New Work	Discussion paper	Revoked Standards, Discontinued work or discussion paper
CCAFRICA22	1	2	-	1	-	3	-
<p><u>Explanatory Notes:</u></p> <p>In view of the particular mandate of FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees (RCCs) to: (i) define the problems and needs of the region concerning food standards and food control; (ii) promote within the Committee contacts for mutual exchange of information on proposed regulatory initiatives and problems arising from food control and stimulate the strengthening of food control infrastructures; (iii) draw the attention of the Commission to any aspects of the Commission's work of particular significance to the region; (iv) promote coordination of all regional food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations within the region; (v) exercise a general coordinating role for the region and such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Commission; and (vi) promote the use of Codex standards and related texts by members (as described in the Terms of reference of FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees – Procedural Manual) and the ongoing revitalisation process, it is important that specific work (in particular work on regional standards development) does not negatively impact of the capacity of RCCs to deal with their particular role and the horizontal items of their agenda.</p> <p>CCAFRICA work on standards development is on schedule: CCAFRICA22 has completed the regional standard for unrefined shea butter ahead of time and work on the other three documents is due for completion by the CCAFRICA23. However, the current workload seems to require a particular effort from CCAFRICA countries of the region as at its next session CCAFRICA will have to consider two proposals for new work and start work on the development of a new regional strategic plan as the current regional Strategic Plan is finishing on 2019.</p> <p>CCAFRICA22 confirmed that the priority setting criteria for the establishment of work priorities and the decision-making criteria for the development of Codex standards and related texts as laid down in the Procedural Manual were sufficient to ensure that the standards and work areas identified as priority were progressed in a timely manner by CCAFRICA. Therefore, at present, there was no need to develop a new criteria, however should need arise in future, the Coordinating Committee would consider the matter (para. 39).</p>							
<p><u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u></p> <p>The Chair concurs with the explanatory notes on the overall workload of the Committee.</p>							

Appendix 2**COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS (3RD SESSION, 6-10 FEBRUARY 2017) (REP17/SCH)****Texts forwarded to CAC40 for adoption**

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Draft standard for cumin	N05-2014	2017	8	1.2	-	<p>Ref. para. 29 and Appendix II</p> <p>CCSCH3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted that substantial progress had been made on the standard and all outstanding issues had been addressed. Agreed to forward the draft standard to CAC40 for adoption at Step 8. <p>Endorsement</p> <p>Food labelling provisions were endorsed by CCFL43 however additional labelling provisions will have to be endorsed by CCFL44 (October 2017).</p> <p>Food additive provisions were endorsed by CCFA48.</p> <p>Methods of analysis were endorsed by CCMAS37; additional methods of analysis and draft sampling plan to be endorsed by CCMAS38 (May 2017)</p>
Draft standard for thyme	N07-2014		8	1.2	-	<p>Ref. para. 38 and Appendix III</p> <p>CCSCH3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted that all outstanding issues had been addressed. Agreed to forward the draft standard to CAC40 for adoption at Step 8. <p>Endorsement</p> <p>Food labelling provisions to be endorsed by CCFL44 (October 2017).</p> <p>Food additive provisions were endorsed by CCFA48 and explanation allowing use of all anticaking agents in Table 3 of the GSFA will be noted.</p>

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
						Methods of analysis were endorsed by CCMAS37 and draft sampling plan to be endorsed by CCMAS38 (May 2017)
Proposed draft standard for black, white and green pepper	N04-2014	2017	5/8	1.2	-	<p>Ref. para. 42 and Appendix IV</p> <p>CCSCH3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted that all outstanding issues had been addressed. Agreed to forward the proposed draft standard to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5/8. <p>Endorsement</p> <p>Food additive provisions were endorsed by CCFA49.</p> <p>Provisions for food labelling and methods of analysis to be endorsed by CCMAS38 (May 2017) and CCFL44 (October 2017), respectively.</p>
<p><u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u></p> <p>The Committee has spent 36 months on elaborating draft standards for these important spices and culinary herbs, incorporated all relevant comments and addressed concerns both through EWGs and in plenary, hence the drafts are recommended for adoption.</p>						

Ongoing Work (Step 2/3 and 4)

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Proposed draft standard for oregano	N06-2014	2017	2/3	1.2	-	<p>Ref. paras 51-54</p> <p>CCSCH3 agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return the proposed draft standard to Steps 2/3. Establish an EWG to prepare a revised proposed draft standard for all products traded as oregano and to consider how a draft standard could be subsequently incorporated into a grouping under the new system being developed in the Committee, with the understanding that should there be no progress on the work, CCSCH4 will consider discontinuing work.

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform CCEXEC on the extension of the timeline for completion of work to 2019.
<p><u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u> Decision of the Committee is in line with its work on grouping of spices and culinary herbs with a view to further develop group standards and minimise the work of the Committee</p>						

Proposals for new work forwarded to CAC40 for approval

Documents	Timeframe		Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Reference and project document	Target Year			
Group standard for dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs (dried or dehydrated ginger and dried garlic)	Para. 82 and Appendices V and VII	2021	1.2	-	<p>CCSCH3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed a strategy for developing horizontal group standard for spices and culinary herbs and agreed to adopt the grouping category based on plant parts, as this provided the possibility of sub-dividing the work into manageable units. Agreed that (i) the grouping strategy would involve elaborating general requirements for a particular group of spices falling under the same plant part category while the specific requirements for each spice or herb under that given group would be put in an Annex; and (ii) inclusion of a spice or culinary herb in an Annex to a group standard would require submission of a project document. <p>The project documents of the individual spices and culinary herbs to be covered by the five group standards are complete and provide adequate information regarding the criteria for the establishment of work priorities, including the criteria applicable to commodities.</p>
Group standard for dried fruits and berries (dried chili peppers and paprika)	Para. 82 and Appendix VI	2021	1.2	-	
Group standard for floral parts (cloves and saffron)	Para. 82 and Appendices IX and XI	2021	1.2	-	
Group standard for dried seed (nutmeg)	Para. 82 and Appendix X	2021	1.2	-	
Group standard for dried leaves (basil)	Para. 82 and Appendix VIII	2021	1.2	-	
<p><u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u> This decision is based on the understanding that it would take at least 30-40 years for the Committee to elaborate standards for important spices and culinary herbs (if not for all the commodities listed) traded across the globe; presuming that elaboration of standards proceeds at the present speed i.e. on an average one standard per year. This approach though tentative, may be supported by the Commission in the interest of completion of committee's work at a reasonable period of time. Further this approach is in line with the Strategic Plan of Codex.</p>					

Discussion papers and others

Documents	Explanatory Notes
Sampling plans for cumin and thyme	Ref. para. 57 CCSCH3 agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt and incorporate the draft sampling plans into the draft standards for cumin and thyme. • Forward the draft sampling plans for cumin and thyme for endorsement by CCMAS.
Strategy for developing horizontal group standards, including general standard template to facilitate elaboration of new standards	Ref. para. 69 CCSCH3 agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend to CAC40 to approve the strategy for developing horizontal group standards which would enable the Committee to increase its outputs as well as complete its work in a defined time. • Inform the CAC, that to facilitate its work, the general standard template had been developed and this would be used for the new standards
Discussion paper on glossary terms for spices and culinary herbs	Ref. para. 70 CCSCH3 agreed to maintain the document (CX/SCH 17/3/9) as an internal reference tool to be used as required when drafting standards and noted that in no way should the document contravene the Procedural Manual especially regarding existing Codex definitions such as food additives and contaminants.
Discussion paper on further processing – in the context of spices and culinary herbs	Ref. para. 75 CCSCH3 agreed to the definitions for “further processing” and “industrial processing” for use in the Committee.
<u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u> The Committee agreed to prepare discussion papers which were absolutely necessary for clear understanding and to save time of the plenary, this has worked well for the Committee and at present Committee has no fresh proposal.	

Overall workload of the Committee

Committee sessions	Step 8 and 5/8	Step 5	Other texts for adoption	Ongoing work	New Work	Discussion paper	Revoked Standards, Discontinued work or discussion paper
CCSCH3	3	-	1	-	5	-	4

Explanatory Notes:

Overall the work of CCSCH is progressing well. After three sessions since its establishment, CCSCH has forwarded three standards to the Commission for adoption and is still working on the standard for oregano which scope has been broaden to include “all products traded as oregano”. The development of these texts has allowed the Committee to develop a general template for standards for spices and culinary herbs that will ensure consistency and alignment of standards developed by the Committee. In parallel to the discussion on standards for individual commodity, the Committee has also developed a strategy for grouping spices and culinary herbs (based on plant parts) which would enable the Committee to increase its outputs as well as complete its work on standardisation of spices and culinary herbs in a defined time. CCSCH3 forwarded proposals for five group standards, covering seven commodities, to CAC40 for approval as new work.

While the CCSCH strategy for grouping spices and culinary herbs is consistent with Codex preference for overarching versus commodity specific standards and is allowing the Committee to expedite its work on the standardisation of spices and culinary herbs (a comprehensive list of 113 spices and culinary herbs was developed by CCSCH1), it seems quite challenging starting the work on five new group standards at the same time. Therefore, it is advisable that based on the progress on these new texts the Committee consider at its next session whether a phased approach would facilitate steady progress.

Comments by the Chairperson:

Appendix 3**COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS (25TH SESSION, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA, 27 FEBRUARY – 3 MARCH 2017) (REP17/FO)****Texts forwarded to CAC40 for adoption**

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Draft Standard for Fish Oils	N09-2011	2015	8	1.2	-	<p>Ref. para. 28 and Appendix III</p> <p>CCFO25 agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forward the draft standard for fish oils to CAC40 for adoption at Step 8. • Inform CCCF of the completion of its work and to reconfirm its request for CCCF to establish ML for arsenic, in particular inorganic arsenic, and ML for lead in fish oil. • Inform CCFICS of concerns of the CCFO with regard to authenticity of different fish oils and that consideration be given to this issue in their work on food authenticity/integrity. <p>Endorsement</p> <p>Food additive provisions were endorsed by CCFA47 (REP16/FA para. and Appendix V).</p> <p>Labelling provisions will be considered by CCFL44 (October 2017) for endorsement.</p> <p>Methods of analysis and sampling will be considered by CCMAS38 (May 2017) for endorsement and inclusion in the <i>Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling</i> (CXS 234-1999).</p>
Proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 33-1981): Revision of the limits of campesterol	N12-2015	2017	5/8	1.2	-	<p>Ref. para. 34 and Appendix IV</p> <p>CCFO25 agreed to forward the proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils</i> to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5/8 in view of the general support for the inclusion of the proposed note to the limit of campesterol.</p>
Proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Revision of Quality Parameters for Peanut Oil	N11-2015	2017	5/8	1.2	-	<p>Ref. para. 48 and Appendix VI</p> <p>CCFO25 agreed to forward the proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5/8</p>

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Amendment to the sections on flavourings of: CODEX STAN 19-1981 (Section 3.3); CODEX STAN 210-1999 (Section 4.1); and CODEX STAN 256-2007 (Section 4.6).	-	-	-	1.2	-	Ref. para. 13(iii) and Appendix II Part. B CCFO25 agreed to forward the amendment to the section on flavourings of the Standards to CAC40 for adoption as per request of CCFA48.
Amendment to Section 2 in the Appendix of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): fatty acid range of crude rice bran oil	-	-	-	1.2	-	Ref. para. 82 and Appendix IX CCFO25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognised that the inclusion of the “Note” on the applicability of the fatty acid composition of rice bran oil to the crude form of the oil was not intended to broaden the scope of the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils but to provide clarity in the trade of crude rice bran oil. Agreed to include a note to indicate that the fatty acid range of rice bran oil given in the standard is also applicable to crude rice bran oil not intended for direct human consumption Agreed to forward the proposed amendment to CAC40 for adoption.
<p>Comments by the Chairperson:</p> <p>All standards described above forwarded for adoption by CAC have been finalized after extensive discussion.</p> <p>A physical working group (PWG) on the draft Standard for Fish Oils was convened prior to the plenary session and was chaired by Switzerland. General agreement and compromises was achieved on the draft standard during the PWG which enabled this draft standard to progress smoothly during the plenary session. With regard to the concern of CCFO on authenticity of different oils, the Committee agreed to inform CCFICS of this concern and that consideration be given to this in their work on authenticity/integrity.</p> <p>In the spirit of compromise, significant progress was also achieved on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 33-1981); Revision of the limits of campesterol, Proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999); Revision of Quality Parameters for Peanut Oil; and Amendment to Section 2 in the Appendix of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): fatty acid range of crude rice bran oil. 						

Texts forwarded to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Addition of Palm Oil with High Oleic Acid (OXG)	N10-2015	2019	5	1.2	-	<p>Ref. para. 43 and Appendix V</p> <p>CCFO25 noted that substantial progress had been made on the proposed draft revision (Section 3) and that the use of the term “high oleic acid palm oil” under product definition needed further consideration and agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place the product definition in section 2.1 in square brackets. Forward the proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5. Request CCFL advice on what might constitute high and mid oleic acid in vegetable oils.

Comments by the Chairperson:

General agreement was made on Section 3 of the draft standard i.e. the Essential composition and quality factors.

There were differences in opinion among Members on Section 2.1 “Product Definition” where there are divergent views on whether the term “high oleic acid” was appropriate or the product could be best described as “mid oleic acid”. In view of the implication of its name to the labelling provisions, guidance and advice from CCFL is requested so that progress can be made on this draft standard at the next session of CCFO.

Proposals for new work forwarded to CAC40 for approval

Documents	Timeframe		Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Reference and project document	Target Year			
Revision of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Essential composition of sunflowerseed oils	Para. 66 and Appendix VII	2019	1.2	-	<p>CCFO25 agreed that the purpose of the proposed new work was to adapt the composition parameters for oleic and linoleic acids to reduce the existing gaps of the ranges for these two fatty acids between sunflowerseed and “mid-oleic acid” sunflowerseed oil and to consider the definitions in Section 2.1 so as to delink the product from the type of seed from which it is made.</p> <p>CCFO25 agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start new work on the revision of limits of oleic and linoleic acids in sunflowerseed oils and the associated definitions in 2.1.

Documents	Timeframe		Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Reference and project document	Target Year			
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the project document to the CAC40 for approval as new work. • Establish an EWG to prepare the proposed draft revision of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999) for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at CCFO26, subject to CAC40 approval of the new work. <p>The project document is complete and provides adequate information regarding the criteria for the establishment of work priorities, including the criteria applicable to commodities.</p>
Revision of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Inclusion of walnut oil, almond oil, hazelnut oil, pistachio oil, flaxseed oil and avocado oil	Para. 70		1.2		<p>CCFO25 generally supported the proposed new work and noted that the six oils proposed for inclusion in the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> were emerging as high value and nutritionally important oils in international trade and needed to be regulated in view of their growing importance in the international trade.</p> <p>CCFO also noted that the project document required revision to better reflect the global trend in trade of the six oils and include some missing information.</p> <p>Therefore, CCFO 25 agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To start new work on the inclusion of the provision for walnut oil, almond oil, hazelnut oil, pistachio oil, flaxseed oil and avocado oil in the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i>. • That Iran revise and submit a revised project document to CAC40 for approval as new work through the Codex Secretariat. • To establish an EWG to prepare the proposed draft provisions of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at CCFO26, subject to CAC40 approval of the new work. <p>Please note that the project document, prepared by Iran, will be compiled in a separate document for Critical Review.</p>

Documents	Timeframe		Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Reference and project document	Target Year			
Revision of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Replacement of acid value with free fatty acids for virgin palm oil and inclusion of free fatty acids for crude palm kernel oil	Para. 75 and Appendix VIII	2019	1.2	-	<p>CCFO25 generally supported the proposed new work and agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start new work on the on the replacement of acid value with free fatty acids for virgin palm oil and inclusion of free fatty acids for crude palm kernel oil in Section 1 of Appendix in the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i>. • Submit the project document to CAC40 for approval as new work. • Request Malaysia to prepare the proposed draft revision of the Standard for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at CCFO26, subject to CAC40 approval of the new work. <p>The project document is complete and provides adequate information regarding the criteria for the establishment of work priorities, including the criteria applicable to commodities.</p>
Revision of the <i>Standard for Olive Oils and Pomace Olive Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 33-1981)	Para. 89 and Appendix X	2021	1.2	-	<p>CCFO25 generally supported the proposal noting that the revision would accommodate greater variability of the oils coming from new and traditional producing countries and provide more effective tools to combat fraud and facilitate trade.</p> <p>Consequentially, CCFO25 agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start new work on the revision of Sections 3, 8 and the Appendix of the <i>Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils</i>. • Submit the project document to CAC40 for approval as new work. • Establish an EWG, to prepare the proposed draft revisions of the Standard for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at CCFO26, subject to CAC40 approval of the new work. • Convene a PWG, meeting immediately prior to CCFO26, to consider the report of the EWG and comments submitted <p>The project document is complete and provides adequate information regarding the criteria for the</p>

Documents	Timeframe		Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Reference and project document	Target Year			
					establishment of work priorities, including the criteria applicable to commodities.
Comments by the Chairperson:					
<p>In general, discussion on proposals for new work during the plenary session focused entirely on justifying the need for new work and any specific proposed values were not discussed until the new work is approved by the Commission. Discussion was made to evaluate whether the submitted project documents provide adequate information based on the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities and the Guideline on the Application of Work Priorities (Criteria Applicable to Commodities) as stated in the Procedural Manual as well as additional requirements for proposing the addition of new oils to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils established during CCFO16.</p> <p>There was prevailing spirit of goodwill among Members and their willingness to assist other Members in improving the Project Document for CCEXEC Critical Review.</p>					

Discussion papers and others

Documents	Explanatory Notes
Topics under consideration	
Guidance for revision of parameters or inclusion of new parameters and editorial amendments to existing fats and oils standards	<p>Ref. para. 9</p> <p>CCFO25 noted that the CCFO16 had developed specific requirements for the inclusion of fats and oils to its standards but that guidance for addressing other aspects of its work, e.g. revision and/or inclusion of parameters for named fats and editorial amendments, was still missing. To address these aspects and for improving the management of its work, CCFO25 agreed that the CCFO Secretariat would prepare a discussion paper to address these needs.</p>
Alignment of the food additive provisions in the standards for fats and oils	<p>Ref. para. 13(ii)</p> <p>CCFO25 agreed to establish an EWG to: (i) review food additive provisions in Standards for fats and oils (except the standard for fish oils) in order to align with the GSFA or propose modifications to the current entries of the GSFA if necessary; and (ii) further explore the technological justification for the use of emulsifiers in products covered by FC 02.1.2 and the existing standards for fats and oils (except the standard for fish oils).</p>
Information on monitor the application of the standard for fish oil with respect to the conformity of named fish oils with the requirements (especially the fatty acid profile) and its effect on trade (replies to CL).	<p>Ref. para. 28(vi) and (vii)</p> <p>CCFO25 agreed to (i) request the Codex Secretariat to issue a CL to request information to monitor the application of the standard with respect to the conformity of named fish oils with the requirements (especially the fatty acid profile) and its effect on trade and (ii) request Chile and Switzerland to compile the information submitted and report to CCFO26.</p>
Review of the list of acceptable previous cargoes: Appendix 2 to <i>Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk</i> (CAC/RCP 36-1987)	<p>Ref. paras 56-57</p> <p>CCFO25 agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request the Codex Secretariat to issue a CL inviting interested members and observers to propose further amendments to Appendix 2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an EWG to: (i) consider proposals on new substances to be added to the list; (ii) prioritise substances to be submitted to FAO and WHO for evaluation; (iii) consider proposals to remove substances from the list in light of new data; and (iv) prepare a report for consideration by CCFO26. Inform FAO/WHO that the evaluation of 23 substances was a matter of priority for CCFO and to encourage FAO/WHO to evaluate the 23 substances as soon as possible.
Applicability of the fatty acid composition of other oils listed in Table 1 of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999) in relation to their corresponding crude form	<p>Ref. para. 83</p> <p>CCFO25:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recalled the conclusion of CCFO16 to consider the question of the applicability of Table 1 "Fatty acid composition of vegetable oils" to the crude oils at a later date. Agreed to establish an EWG to prepare a discussion paper for CCFO26 consideration.
Unrefined edible tallow in the <i>Standard for Named Animal Fats</i> (CODEX STAN 211-1999)	<p>Ref. paras 84-85</p> <p>CCFO25 postponed discussion on this topic to its next session noting that Australia was still collecting necessary data and information for the preparation of the discussion paper and project document.</p>
Inclusion of free fatty acids as quality characteristics criteria for refined rice bran oils in the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oil</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999)	<p>Ref. para. 90</p> <p>CCFO25 agreed to the proposal of Thailand to prepare a discussion paper, including a project document, for consideration at CCFO26 on the inclusion of free fatty acids as quality parameters in <i>the Standard for Named Vegetable Oil</i>, noting that these parameters were currently being used in trade.</p>
Change in the temperature for the analysis of refractive index and apparent density of palm superolein in the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999)	<p>Ref. para. 93</p> <p>CCFO25 considered a proposal from Malaysia to change the experimental temperature for the determination of some parameters (refractive index and apparent density) of palm superolein oil. In view of the late availability of the proposal CCFO25 agreed to request comment on the proposal for consideration at CCFO26.</p>
Discontinued topics	
Transfer of provisions, other than those in Table 3 and Table 4, from the appendix into the main body of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (Codex STAN 210-1999)	<p>Ref. para. 53</p> <p>CCFO 25 agreed to discontinue consideration of this topic as there was no clear support to transfer provisions of Tables 3 and 4 from the Appendix into the main body of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i>.</p>
Comments by the Chairperson:	
<p>1. There are a number of on-going works under this Committee and the meeting was able to deliberate on all the 17 items set out on the agenda for this session. The establishment of electronic working group (EWG) for some agenda items had assisted in ensuring progress can be made during the plenary session.</p> <p>2. Several proposals for new work were made during this session. In proposing any new work, Members were reminded to comply with the relevant guidelines, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities; Guideline on the Application of the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities (Criteria Applicable to Commodities) in the Procedural Manual; and Additional requirements for proposing the addition of new oils to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils established during CCFO16. 	

Overall workload of the Committee

Committee sessions	Step 8 and 5/8	Step 5	Other texts for adoption	Ongoing work	New Work	Discussion paper	Revoked Standards, Discontinued work or discussion paper
CCFO25	3	1	2	-	4	8	1

Explanatory Notes:

Overall the work of CCFO is progressing well and CCFO25 could forward five documents for adoption. However, the overall workload of the Committee still remain quite high (one document at Step 5, four new work items and eight discussion papers, of which four might become new work). Although the development of additional guidance to address specific aspects of CCFO work could expedite the way the Committee is working on the specific aspects of current standards, it seems still necessary for the Committee to consider developing a mechanisms (e.g. forward plan) which should help expediting their work. The additional guidance to be developed by CCFO could also address whether full project documents for this type for work is required.

Comments by the Chairperson:

CCFO is a commodity-based Committee and has successfully developed several standards over the years. The work management of CCFO has always been based on guidelines in the Procedural Manual as well as additional requirements developed by CCFO.

It can be noted that the work of this Committee can essentially be grouped into several areas as below:

- a. Develop standard for new oils and fats
- b. Revision of parameters or inclusion of new parameters in existing oils and fats standard
- c. Editorial amendments to existing oils and fats standards

For the purpose of developing standards for new oils or fats (item a), CCFO16 has developed requirements for proposing the addition of new oils to the *Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* where those requirements are also applicable to new animal fats.

However, there are no specific guidance for the revision of parameters or inclusion of new parameters in existing oils and fats standard and editorial amendments to existing oils and fats standards (items b and c). Proposal for these new work have increased in recent sessions of the Committee. It is therefore timely for the Committee to consider developing guidance to facilitate the work of the Committee in these areas. Such guidance would be able to help countries to better prepare their proposals to meet the requirements, and hence, facilitate discussion and decision by the Committee.

Appendix 4**COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES (49TH SESSION, 20-24 MARCH 2017) (REP17/FA)****Texts forwarded to CAC40 for adoption**

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Proposed draft <i>Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives</i>	ongoing	-	5/8	1.1/1.2	84 th JECFA (June 2017)	Ref. para. 41 and App. III, Part A CCFA49 agreed to forward the full specifications for food additives and for flavourings (new and revised) to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5/8. Please Note The specifications, adopted by reference, will be included in the <i>List of Codex Specifications for Food Additives</i> (CAC/MISC 6).
Draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA)	ongoing	-	5/8 and 8	1.1/1.2	JECFA	Ref. paras 72, 108(i) and App. VI, Part A CCFA49 agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the maximum level of benzoates in FC 14.1.4 at 250 mg/kg with Note 13 (as benzoic acid) and to revise Note 301 to read "interim maximum level until CCFA50". Forward to CAC40 the draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the GSFA, for adoption at Step 8 and Step 5/8.
Proposed draft revision of the <i>Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives</i> (CAC/GL 36-1989)	ongoing	-	5/8	1.1/1.2	-	Ref. para. 117(i) and App. X CCFA49 agreed to forward the proposed draft revision to the INS to CAC40 for adoption at Step 5/8.
Amendment to the Introduction of the <i>List of Codex Specifications for Food Additives</i> (CAC/MISC 6)	-	-	-	1.1/1.2	-	Ref. para. 41 and App. III, Part B CCFA49 agreed to forward the amendment to the Introduction of the <i>List of Codex Specifications for Food Additives</i> (CAC/MISC 6-2016) to CAC40 for adoption. Please Note This amendment is intended to address the concern of delegations on the reference made to secondary additives in two specifications.
Revised food additives provisions of the GSFA related to the alignment of the	-	-	-	1.1/1.2		Ref. para. 55(i) point c,d,e and App. VI, Part B

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
standards for frozen fish products and of the <i>Standards for Certain Canned Citrus Fruits</i> (CODEX STAN 254- 2007), <i>Preserved Tomatoes</i> (CODEX STAN 13-1981), <i>Processed Tomato Concentrates</i> (CODEX STAN 57-1981) and <i>Table Olives</i> (CODEX STAN 66-1981) and the EDTA provisions of the <i>Standard for Canned Shrimps or Prawns</i> (CODEX STAN 37-1981)						CCFA49 agreed to forward to CAC40 for adoption a number of food additives provisions of the GSFA related to its work on alignment.
Revised food additives sections of the <i>Standards for Preserved Tomatoes</i> (CODEX STAN 13-1981), <i>Processed Tomato Concentrates</i> (CODEX STAN 57-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Fin-Fish, Uneviscerated and Eviscerated</i> (CODEX STAN 36-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Shrimps or Prawns</i> (CODEX STAN 92-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Lobsters</i> (CODEX STAN 95-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Blocks of Fish Filets</i> (CODEX STAN 165-1989), <i>Quick Frozen Fish Fillet</i> (CODEX STAN 190-1995); <i>Quick Frozen Fish Sticks (Fish Fingers), Fish Portions and Fish Fillets – Breaded and in Batter</i> (CODEX STAN 166-1989), and <i>Fresh and Quick Frozen Raw Scallop Products</i> (CODEX STAN 315-2014)	-	-	-	1.1/1.2		Ref. para. 55(i) point a, b and App. V CCFA49 agreed to forward to CAC40 for adoption the revised food additives section of a number of commodity standards related to its work on alignment.
<u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u>						
Food additive specifications, the INS system and GSFA which is the key work of CCFA are all regular task of CCFA. CCFA allocates two more days on PWG at each session to discuss the acceptable maximum levels for individual food additives. A big progress has been made in CCFA49 with more than 400 provisions agreed for adoption. With understanding that GSFA should be the only reference on food additives in the Codex system, CCFA has been working on the alignment work for several sessions. After accomplishing the alignment with commodity standards on meat and meat products, chocolates and coca products, CCFA 49 started the alignment work on fish and fishery products in this session.						

Ongoing Work (Step 2/3, 4 and 7)

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
Draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA)	ongoing	-	Various steps	1.1/1.2		Ref. para. 109 CCFA50 will continue working on the GSFA and in particular will address: (i) replies of CCPFV and CCFO concerning the technological justification of food additives in relevant food categories (FC); (ii) proposed draft provisions for lutein esters from <i>Tagetes erecta</i> (INS 161b(iii)) and octenyl succinic acid (OSA)-modified gum arabic (INS 423) in Table 3; (iii) provisions for food additives with Note 22 in FC 09.2.5; (iv) provision for trisodium citrate in FC 01.1.1; (v) provisions related to FC 01.1.1; (vi) draft and proposed draft provisions in the GSFA in FC 09.0 to FC 16.0, with the exception of those additives with technological functions of colour or sweetener, adipates, nitrites and nitrates and the provisions related to FC 14.2.3; and (vii) Proposed draft provisions related to FC 1.1.2 with the exception of food additives provisions with the function of colour and sweetener.
Revision of the <i>Class Names and the International Numbering System (INS) for Food Additives</i> (CAC/GL 36-1989)	ongoing	-	1,2,3	1.1/1.2		Ref. para. 117(ii) CCFA49 agreed to establish an EWG to consider: (i) replies to the CL on addition and changes to INS (CL 2017/46-FA); (ii) addition of sequestrant function to malic acid DL- (INS 296); and (iii) the issue of naming of steviol glycosides and INS number.
Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives (84 th JECFA)	ongoing	-	1,2,3	1.1/1.2		CCFA50 will consider for adoption the Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives prepared by the 84 th meeting of JECFA (June 2017).
Alignment of the food additive provisions of commodity standards and relevant provisions of the GSFA; revised approach to listing commodity standards in Table 3 of the GSFA and guidance for commodity committees on the alignment	ongoing	-	-	1.1/1.2		Ref. para. 55(ii) point a,b,c,d CCFA49 agreed to establish an EWG to: (i) finalise alignment work for the remaining the standards for fish and fish products; (ii) consider a revised approach to listing corresponding commodity standards in Table 3

Documents	Timeframe		Current Status	Output Codes	Scientific Advice	Explanatory Notes
	Job ID or year	Target Year				
						of the GSFA; (iii) finalise the alignment of the <i>Standard for Certain Canned Fruits</i> (CODEX STAN 319-2015) (annexes on canned pears and canned pineapples); and (iv) finalise guidance for commodity committees on the alignment of food additive provisions of commodity standards with the GSFA.
Proposal for additions and changes to the Priority List of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA	ongoing	-	-	1.1/1.2		CCFA50 will consider replies to the CL on the Priority List of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA (CL 2017/48-FA).
<p><u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u></p> <p>On GSFA: a heavy workload is in front of the Committee, with many specific issues on some individual food category or substances. Thousands of draft and proposed draft provisions in another half of food category of GSFA need to be discussed, with many of those related to the famous “note 161”.</p> <p>On alignment: There are numerous commodity standards that remain to be aligned with the GSFA that are the subject of active commodity committees with physical meetings. A guidance for commodity committees on the alignment is still needed and will be developed by the next session.</p> <p>On the priority list: more and more substances have been put on the priority list which need to be further prioritized considering the limit resources of JECFA.</p>						

Discussion papers and others

Documents	Explanatory Notes
Discussion paper on the use of the terms “unprocessed” and “plain” in the GSFA	Ref. para. 90 CCFA49 supported the proposal of the Russian Federation to prepare, for the next session of the CCFA, a discussion paper on their concern regarding the use of the terms “unprocessed” and “plain” in the GSFA.
Discussion paper on the use of nitrates (INS 251, 252) and nitrites (INS 249, 250)	Ref. para. 106 CCFA49 agreed to establish an EWG with the following Terms of Reference: On the basis of concerns identified for the food additive use of nitrates and nitrites in paper CX/FA 17/49/11: (i) Analyse which issues can be addressed by the Committee and for which scientific advice is required; (ii) Suggest an approach for the risk management issues to be addressed by the Committee; and (iii) Clarify the scope of the question(s) to be addressed by JECFA or other appropriate FAO/WHO scientific advice body by taking into consideration the feasibility and data availability for such advice.
Discussion paper on “Future Strategies for CCFA”	Ref. para. 141 CCFA49 agreed that the Chairs of the four working groups (i.e. Working Groups on: GSFA; Alignment; INS and JECFA Priority) working with China (host of CCFA), would develop a discussion paper on “Future Strategies for CCFA”
Discontinued/completed	
Revocation and discontinuation of food additive provisions of the GSFA	Ref. para. 108(ii),(iv) and App. VII and IX CCFA49 agreed to: (i) forward to CAC40 the food additive provisions of the GSFA recommended for revocation; and (ii) discontinue work on a number of food additive provisions of the GSFA.
Discussion paper of the use of food additives in the production of wine	Ref. para. 102 In view of the lack of consensus on the text of the footnote to be associated with the food additive provisions belonging to the following functional classes: acidity regulators, stabilizers and antioxidants for the food categories of wine, CCFA49 agreed to discontinue consideration of this topic and noted that the food additive provisions for grape wine (FC 14.2.3) would continue to be held at the current step.
<p><u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u></p> <p>It’s pity that the CCFA 49 didn’t succeed to achieve consensus on food additive provisions in the production of wine. The Chair will encourage related parties keep working on the compromised solution.</p> <p>CCFA 50 will discuss the discussion paper on the strategy for CCFA. As proposed by the Chair, a “One CCFA” concept will be used to prepare the paper with focusing on how to allocate resources, how to prioritize the works and how to tackle the outstanding issues such as note 161. The first round of comments soliciting have collected many very valuable and constructive comments from member countries and observers.</p>	

Overall workload of the Committee

Committee sessions	Step 8 and 5/8	Step 5	Other texts for adoption	Ongoing work	New work	Discussion paper	Revoked standards, discontinued work or discussion paper
CCFA49	3	-	3	5	-	3	2
<p><u>Explanatory Notes:</u></p> <p>The main focus of the CCFA work continues to be the GSFA, in particular the completion of consideration of the outstanding draft provisions (approximately 1,200) and the alignment of the food additive provisions of commodity standards with those in the GSFA. Other work related to the GSFA includes: i) preparation of the priority list of substances to be evaluated by JECFA, ii) the adoption of the specifications for quality and purity prepared by JECFA, and iii) the update (amendments) of the <i>Class Names and the International Numbering Systems of Food Additives</i> (CAC/GL 36-1989). The proposed discussion papers (i.e. use of nitrate and nitrites and use of specific terminology in the GSFA) will assist the CCFA during consideration of specific issues of the GSFA. The paper on future strategies of the CCFA, which will build on the discussion paper on the management of CCFA work considered by CCFA49, will address the aspects of how CCFA work could be improved by analysing the major challenges and barriers hindering the advancement of CCFA work (such as Note 161; priority list for JECFA evaluation; limited resources; backlog of provisions in GSFA and Alignment etc.).</p> <p>CCFA current work is manageable and focuses on the GSFA, which when completed will become the “single authoritative Codex Standard for the use of food additives”. The current CCFA backlog includes the alignment of the food additive provisions of approximately 50 commodity standards (developed by non-active committees, in addition to the outstanding provisions of the GSFA). It is expected that the discussion on CCFA future strategies at CCFA50 will not only assist the Committee to identify ways to accelerate GSFA completion but also future challenges that the Committee will face when its work on the GSFA is completed.</p> <p><u>Comments by the Chairperson:</u></p> <p>Agree with the notes by the Secretariat. The Committee will work on the criteria to prioritize the workload which will be agreed by the next session hopefully, meanwhile keep moving on the discussion on GSFA, alignment, INS, priority list, etc. efficiently.</p>							