

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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**REPORT**

**E**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### The Commission:

- a) adopted new and revised food quality and safety standards and related texts and amendments to the Codex Procedural Manual;
- b) approved new work, including priority lists of pesticides for evaluation or re-evaluation by JMPR and of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA and new work for the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR);
- c) approved proposals for the discontinuation of work and for the revocation of existing standards and related texts;
- d) agreed on the significant value, especially for advocacy purposes, of the synergies between the SDGs and Codex work and that the SDGs would be taken into account in the development of the forthcoming Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025;
- e) requested that the Secretariat prepare a more detailed proposal regarding a standards advancement committee and analyse the advantages and disadvantages of various options for committees working by correspondence;
- f) noted the report on expenditure for 2016, the estimate for 2017 and the financial outlook for 2018-2019; expressed its appreciation for the continued financial support from FAO and WHO, contributions from host countries/members and in-kind contributions from China, Germany, Japan and the Republic of Korea to the Secretariat; and recognized the support provided by the Secretariat in funding Russian language services in the financial biennium 2018-2019, encouraging the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe to investigate its language policy;
- g) expressed its gratitude to FAO and WHO for their continuous scientific support, including to the work of TFAMR, which was crucial for the development of Codex work on food safety standards; noted the extensive list of pending requests and the need for additional resources to address them, calling on relevant Codex Committees to prioritize requests for scientific advice; and encouraged countries to provide support;
- h) considered the document on FAO and WHO policy and related matters; noted that WHO and FAO policies were important and taken into account within Codex as appropriate in accordance with its unique and specific mandate;
- i) expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO for their work and support to member countries, acknowledging the importance of capacity development in increasing the global impact and relevance of Codex standards;
- j) congratulated FAO/WHO on the transition from CTF1 to CTF2; noted the successful start made by four countries under CTF2; encouraged eligible countries to avail themselves fully of support and duly apply during the 2017 application period; and acknowledged donors and invited potential donors to provide support;
- k) supported the new approach of holding a discussion panel on collaboration with international organizations in lieu of the customary presentation of a document; noted that a thematic approach would enhance such discussions in future; and agreed to report on the coordination of work with international organizations under the monitoring of the Codex Strategic Plan;
- l) elected, as Chairperson, Mr Guilherme Antonio da Costa Jr. (Brazil) and, as Vice-Chairpersons, Mr Purwiyatno Hariyadi (Indonesia), Ms Mariam Eid (Lebanon) and Mr Steve Wearne (United Kingdom); elected seven Members of the Executive Committee on a geographical basis, i.e. Nigeria (re-elected), Malaysia (re-elected), Norway (re-elected), Mexico (re-elected), Egypt, United States of America and Australia; and appointed the six regional coordinators, i.e. Kenya (reappointed), India (reappointed), Kazakhstan, Chile (reappointed), Islamic Republic of Iran (reappointed) and Vanuatu (reappointed);
- m) adjourned *sine die* the Committee on Milk and Milk Products, expressing its gratitude to New Zealand; and
- n) welcomed the adoption by the FAO Conference at its 40<sup>th</sup> session of the resolution on the “Observance of a World Food Safety Day” on 7 June, and strongly encouraged WHO Member States to propose the matter for consideration in 2018 on the agendas of the WHO governing bodies.

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) convened its Fortieth Session, in Geneva, Switzerland, from 17 to 22 July 2017, chaired by Mrs Awilo Ochieng Pernet (Switzerland), Chairperson of the Commission — assisted by the Vice-Chairpersons Dr Guilherme Antonio da Costa Jr. (Brazil), Dr Yayoi Tsujiyama (Japan) and Mr Mahamadou Sako (Mali) — and attended by delegates from 152 Member countries and one Member Organization, and observers of 46 international governmental (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including United Nations agencies. A list of participants, including from FAO, WHO and the Codex Secretariat, is contained in Appendix I.

## OPENING

### Welcome addresses by FAO and WHO<sup>1</sup>

2. Dr Oleg Chestnov, WHO Assistant Director-General, Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health, and Dr Ren Wang, FAO Assistant Director-General, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department, welcomed delegates and addressed the meeting. An announcement was made that the second round of country applications of the Codex Trust Fund (CTF) remained open from 17 July to 15 October 2017. The Chairperson of the Commission also gave an opening address.

### Division of competence<sup>2</sup>

3. The Commission noted the division of competence between the European Union and its Member States, according to paragraph 5, Rule II, of the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, as presented in CRD1.

### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda item 1)<sup>3</sup>

4. The Commission adopted the provisional agenda with the following additions under agenda item 19, Other business:
  - (i) Establishment of a World Food Safety Day (Costa Rica); and
  - (ii) Biopesticides, biofertilizers and biostimulants (Chile).

### REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON ON THE 72nd and 73rd SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Agenda item 2)<sup>4</sup>

5. In accordance with Rule V.7 of the Rules of Procedure, the Chairperson reported on the outcomes of CCEXEC72 and CCEXEC73, noting that recommendations on specific items would be considered under the relevant agenda items.

#### CCEXEC72

6. The Commission noted the discussion and relevant decisions of CCEXEC72 on:
  - (i) improvements made to the Critical Review;
  - (ii) committees working by correspondence;
  - (iii) the regular review of Codex work management for 2016/17 on effectiveness and efficiency of EWGs;
  - (iv) requests for observer status;
  - (v) the agendas of CCEXEC73 and CAC40 and the inclusion of two new items — Committees working by correspondence and Codex and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) — on the former; and
  - (vi) lessons learned from CCEXEC71 and CAC39 and suggestions for strengthening CCEXEC.

<sup>1</sup> Video recordings available at: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/CAC40/webcast/en/>

<sup>2</sup> Division of Competence between the European Union and its Member States (CRD1)

<sup>3</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/1

<sup>4</sup> REP17/EXEC1; REP17/EXEC2; Comments of Panama (CRD24)

**CCEXEC73**

7. The Commission noted the discussion and relevant decisions of CCEXEC73 on:
- (i) the monitoring of the Codex Strategic Plan 2014-2019, including the Communication Strategy and the draft Codex strategic plan 2020-2025;
  - (ii) the update on committees working by correspondence;
  - (iii) Codex and the SDGs;
  - (iv) relations between FAO and WHO policies, strategies and guidelines and Codex work; and
  - (v) the report on Revitalization of FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees (RCCs).

**Conclusion**

8. The Commission noted the report on the outcomes of CCEXEC72 and CCEXEC73.

**REPORTS OF THE FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEES (Agenda item 3)<sup>5</sup>**

9. The six Regional Coordinators each presented a report on their respective RCC meetings highlighting the following aspects:
- (i) the value of the recently introduced practice of holding keynote addresses at each RCC meeting;
  - (ii) the development of regional standards;
  - (iii) the relevance of RCC meetings for identifying critical issues and emerging issues and priorities for each region; and
  - (iv) the status of implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan (2014–2019) and the need to explore ways to share experiences.
10. Dr Andrew Tuimur, Principal Secretary, State Department for Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries and Blue Economy of Kenya; His Excellency Ambassador Marcelo Cima of Argentina; and regional coordinator-designate of CCEURO, Dr Zhandarbek Bekshin, Chairman of the Public Health Protection Committee, Ministry of Health, Kazakhstan, also addressed the Commission.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL (Agenda item 4)<sup>6</sup>***Principles for the establishment of Codex methods of analysis*

11. The Commission noted that the comments regarding the need for consultation on the conversion of Type II and Type III methods to methods criteria and on the application of Type IV methods and their possible upgrading, related to matters for discussion in CCMAS. The Commission further noted that all methods of analysis and methods criteria were always circulated for comments and endorsement by CCMAS.

*Nutritional risk analysis principles and guidelines for application to the work of the Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses*

12. The Commission acknowledged the offers of financial support from the United States of America and Canada to the work of JEMNU.

**Conclusion**

13. The Commission adopted the amendments to the *Principles for the establishment of Codex methods of analysis* and to the *Nutritional risk analysis principles and guidelines for application to the work of the Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses*. (Appendix II)
14. The Commission noted the broad support for the recognition of JEMNU as a primary source of scientific advice to CCNFSU together with FAO and WHO.

<sup>5</sup> REP17/AFRICA; REP17/ASIA; REP17/EURO; REP17/LAC; REP17/NASWP; REP17/NE

<sup>6</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/2; Comments of Albania, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Kenya, New Zealand, Paraguay, Peru and Philippines (CX/CAC 17/40/2-Add.1); Tanzania, India, African Union (CRD2); Gambia (CRD13); Indonesia (CRD18); Ghana (CRD19);Ecuador (CRD21); Dominican Republic (CRD22); Benin (CRD32)

**FINAL ADOPTION OF CODEX TEXTS AT STEPS 8, 5/8 AND 5A (Agenda item 5)<sup>7</sup>**

15. The Commission adopted the draft and proposed draft standards and related texts submitted by its subsidiary bodies at Step 8 (including those submitted at Step 5/8 with a recommendation to omit Steps 6 and 7), as well as other standards and related texts submitted for adoption as endorsed by the relevant general subject committees, taking into account the critical review of CCEXEC73<sup>8</sup>. (Appendix III)
16. The Commission noted that the adoption of the following texts would be subject to the endorsement of their food labelling provisions by CCFL44 in October 2017 (i.e. that they would be published as Codex standards only following such CCFL endorsement): regional standards for laver products (CCASIA), yacon (CCLAC), unrefined shea butter (CCAFRICA) and dough (CCNE); standards for cumin, dried thyme and black, white and green pepper (CCSCH) and fish oils (CCFO); and annexes for certain quick frozen vegetables of the *Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables* (CODEX STAN 320-2015) (CCPFV).
17. In addition to editorial corrections, the Commission noted the following comments and decisions.

**Additional comments and decisions****Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRPDF)*****MRLs for lasalocid sodium<sup>9</sup>***

18. The European Union (EU), recalling its written comments contained in CX/CAC 17/40/4, reiterated its reservation recorded at CCRPDF23 on the adoption on the MRLs for lasalocid sodium, taking the view that a risk to consumers could not be ruled out since there was neither a methodology for deriving a microbiological acute reference dose nor a health-based guidance value with which satisfactorily to compare the acute exposure. Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkey and NHF supported the concerns of the EU.
19. In response to these concerns, the representative of FAO, recalling the clarification made at CCRPDF23, explained that JECFA had addressed these concerns and that JECFA had determined there was no additional risk to consumers.
20. Other members supported the adoption of the MRLs on the basis of the JECFA evaluation. These members noted that lasalocid sodium was registered in many countries, was an effective anticoccidial, and, when used in accordance with good veterinary practice, was non-toxic, did not produce adverse effect and did not result in violative MRLs.

**Conclusion**

21. The Commission adopted the proposed draft MRLs for lasalocid sodium at Step 5/8 and noted the reservations of the EU, Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland and Turkey.

**Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)*****Revision of the Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CAC/RCP 53-2003)<sup>10</sup>***

22. While not opposed to the adoption of the revised Code, delegations expressed the view that paragraph 19 was not appropriate since it dealt with heavy metals, which fell within the mandate of CCCF. Options to address this concern were either to delete the paragraph or to send it for endorsement by CCCF.

<sup>7</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/3; CX/CAC 17/40/3-Add.1; CX/CAC 17/40/3-Add 2; Comments of Albania, Algeria, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, European Union, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, India, Iran, Jordan, New Zealand, Norway, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Uruguay, Syria Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Switzerland, United States of America, International Special Dietary Food Industries, CEFIC, EU speciality Food Ingredients, FIL, IFAC, IFFO, GOED, IOFI ILSI, YLFA (CX/CAC 17/40/4); [http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-701-39%252FWD%252Fcac39\\_03.Add.1x.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-701-39%252FWD%252Fcac39_03.Add.1x.pdf) India, Iran, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, United State of America (CX/CAC 17/40/4 Add 1); Ecuador, Qatar, Iran, Nicaragua, Nigeria, El Salvador, Tanzania, India and African Union (CRD3); Gambia (CRD13); Chile (CRD15); IFFO (CRD16); Cameroon (CRD17); Indonesia (CRD18); Ghana (CRD19); Ecuador (CRD21); Dominican Republic (CRD22); NHF (CRD27); Senegal (CRD29); Dominica (CRD31); Benin (CRD32); Russian Federation (CRD33)

<sup>8</sup> REP17/EXEC2

<sup>9</sup> REP17/RVDF, Appendix IV

<sup>10</sup> REP17FH, Appendix V

23. Noting that, while the Code primarily addressed hygiene, it also sought to provide a comprehensive approach to ensure the safety of fresh fruits and vegetables, and that the issue of contamination with heavy metals was sufficiently addressed in the *Source-directed measures to reduce contamination of food with chemicals* (CAC/RCP 49-2001), the Commission considered a proposal to amend paragraph 19 to read as follows:

*“The Code of Practice concerning source-directed measures to reduce contamination of food with chemicals (CAC/RCP 49-2001) should be taken into consideration in determining which fruits and vegetables to grow, since different crops absorb heavy metals and other environmental contaminants at varying rates.”*

24. In response to the suggested insertion of a definition of “aerosol”, the Commission noted that the term had already appeared in the original text and a definition could be addressed in the ongoing revision of the *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CAC/RCP1-1969).

### Conclusion

25. The Commission adopted the revision of the *Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables*, including its paragraph 19 as amended (see para. 23 above), at Step 8.

### Committee on Nutrition and Food for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

#### *Additional or revised nutrient reference values for labelling purposes in the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling (CAC/GL 2-1985)*

#### *Vitamin E (NRV-R and conversion factor for the dietary equivalents)<sup>11</sup>*

26. Malaysia, China, Indonesia and two observer organizations, did not support the adoption of 1 mg alpha-tocopherol as the dietary equivalent for vitamin E and the NRV of 9 mg as it was based on alpha-tocopherol only, and proposed that this be returned to CCNFSDU for further consideration to take into account new scientific evidence on other isomers of vitamin E. One observer further disputed the 9 mg NRV for vitamin E since, in its view, such a value would leave the majority of the population deficient in vitamin E. One delegation stated that the data already provided by Malaysia could be considered by recognized scientific bodies.
27. In the spirit of compromise, Malaysia indicated that they could agree to the adoption of the NRV-R and its conversion factor for the dietary equivalents with the addition of a footnote indicating that the NRV for vitamin E and conversion factor for the dietary equivalents would be reviewed after two years to take into account all available data and new evidence on the contributions of all forms of vitamin E.
28. The Chair of CCNFSDU, supported by FAO and WHO, clarified that CCNFSDU had held several rounds of discussion on the NRV for vitamin E and its dietary equivalents and there had been agreement in CCNFSDU for the use of mg alpha-tocopherol and the level for the NRV itself. The establishment of NRVs-R followed the process agreed by CCNFSDU (before JEMNU came into being) to base its recommendations on those of FAO/WHO and recognized authoritative scientific bodies (RASBs).<sup>12</sup> The recommendation for alpha-tocopherol was consistent with the work and recommendations of WHO/FAO 2004 and the majority of RASBs such as EFSA 2015, Japanese NIHN 2013, Nordic Council 2012 and IOM 2000.
29. The representative of WHO further clarified that it would be neither timely nor helpful to task JEMNU to further review this matter at the present time since sufficient new data were not available from all of the RASB work reviewed by CCNFSDU.
30. Regarding the inclusion of a footnote, it was noted that such footnotes were not encouraged as all Codex standards were open for review and revision when new scientific evidence became available.

### Conclusion

31. The Commission adopted the NRV-R of 9 mg for vitamin E and the conversion factors for the dietary equivalents at Steps 8 and 5/8, respectively, and noted that the NRV-R and the conversion factors for dietary equivalent could be reviewed and revised once new evidence became available.

#### *Vitamin D (NRV-R)<sup>13</sup>*

<sup>11</sup> REP17/NFSDU, Appendix III

<sup>12</sup> Annex on general principles for establishing nutrient reference values for the general population in the *Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling* (CAC/GL 2-1985)

<sup>13</sup> REP17/NFSDU, Appendix III



## Conclusion

32. The Commission adopted the NRV-R for vitamin D of 5–15 µg at Step 5/8, and noted the views of two observers that the value for vitamin D was too low for human needs based on scientific evidence indicating that much higher levels were required, such as a range of 20–25 µg.

## FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committee for Africa (CAFRICA)

### *Regional standard for unrefined shea butter<sup>14</sup>*

33. The Secretariat informed the Commission that CCEXEC73 had noted that the format of the sections on food hygiene and contaminants needed to be aligned with the standardized text in the Procedural Manual and that the format of the standard was not aligned with that of other standards for fats and oils.

## Conclusion

34. The Commission:
- (i) adopted the proposed draft regional standard at Step 5/8 with the amendment to the sections on food hygiene and contaminants; and
  - (ii) noted that the Secretariat would align the format of the standard with that of other commodity standards for fats and oils for consideration by CAFRICA23.

## Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CSCH)

### *Standards for cumin<sup>15</sup>; dried thyme<sup>16</sup>; and black, white and green pepper (BWG)<sup>17</sup>*

35. The Commission considered the recommendations of CCEXEC73, that it consider for adoption the draft standard for cumin; the draft standard for dried thyme; and the proposed draft standard for black, white and green pepper (BWG), noting the following views.
36. The United States of America noted that some issues related to defect levels required further work by CSCH, as per CX/CAC 17/40/4-Add.1. Specifically, Section 3.2 (Quality factors) in all the three draft standards contained some technical errors that could lead to higher levels of defects in these commodities than those currently existing in international trade. The defect levels proposed were beyond the limits of those found through a literature review encompassing a number of standards from national authorities, commodity exchanges, international spice trade associations and other trading standards. The delegation further observed that, following substantial changes to the standards, the time available at CSCH3 to evaluate these provisions prior to their adoption had been insufficient since the final drafts had only been made available at the adoption of the report. The United States of America therefore proposed that only Section 3.2 (Quality factors) in all three draft standards be retained at Step 5 for further review by CSCH and while it would support final adoption of all other sections of these standards at Step 8 (cumin and dried thyme) and Step 5/8 (for BWG).
37. Delegations supporting the adoption of the three standards did not support the partial adoption as proposed by the United States of America and recalled that during their development, the due process was followed, with adequate opportunity for all concerned parties to provide expert input. CSCH had addressed all concerns, leading to consensus on forwarding the three standards to the Commission for adoption. Moreover, the existing ISO standard for cumin was not significantly different from the draft standard for cumin, and therefore the three standards be duly progressed to Step 8 or 5/8; that CSCH would revise the standards in future.
38. Delegations not in favour of final adoption explained that a number of parameters — including the applicability of visible mould contamination, and methods for determination of mammalian excreta in whole and cracked cumin — required further consideration and a number of editorial corrections needed to be addressed before any adoption. These delegations further urged that the Commission should reflect on the implications of high levels of rodent/mammalian contamination, which would not be aligned with industry practice, as well as of CSCH not having made the final texts of the draft standards available for review by members before final adoption of the report by the Committee. They further supported delaying the adoption of Section 3.2 of the three standards. One delegation stated its view that the draft standards contradicted the general principles contained in the GSCTFF.

<sup>14</sup> REP17/CAFRICA, Appendix III

<sup>15</sup> REP17/SCH, Appendix II

<sup>16</sup> PER17/SCH, Appendix III

<sup>17</sup> REP17/SCH, Appendix IV

39. The Chair of CCSCH recalled that the Committee had devoted over three years to developing the standards, during which time all issues had been discussed in both the EWGs as well as during the plenary. He further noted that CCSCH3 had resolved all outstanding issues and there was general consensus to advance the Standards to Step 8 for adoption by the Commission. To optimize resources and complete its work in reasonable time, the Committee had forwarded a proposal to the Commission for elaboration of group standards. In the light of the discussion above, he recommended that the Commission adopt all the standards at Step 8 or 5/8 and proposed, should such need arise, any provision be revised when annexing individual standards to the group standard.
40. The Commission agreed to proceed with the adoption of all the standards, noting that they could be revised in future and that developing group standards for such commodities also provide such an opportunity.
41. The United States of America requested that its concerns be reflected in the report and that the final text of heavily edited standards always be available sufficiently before the end of plenary sessions in committees as to allow for thorough review.
42. The EU, referring to its written comment in CX/CAC 17/40/4, reiterated its reservation expressed at CCSCH3 on the adoption of the draft standard for BWG since, in its view, no technological justification had been provided for the use of sulfur dioxide (INS 220) as a food additive in green pepper. Switzerland and Turkey supported this position.

### **Conclusion**

43. The Commission:
- (i) agreed to adopt the Standards for Cumin and Dried Thyme at Step 8 and the Standard for Black, White and Green Pepper (BWG) at Step 5/8 and noted the concerns of the Russian Federation and the United States of America as contained in paras 38 and 36 above, respectively; and
  - (ii) noted that the Secretariat would prepare editorial amendments to the standards for consideration by CCSCH4.

### **Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)**

#### *Standard for fish oils<sup>18</sup>*

44. The Commission noted the discussion and considered the recommendations of CCEXEC73.
45. Chile pointed out the importance for trade of a standard for fish oils, but recalled its concerns consistently expressed at CAC38 and CCFO with respect to the adoption of a standard during the discussion of which relevant issues had been raised but, in its opinion, could not be satisfactorily resolved.
46. Delegations supporting the adoption of the standard noted that the text, developed using global data submitted by members, had been agreed by consensus in CCFO. Furthermore, the Committee had agreed to monitor the application of the standard in terms of the conformity of named fish oils with its requirements, especially the fatty acid profile, and its effects on trade, with a view to addressing some of the technical difficulties.
47. The Chair of CCFO recalled the matter had been discussed in the Commission and the Committee, in particular at CCFO25, and explained that there was unanimous agreement to advance the standard to Step 8 for adoption by the Commission since all outstanding issues had already been addressed. She also noted that extensive discussion at CCFO25, to no objection, had determined positive actions to address concerns regarding the authenticity of fish oils, including: a request that the Secretariat issue a Circular Letter (CL) upon the adoption of the standard to monitor its application with respect to the conformity of named fish oils with its requirements (especially the fatty acid profile) and to its effects on trade, with data to be compiled by Chile and Switzerland. CCFO25 also had agreed to convey its concerns to CCFICS regarding the authenticity of fish oils and that consideration be given to this in its work on food authenticity/integrity. She concluded by noting that it was appropriate for the Commission to agree on the adoption of the draft standard at Step 8 since ample opportunity had been provided to all interested parties, and other concerns could be addressed in future revisions.
48. Switzerland, in its capacity as the Chair of the EWGs and PWGs on fish oils, clarified that, following lengthy discussions, CCFO had agreed that compliance of a named fish oil should be determined by means of the fatty acid profiles in Table 1 of the draft standard and that the necessary analytical methods existed.

<sup>18</sup> REP17/FO, Appendix III

**Conclusion**

49. The Commission adopted the Standard for Fish Oils at Step 8 and noted the reservation of Chile.

**Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)***Food additive provisions of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)<sup>19</sup>***Conclusion**

50. The Commission adopted the draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the GSFA at Steps 8 and 5/8 with the revised note NN10 “For use in products conforming to the *Standard for Fermented Milks* (CODEX STAN 243-2003) at 10,000 mg/kg” associated with the provision of diacetyltartaric and fatty acid esters of glycerol (INS 472e), as recommended by CCEXEC73<sup>20</sup>.

**Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP)***Standard for dairy permeate powders<sup>21</sup>*

51. New Zealand, in its capacity as CCMMP host, referred to CX/CAC 17/40/3-Add.1. On the specific issues mentioned in the document, the delegation explained that the standard explicitly excluded acid whey as a raw material and there was no technical justification for the use of anticaking agents in these products, and recommended: i) for Section 4.1 Processing aids, to avoid confusion, only the second paragraph on general reference to the *Guidelines on Substances used as Processing Aids* (CAC/GL 75-2010) be retained and the first paragraph together with the examples in the footnote be deleted; and ii) for Section 7.1 (Name of the food) to provide for the use of a supplementary name at the national level, the following text be inserted after the current provision:

“Where appropriate in the country of sale, the name may be supplemented by the designation “lactose-rich deproteinized \_\_\_\_ powder”, the blank being filled with the term dairy, whey or milk, as appropriate to the nature of the product.”

52. India welcomed the amendment to the name of the food, which addressed its concerns, but reiterated its view that the use of anticaking agents should be permitted in dairy permeate powders.
53. Brazil, referring to its written comments in CX/CAC 17/40/4, was of the opinion that its concerns should be considered in a future review of the standard.

**Conclusion**

54. The Commission:
- (i) adopted the Standard for Dairy Permeate Powders at Step 8 with the modifications recommended by New Zealand (see para. 51 above) and subject to the endorsement of the provisions on food labelling and methods of analysis by CCFL44 and CCMAS39, respectively; and
  - (ii) noted the reservation of India regarding not allowing the use of anticaking agents in dairy permeate powders.

**Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)***Maximum levels for lead in selected processed fruits and vegetables<sup>22</sup>*

55. Uganda expressed its reservation on the ML for preserved tomato, indicating that the country was gathering occurrence data on lead contamination in fruits and vegetables that could allow the revision of the ML in future.
56. Cuba expressed its reservation on the ML for jams, jellies and marmalades, indicating that available data did not support lowering the ML from 1.0 mg/kg to 0.4 mg/kg or provide any evidence that the current ML raised any public health concern.

**Conclusion**

57. The Commission adopted the MLs for lead in selected processed fruits and vegetables and noted the reservations of Uganda on the ML for lead in preserved tomato and of Cuba on the ML for lead in jams, jellies and marmalades.

<sup>19</sup> REP17/FA, Appendix VI

<sup>20</sup> REP17/EXEC2, para. 44

<sup>21</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/3-Add 1, Annex 2

<sup>22</sup> REP17/CF, Appendix II

*Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in spices*<sup>23</sup>

58. In section 2.3.2, the Commission agreed to add a reference to the *General Standard for Irradiated Foods* (CODEX STAN 106-1993) to improve the clarity of the provision.

**Conclusion**

59. The Commission adopted the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in Spices at Step 5/8 with the amendment to section 2.3.2 (see para. 58 above).

**Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)***Maximum residue limits for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies)*<sup>24</sup>

60. The EU, supported by Norway and Switzerland, expressed its reservation on a number of MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) for the reasons explained in CX/CAC 17/40/04-Add.1.
61. The Observer of NHF expressed concerns on a number of MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) for the reasons explained in CRD27.

**Conclusion**

62. The Commission adopted the MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) at Steps 8 and 5/8 and noted the reservations of EU, Norway and Switzerland and the concerns of NHF on a number of them.

**FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNE)***Regional standard for doogh*<sup>25</sup>

63. The Commission adopted the regional standard for doogh at Step 5/8, subject to endorsement of its food labelling and food additive provisions by CCFL44 and CCFA50 respectively.

**Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)***Principles and guidelines for monitoring the performance of national food control systems*<sup>26</sup>

64. Brazil, supported by other delegations, expressed discomfort as to the inclusion of Appendix B, "Illustrative examples of indicators for selected outcomes". In their view, and consistent with other decisions where appendices had been removed from standards, it was not appropriate to include examples in Codex texts; therefore, these delegations suggested that the Appendix be removed from the document and made available as an information document of CCFICS. They also suggested that the question of what should be contained in standards versus information documents could be examined by CCGP.
65. Other delegations were in favour of retaining Appendix B, noting that it provided illustrative examples of how to set indicators, formed an integral part of the document, and provided relevant guidance on how the principles and guidelines should be used, underscoring the merely illustrative and in-no-way binding nature of examples. These delegations noted that CCFICS had already addressed concerns regarding the inclusion of examples during the development of the document by inserting text in Appendix B reiterating that the examples were illustrative and that each country should establish appropriate indicators for their desired outcomes. It was further noted that decisions regarding what should be placed in an information document reside with the Committee. No compelling public health, food safety, trade or procedural reason justified removing the existing Appendix B as agreed by CCFICS23.
66. The Secretariat recalled the history of information documents: some Codex Standards had in the past contained annexes intended solely for information and illustration, which, following discussion in CCGP and legal advice had shown that annexes were considered integral parts of Codex texts, some committees had removed. Following consideration of how to handle texts of interest to Codex members but inappropriate for inclusion as part of official guidance, the information category of documents was created following its discussion in CCGP and adoption by the Commission. Determining which content was appropriate to an information document versus an official text was the prerogative of the relevant committee. In the document under discussion, CCFICS had decided to maintain this information in the official text.

<sup>23</sup> REP17/CF, Appendix III

<sup>24</sup> REP17/PR, Appendices II and III

<sup>25</sup> REP17/NE, Appendix III

<sup>26</sup> REP17/FICS, para. 18, Appendix II

## Conclusion

67. The Commission agreed to:

- (i) adopt the Principles and Guidelines for Monitoring the Performance of National Food Control Systems at Step 8 as recommended by CCFICS; and
- (ii) discuss the development of guidance on the use of examples in Codex texts at a future meeting of CCGP.

## Standards and related texts held at Step 8 by the Commission

### *MRL for bovine somatotropins (bSTs)*<sup>27</sup>

68. The Chairperson recalled that CAC38 had agreed to retain the draft MRL for bSTs at Step 8 to allow further time to facilitate consensus while recognizing the validity of JECFA's risk assessments as the sound scientific basis for its deliberations on bSTs.

## Conclusion

69. The Commission noted that no request had been received to change the status of the draft MRLs for bSTs.

## ADOPTION OF CODEX TEXTS AT STEP 5 (Agenda item 6)<sup>28</sup>

70. The Commission adopted the proposed draft standards and related texts submitted by its subsidiary bodies at Step 5 and advanced them to Step 6, noting that technical comments should be resubmitted at Step 6 for consideration by the relevant committees, taking into account the Critical Review of CCEXEC73. (Appendix IV)

## Additional comments and decisions

### Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF)

#### *Risk-management recommendation (RMR) for gentian violet*<sup>29</sup>

71. Delegations reiterated their positions as expressed at CCRVDF23 in favour and against the text of the RMR for gentian violet.<sup>30</sup>

72. The Commission noted that the text of the RMR would be discussed at the next session of CCRVDF, providing an opportunity to further develop the RMR.

## Conclusion

73. The Commission:

- (i) agreed to adopt the RMR for gentian violet at Step 5, noting that members and observers would have ample opportunity to further develop and discuss the RMR at CCRVDF24, in April 2018; and
- (ii) took note of the reservations of Ecuador, Honduras, Peru, Philippines and the United States of America.

### FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

74. The Secretariat informed the Commission that CCEXEC73 had noted that the format of sections on food hygiene and contaminants of the following two proposed draft standards submitted by CCAFRICA needed to be aligned with the standardized text in the Procedural Manual and that, in general, their formats were not aligned with those of other standards for processed foods and for fresh fruits and vegetables, respectively.

<sup>27</sup> ALINORM 95/31, Appendix II

<sup>28</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/5; CX/CAC 17/40/5-Add.1; Comments of Albania, Benin, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, European Union, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, Peru, Syrian Arab Republic (CX/CAC 17/40/6); Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, European Union, Peru, Philippines, United States of America, AACCI, EUVEPRO (CX/CAC 17/40/6 Add.1); Colombia, India, Nigeria, Tanzania and African Union (CRD4); Gambia (CRD13); Cameroon (CRD17); Indonesia (CRD18); Ghana (CRD19); Ecuador (CRD21); Dominican Republic (CRD22); Senegal (CRD29); Benin (CRD32); Russian Federation (CRD33)

<sup>29</sup> REP17/RVDF, Appendix II

<sup>30</sup> REP17/RVDF, paras 47-48

*Regional standard for fermented cooked cassava based products*<sup>31</sup>**Conclusion**

75. The Commission:

- (i) adopted the proposed draft regional standard for fermented cooked cassava based products at Step 5 with the amendment to the sections on food hygiene and contaminants; and
- (ii) noted that the Secretariat would align the format of the standard with that of other commodity standards on processed foods for consideration by CCAFRICA23.

*Regional standard for Gnetum spp. leaves*<sup>32</sup>**Conclusion**

76. The Commission:

- (i) adopted the proposed draft regional standard for *Gnetum* spp. leaves at Step 5 with the amendment to the sections on food hygiene and contaminants; and
- (ii) noted that the Secretariat would align the format of the standard with that of other commodity standards on fresh fruits and vegetables for consideration by CCAFRICA23.

**Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)***Revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Addition of palm oil with high oleic acid (OXG)*<sup>33</sup>

77. The Commission noted the clarification by Ecuador in CX/CAC 17/40/6, that the revision was intended to take account the new OXG hybrid palm oils which by nature have high levels of oleic acid and a higher iodine value when compared to the known traditional palm oils. The OXG hybrid palm oils should not be compared with other oils containing high oleic acids that are derived from other plant species. Finally they expressed support for adoption at Step 5, and looked forward to the criteria from CCFL on the terms “mid-oleic” and “high-oleic palm oil content”.

78. One delegation expressed the view that, according to the fatty acid ranges, OXG hybrid palm oil should not be designated as “high oleic content” oil but rather “mid-oleic content” palm oil.

**Conclusion**

79. The Commission adopted the draft revision of the *Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* at Step 5.

**Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL)***Standard for quinoa*<sup>34</sup>

80. The Commission noted the support for the adoption of the standard despite provisions requiring further review by CCCPL, including those on moisture content, saponin content, presence of extraneous matter, testing methods, colour and size.

**Conclusion**

81. The Commission:

- (i) adopted the standard for quinoa at Step 5
- (ii) requested that CCCF consider including quinoa in the MLs for lead and cadmium in cereals in the GSCTFF, in accordance with the recommendations of CCEXEC73;<sup>35</sup> and
- (iii) established an EWG, chaired by the Plurinational State of Bolivia and co-chaired by the United States of America, to continue the work and address the outstanding issues.

<sup>31</sup> REP17/AFRICA, Appendix II

<sup>32</sup> REP17/AFRICA, Appendix IV

<sup>33</sup> [REP17/FO](#), Appendix V

<sup>34</sup> CL 2017/44-CPL, Annex I

<sup>35</sup> REP17/EXEC2, para. 81

**REVOCAION OF CODEX TEXTS (Agenda item 7)<sup>36</sup>**

82. The Commission revoked the texts in CX/CAC 17/40/7 and CX/CAC 17/40/7-Add1. (Appendix V)

**PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK (Agenda Item 8)<sup>37</sup>**

83. The Commission approved the development of new standards and related texts, taking into account the critical review of CCEXEC73. (Appendix VI)

**Additional comments and decisions****Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)**

*Standards for dehydrated ginger, dried garlic, dried chili peppers and paprika, basil, saffron, nutmeg and cloves<sup>38</sup>*

**Conclusion**

84. The Commission approved the seven project documents for new work and endorsed the recommendations of CCEXEC73<sup>39</sup>, and specifically:
- (i) supported developing group standards for spices and culinary herbs based on plants parts with a view to optimizing the use of resources and expediting the Committee's work;
  - (ii) agreed that, in developing group standards, CCSCH should follow a phased approach including the prioritization of groups and the prioritization of work on standards for individual commodities belonging to the same group prior to developing of a group standard; and
  - (iii) recommended establishing mechanisms, such as a PWG or in-session WG, to consider written comments and facilitate discussion of consolidated drafts.

**Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)**

*Revision of the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Essential composition of sunflowerseed oils<sup>40</sup>*

85. The Commission noted the concern expressed by the Russian Federation that according to the scope of work as outlined in the project document, the proposed revision of section 3 and section 2.1 to adapt the composition parameters of oleic acid (18:1) and linoleic acid (18:2) would lead to compromising the authenticity of the sunflowerseed oils and noted that changing the ranges of oleic and linoleic acids could result in overlap and difficulty in differentiating between sunflowerseed oil and oils from other sources.

**Conclusion**

86. The Commission approved the new work.

**Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)**

*Standard for cashew kernels; Conversion of the Regional Standard for Chili Sauce (CODEX STAN 306R-2011) into a worldwide standard; Revision of Standard for Mango Chutney (CODEX STAN 160-1987); Standard for dried persimmons; Standard for dried sweet potato; Conversion of the Regional Standard for Gochujang (CODEX STAN 294R-2009) into a worldwide standard; Standard for dried chilli peppers; Standard for dried fruits; Revision of Standard for Canned Tropical Fruit Salad (CODEX STAN 99-1981) and the development of standard for canned mixed fruits<sup>41</sup>*

87. The Commission noted that, of the nine proposals for new work, that on dried chili peppers would be considered by CCSCH pursuant to the recommendation of CCPFV27 (2014), and that on dried persimmon would be taken up in the context of the work on dried fruits. Consequently, the number of proposals for new work was reduced to seven.

<sup>36</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/7; CX/CAC 17/40/7-Add1; Comments of Philippines, Tanzania, African Union (CRD5); Gambia (CRD13); Cameroon (CRD17); Indonesia (CRD18); Ghana (CRD19); Ecuador (CRD21); Dominican Republic (CRD22); Senegal (CRD29); Benin (CRD32)

<sup>37</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/8; CX/CAC 17/40/8-Add.1; Comments of Philippines, Nigeria, Tanzania, African Union and IFU (CRD6); Gambia (CRD13); Papua New Guinea (CRD14); Cameroon (CRD17); Indonesia (CRD18); Ghana (CRD19); Nicaragua (CRD20), Ecuador (CRD21); Dominican Republic (CRD22); Republic of Benin (CRD32); Russian Federation (CRD33)

<sup>38</sup> REP17/SCH, para. 82, Appendix V-XI

<sup>39</sup> REP17/EXEC2, para. 37

<sup>40</sup> [REP17/CCFO](#), Appendix VII

<sup>41</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/8-Add.1, Annexes I-IX

88. The Commission recalled that CCEXEC73 had noted that the project documents were complete and met the criteria for critical review<sup>42</sup> and therefore approved the seven proposals as new work for CCPFV.
89. The Commission considered the possible mechanisms to address the new work and the pending work on the review of the existing standards based on the proposals put forward at CCEXEC73.<sup>43</sup>
90. India and Mexico reiterated their support for convening a physical meeting of CCPFV back-to-back with CCSCH (2018) or CCFFV (2019). Mexico further indicated its support for broadening the TORs of CCFFV to consider processed fruits and vegetables as a long-term solution for developing standards for such products. Delegations in favour of CCPFV convening physically indicated that such a meeting would overcome procedural issues in working by correspondence, in particular relating to the inclusiveness and transparency of participation and the consultation, consensus-building and decision-making process.
91. India further noted that holding joint or back-to-back meetings of committees sharing similar issues was also an approach identified by CCEXEC to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Codex. The co-hosting of Codex meetings would also foster participation by countries of the region where the meeting was co-hosted and neighbouring regions. In addition, work by correspondence applied to cases where most of the work had been completed and only one or very few items remained on the agenda that did not justify the convening of a physical meeting of the committee, but this was not the case of CCPFV.
92. The United States of America, as host of CCPFV, proposed that the Committee work by correspondence to prioritize the new work and the pending work on the review and to develop a work plan to address the overall work of CCPFV. Based on the prioritization of items in the work plan, CCPFV, in working by correspondence, would establish EWGs and identify lead countries to carry out work on standard development with a view to their consideration by a physical meeting of CCPFV in 2019. Delegations in favour of this proposal indicated that such an approach would optimize the resources available and facilitate progress between CAC40 and the physical meeting of CCPFV.
93. Thailand noted that working by correspondence should not delay the completion of standards beyond the established deadline (i.e. four years) and that the physical meeting of CCPFV should therefore take place in 2018 to allow for the adoption of the standards by CAC in 2021.
94. In response to concerns raised by some delegations regarding the limitations of working by correspondence, the Secretariat acknowledged that issues had arisen relating to the lack of an interactive consultative process, the lack of means to reach consensus, and the burden of the responsibilities entrusted to chairs and host countries, among other things. However, the procedure described above was not intended for developing standards but to assist CCPFV in prioritizing work and developing a work plan to manage its overall work (i.e. new work and pending work on the review of the existing standards).

### **Conclusion**

95. The Commission agreed that CCPFV would work by correspondence until CAC41 (2018) to: (i) prioritize its work on the proposals for new work and pending work on the review of the existing standards; (ii) prepare a work plan to address its overall work; and (iii) prepare recommendations for CAC41 on the establishment of EWGs to carry out standard-development work, as prioritized in the work plan, for consideration by a physical meeting of CCPFV to be held in 2019.
96. The Commission noted that the above process would assist CCPFV in managing its overall work and facilitate progress in the consideration of standards at the physical meeting of CCPFV. In addition, the Commission noted that such an approach would ensure the transparency and inclusiveness of the decision-making process.

### **Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)**

*Guidance on the use of systems equivalence;*<sup>44</sup> *Guidance on paperless use of electronic certificates (Revision of Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic Official Certificates (CAC/GL 38-2001));*<sup>45</sup> *Guidance on regulatory approaches to third party assurance schemes in food safety and fair practices in the food trade*<sup>46</sup>

<sup>42</sup> REP17/EXEC2, para. 49

<sup>43</sup> REP17/EXEC2, para. 53

<sup>44</sup> REP17/FICS, Appendix III

<sup>45</sup> REP17/FICS, Appendix IV

<sup>46</sup> REP17/FICS, Appendix V



## Conclusion

97. The Commission approved the three proposals for new work forwarded by CCFICS23 and endorsed the CCEXEC73 request that CCFICS report back to CCEXEC on the outcome of the pilot regional intersessional PWGs<sup>47</sup>.

## Physical Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (PWG-AMR)

*Revision of the Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/RCP 61-2005) and Guidelines on integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance*<sup>48</sup>

98. The Commission expressed its support for the outcomes of the PWG on AMR and the two proposals for new work.
99. Delegations commented that the new work should: be practical and identify procedures for the control of AMR; be prioritized on the basis of the available scientific evidence; take into consideration the *Guidelines for risk analysis of foodborne antimicrobial resistance* (CAC/GL 77-2011); support the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance; and highlight the priority importance of combatting AMR.
100. The Commission supported the recommendations to establish an EWG to facilitate the work of the TFAMR and noted that it was important that the EWG work in multiple languages, not only English, to facilitate broader participation in the development of these important texts.
101. The Republic of Korea, as host of the TFAMR, expressed its appreciation for the work of the PWG and stressed the importance of broader participation by developed and developing countries alike representing all regions.

## Conclusion

102. The Commission:
- (i) approved the new work;
  - (ii) established two EWGs, working in English and Spanish and open to all Codex members and observers, to develop:
    - a. proposed draft revision of the *Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance* (CAC/RCP 61-2005) (chaired by the United States of America and co-chaired by China, Kenya and the United Kingdom);
    - b. proposed draft guidance on integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance (chaired by the Netherlands and co-chaired by Chile, China and New Zealand);
  - (iii) noted that the EWGs would use the electronic platform for EWG;
  - (iv) noted that the reports of the EWGs:
    - a. should be made available to the Codex Secretariat by 15 September 2017 to allow adequate time for circulation for comments; and
    - b. would be circulated via the Codex OCS for comments at Step 3 with a deadline of early November 2017, with comments compiled in original language only for consideration by TFAMR5.
103. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the United Kingdom, as Chair, and to Australia and the United States of America, as Vice-Chairs of the PWG on AMR, for the successful completion of the task assigned by CAC39.

## DISCONTINUATION OF WORK (Agenda item 9)<sup>49</sup>

104. The Commission approved discontinuation of the work on the items presented in CX/CAC 17/40/9 and CX/CAC 17/40/9 Add1. (Appendix VII)

<sup>47</sup> REP17/EXEC2, para. 66

<sup>48</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/12-Add 2, Appendices 1 and 2

<sup>49</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/9; CX/CAC 17/40/9-Add1; Comments of Philippines (CRD7); Ecuador (CRD21)

**AMENDMENTS TO CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS (Agenda item 10)<sup>50</sup>**

105. The Commission adopted the amendments to the standards and texts in CX/CAC 17/40/10. (Appendix VIII)

**REGULAR REVIEW OF CODEX WORK MANAGEMENT: ELECTRONIC WORKING GROUPS (Agenda item 11)<sup>51</sup>**

106. The Secretariat introduced the item, recalling that CAC39 had tasked the Secretariat to regularly review work management as part of the Codex Strategic Plan 2014-2019 and to report back on results to both CCEXEC and CAC.
107. CAC40 noted that the matter had been considered by CCEXEC73, which had recommended that the Secretariat:
- (i) develop practical guidance for EWGs as outlined in the working document and paragraph 88 of REP17/EXEC2;
  - (ii) examine barriers to active participation and identify possible solutions;
  - (iii) record actions taken as part of the report on the implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2014–2019; and
  - (iv) continue the regular review of Codex work management.

**Discussion**

108. Delegations supported the recommendations of CCEXEC73 and underscored the need to further investigate barriers to active participation in EWGs, suggesting regional coordinators could contribute to identifying issues hindering participation and sustainable solutions.
109. Several delegations underscored that working in English only disadvantaged many developing countries from participating and urged the Commission to provide for translation into other United Nations official languages to facilitate and enhance the inclusiveness of EWG work. In this context, one delegation also noted that co-chairing EWGs was an effective mechanism to help mitigate potential financial constraints related to the provision of additional working languages.
110. With regard to information and communication technology (ICT) and the Codex online platform for EWGs, several delegations underscored the technical-capacity constraints on many developing countries, stressing the need to address them as an integral part of future efforts to further enhance work via EWGs, including through targeted ICT capacity-building activities. In addition, delegations expressed the view that the Codex online platform could be more user-friendly.
111. Delegations also acknowledged that EWG participation depended not only on language and ICT capacities but also on different levels of expertise, lack of scientific data or varying priorities of members and observers.
112. Delegations welcomed the recommendation by CCEXEC73 on the development of practical guidance for EWG (REP17/EXEC2, para. 91(i)) and further noted the need for:
- (i) standardized reporting procedures among EWGs to increase transparency and allow for the objective assessment of their work, for example by adding an annex to EWG reports to track how inputs were received and informed final texts; and
  - (ii) guidance on the roles and responsibilities of EWG chairs and participants.
113. Some delegations suggested that the Secretariat report to CCGP on actions taken pursuant to the recommendation by CCEXEC73 on the development of practical guidance for EWG..
114. The representative of WHO welcomed members' support for the timely review and clarified that CCGP would only deal with matters emerging from recommendation (i) should members or the Secretariat suggest amendment to the Guidelines for EWGs in the Procedural Manual. He recommended that the Commission first request the Secretariat to report back to CCEXEC and CAC on the measures taken before referring the matter to CCGP.

<sup>50</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/10; Comments of Philippines, Malaysia, Tanzania, African Union (CRD8); Gambia (CRD13); Cameroon (CRD17); Ecuador (CRD21); Benin (CRD32)

<sup>51</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/11; Comments of India (CRD9); Papua New Guinea (CRD14); Chile (CRD15); Ecuador (CRD21); Dominican Republic (CRD22); Nicaragua (CRD26); Russian Federation (CRD33)

115. The Secretariat addressed the characteristics of the EWG platform, recalling that it had begun as a pilot project using open-source software that had proven highly useful. Efforts to further enhance its user-friendliness based on user feedback were under way. With regard to the guidance for EWG chairs, the Secretariat clarified that it would first collect good practices to share as informal guidance then, only if necessary based on that experience, consider the need to amend procedural texts. The Secretariat also noted that it was collecting creative solutions for providing language support to EWGs as good practices.

### **Conclusion**

116. The Commission:
- (i) endorsed the recommendations of CCEXEC73 (REP17/EXEC2, para. 91);
  - (ii) further recommended that the Secretariat work with regional coordinators in examining barriers to active participation and identifying possible solutions and that the matter be included on the agenda of forthcoming RCC meetings; and
  - (iii) took note of the proposal by several delegations to discuss EWG-related guidance at CCGP if considered necessary in future.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORTS OF THE COMMISSION, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES (Agenda item 12)<sup>52</sup>**

117. The Commission noted that several matters were presented for information only or discussed elsewhere, under the relevant agenda item.

#### **Committee on Sugars (CCS)**

##### *Standard for non-centrifuged dehydrated sugar cane juice*

118. The Commission noted the recommendation of CCEXEC73 to discontinue the work on the development of the standard, with the understanding that such a decision would not prevent interested countries from submitting a proposal for new work for such products in the future.<sup>53</sup>

#### **Discussion**

119. Colombia, as host of CCS, recalling that significant progress had been made in developing the standard, recommended a physical meeting be convened to facilitate progress.
120. The Chairperson clarified the motivation of the CCEXEC recommendation to discontinue the work: recognizing the interest remaining among members in pursuing the work, the target year for its completion had been extended multiple times from 2013 to 2017 but consensus on such fundamental aspects as scope and quality remained elusive and the prospects for progress were slim.
121. While one delegation supported discontinuation, others, in particular from the LAC region, proposed continuing the work in the light of the increase in consumer demand for such products and the great deal of effort already invested. The view that additional information to inform the standard development would soon become available was also noted.
122. Noting the substantial support for continuing the work, the Chairperson pointed out that a new modality for considering the matter, such as through the proposed pilot CCSA (see para. 145 below), may be necessary to make progress. However, since no agreement on establishing such a pilot CCSA had been reached, she proposed that CCS, hosted by Colombia and working by correspondence, continue work on developing the standard and report back on progress to CAC41, which would take a decision on discontinuation. She encouraged members to participate actively in the interim with a view to addressing all outstanding issues.

#### **Conclusion**

123. The Commission agreed with the proposal of the Chairperson to extend work for one year for CCS to continue the work on the development of the standard for non-centrifuged dehydrated sugar cane juice and report on the progress to CAC41.

#### **Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP)**

##### *General standard for processed cheese<sup>54</sup>*

<sup>52</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/12; CX/CAC 17/40/12-Add.1; CX/CAC 17/40/12-Add.2

<sup>53</sup> REP17/EXEC2, para. 80

<sup>54</sup> CL 2016/6-MMP Appendix 1, CX/CAC 16/39.13-Add.1,

124. The Commission noted the recommendation of CCEXEC71 to discontinue work on the development of the standard.<sup>55</sup>

#### **Discussion**

125. Delegations supporting the discontinuation of the work noted that: i) despite exhaustive efforts since 1994, including during the most recent 12-month extension, consensus had not been reached, including on such fundamental aspects as minimum cheese content; and ii) concerns on ingredient and nutrition labelling and safety were addressed by Codex general standards.
126. Delegations opposing discontinuation noted that: i) such products were widely traded and consumed, particularly in developing countries, and the absence of a standard could lead to a health risk to consumers, including vulnerable groups such as children and the elderly; ii) members would have to establish their own national standards; and iii) an alternative approach could be sought to gather information to be analysed by FAO within a period of two years
127. In response to the comments, the Secretariat clarified that: i) a regional standard would not be appropriate since such products were traded not only regionally but globally; ii) while there were no safety concerns with processed cheese, safety issues were addressed through Codex general standards; and iii) should new work be taken up in future, under regular Codex procedures, if new information became available, the records of the previous discontinued work would remain available as reference.
128. Cuba noted that there was no consensus on discontinuing the work on the standard on processed cheese.

#### **Conclusion**

129. The Commission approved the discontinuation of the work on the development of the general standard for processed cheese and noted the reservations of Algeria, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Sudan, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Uruguay.

#### **Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)**

##### *Standard for Mozzarella (CODEX STAN 262-2006)*<sup>56</sup>

130. The Secretariat, recalling that CAC39 had deferred this matter to CAC40 due to a lack of time, highlighted two options contained in CX/CAC 16/39/13 (Annex): i) to request CCFA to address only the technological justification of the use of preservatives and anticaking agents for surface treatment of mozzarella with high moisture content in the framework of the alignment work of food additive provisions of CCMMP standards and those of the GSFA; and ii) to assign this work to CCMMP.
131. Delegations supported the review of the food-additive provisions of the mozzarella standard and noted that the work should be assigned to CCMMP as the commodity committee possessing relevant expertise regarding technological justification of the use of functional classes of food additives.
132. The Secretariat clarified that CCFA had responsibility for work on food additive provisions of commodity standards developed by non-active committees. Therefore, in view of the conclusion of work on the standard for dairy permeate powders (agenda item 5) and the decision regarding processed cheese, she stated that option i) was preferable.
133. New Zealand, as host of CCMMP, called on the delegations to adopt a pragmatic approach to this matter, noting that this work alone could not justify keeping CCMMP active. While reaffirming its willingness to reactivate the Committee should there be new work proposals, New Zealand proposed that the Commission request CCFA to consider this work.

#### **Conclusion**

134. The Commission agreed with the proposal of the Secretariat and New Zealand to request CCFA to address only the technological justification of the use of preservatives and anticaking agents for surface treatment of mozzarella with high moisture content in the framework of the alignment work of food additive provisions of CCMMP standards and those of the GSFA.

<sup>55</sup> REP16/EXEC, para. 43

<sup>56</sup> CX/CAC 16/39/13, Annex

## Physical Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (PWG AMR)

### *Provision of scientific advice on antimicrobial resistance<sup>57</sup>*

135. The United Kingdom, as chair of the PWG on AMR, introduced the report and drew the attention of the Commission to the TOR of the request for scientific advice in support to the work of the TFAMR, agreed by the PWG.
136. The representative of FAO, speaking on behalf of both FAO and WHO and referring to CX/CAC 17/40/14-Add.1, provided an overview of activities at the global level on the prevention and management of AMR since CAC39 and highlighted that both FAO and WHO were fully aware of the need for Codex to base its work on sound science.
137. The representative noted that a substantial amount of work had already been undertaken by FAO and WHO and the outcome was already, or would soon become, available for consideration by Codex members. She highlighted that, in response to the priority given by the PWG on AMR to obtain scientific advice on antimicrobial use in crops, FAO had initiated data-collection efforts on this issue, and a more detailed update on the available scientific information would be provided at TFAMR5.
138. In particular, the representative of FAO drew the attention of the Commission to the WHO List of Critically Important Antimicrobials for Human Medicine, the OIE List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance and the recently published second version of the WHO Guidance on Integrated Surveillance on AMR. She concluded by confirming that FAO and WHO, in collaboration with OIE, would continue to work together to address questions in those areas where further information was needed to support the work of the TFAMR.

### **Discussion**

139. The United States of America expressed its appreciation of the tripartite One Health partnership among FAO, WHO and OIE to address AMR, noting the importance for organizations with competencies in specific areas to take the lead therein and that it was more appropriate for OIE than WHO to lead the process of developing on-farm advice. The delegation recommended that the WHO guidelines on the use of antimicrobials in food animals, including the WHO systematic and literature reviews, be submitted to external peer review or to WHO Member States for review, comment, and approval prior to adoption and that WHO consult with its Member States in initiating a more transparent process for input for future work regarding critically important antimicrobial lists and engaging OIE and FAO to lead the areas providing agricultural sector advice.
140. The representative of WHO, in response to the comments of the United States of America, emphasized that the mandate of WHO was to provide recommendations to Member States for the protection of human health, regardless of the origin of the hazard, as long as the end-point was public health. He explained that the development of the WHO guidelines followed the established WHO procedures, which included several steps to ensure scientific soundness. FAO and OIE had been invited as special members of the Steering Group and as observers of the Guideline Development Group, and an external review was also part of the process. He further noted that all WHO work on AMR in the food chain was being carried out in collaboration with FAO and OIE.
141. The representative of FAO emphasized that the tripartite collaboration was a robust and important collaboration, although the Tripartite members were conscious of the need for continuous improvement.

### **Conclusion**

142. The Commission concluded the discussion and thanked FAO and WHO for the support to the work of the TFAMR.

## **Executive Committee (CCEXEC73)**

### *Committees working by correspondence*

143. The Commission considered the recommendations of CCEXEC73 presented in paragraphs 126 and 127 of its report:
  - (i) develop a paper analysing the advantages and disadvantages of the options to work by correspondence contained in CX/EXEC 17/73/7; and
  - (ii) establish, as a pilot, a committee on standards advancement (CCSA).

<sup>57</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/12-Add.1, Appendix 3

144. The Secretariat introduced the proposal of CCEXEC73 to establish a CCSA on a pilot basis and explained that such a committee would deal with standards advancement for committees working by correspondence. This would allow a transparent consensus-building and decision-making process, which was among the gaps when working by correspondence. The outputs of this committee would be considered by CCEXEC in its critical review process for final decision by CAC. The Secretariat clarified that such a committee could be established within the current procedures in accordance with Rule XI.1 (a) and would be convened as needed by the Commission. CCSA would be expected to deal with a very limited number of standards for advancement.
145. CCSA would be serviced by the Codex Secretariat with no host government, its operating expenses covered by the Codex budget, and convened back-to-back with a session of the Commission for no longer than two days, depending on the agenda. A chair would be elected at the start of each session and the host country of the committee working by correspondence could be considered for this task.
146. Questions were raised on how the piloting of CCSA links with the paper to be presented to CCEXEC75 (para. 145 (i)). In the view of some delegations, the pilot could feed into the paper to provide a broader perspective on how to deal with work by correspondence. It was also suggested that the paper be discussed in CCGP to allow a more inclusive participation of Codex members in this discussion.
147. The innovative idea of establishing such a standards advancement committee was recognized in general but there was no consensus on when to establish it as a pilot.
148. Those in favour of implementing the pilot at CAC40, considered that this would contribute to the prudent use of resources both from the Secretariat and members side, and would improve transparency and inclusiveness in the standards-development and decision-making process, which might be difficult to ensure when working by correspondence, and was in line with the Codex Strategic Plan (2014–2019) Strategic Goal 4: implement effective and efficient work management systems and practices.
149. Those not in favour of implementing the pilot at CAC40 expressed the view that there had not been enough time to consider the proposal and greater clarity was needed on the exact scope and working modalities of such a committee. The cost implications for both Codex and its members and whether this would be the most efficient use of resources should be examined. It was mentioned that the desired gain in transparency could be compromised by the additional costs, especially for developing countries, of experts attending CCSA meetings.

### Conclusion

150. The Commission welcomed the innovative approach of a standards advancement committee as recommended by CCEXEC73.
151. However, in view of the wish of delegations to further reflect on the proposal and its implications, it requested the Secretariat to prepare a more detailed proposal highlighting the TORs, modalities of work and cost implications of such a committee for distribution for comments and consideration by CCEXEC75 and discussion and decision (on the pilot) at CAC41.
152. The Commission further agreed with the CCEXEC73 recommendation to request the Secretariat to prepare a document which analyses advantages and disadvantages of the options contained in CCEXEC 17/73/7 and those mentioned at CCEXEC73, for consideration at CCEXEC75 and CAC41 with the understanding that this document would be revised based on the CAC41 discussion, and could be discussed at CCGP in 2019.

### *Other recommendations (extension of target year for completion of work)*

153. The Commission endorsed the proposals of CCEXEC73 to amend the target year for completion of work on:
- (i) the regional standard for fermented noni juice (CCNASWP) to 2021;
  - (ii) the revision of the *Standard for Follow-up formula* (CODEX STAN 156-1987) (CCNFSDU) to 2019;
  - (iii) the definition of biofortification (CCNFSDU) to 2019;
  - (iv) NRV-NCD for EPA and DHA long-chain omega-3 fatty acids (CCNFSDU) to 2018;
  - (v) the standard for oregano (CCSCH) to 2019;
  - (vi) the revision of *Classification of Food and Feed* (CAC/MISC 4-1989) (CCPR):
    - a. Types 04 “Nuts, Seeds and Saps” and 05 “Herbs and Spices” of Class A “Primary food commodities of plant origin” to 2018; and

- b. Class C “Primary animal feed commodities” to 2020; and
- (vii) the regional standard for mixed zaatar (CCNE) to 2019.

#### **CODEX: BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MATTERS (Agenda item 13)<sup>58</sup>**

154. The Secretariat introduced the document, noting that, in a departure from previous practice,<sup>59</sup> it included the expenditure on RCC sessions. The Secretariat further highlighted that Russian-language translation and interpretation services for CCEURO would be covered from the CAC regular budget in the financial biennium 2018-19.
155. CAC40 noted that the matter had been considered by CCEXEC73, which had:
- (i) encouraged CCEURO to investigate its language policy, comparing it also to other RCCs and regional organizations;
  - (ii) recognized the support provided by the Secretariat in funding Russian language services in the financial biennium 2018-19;
  - (iii) noted the report on expenditure (2016), the estimate for 2017 and the financial outlook for 2018-19;
  - (iv) requested the Secretariat to continue presenting budget proposals in the first year of a running biennium to allow FAO/WHO greater time for their approval process (i.e. in 2018 the Secretariat would present a budget proposal for 2020-21);<sup>60</sup> and
  - (v) noted appreciation for continued financial support from FAO and WHO to the regular programme budget, contributions from host countries/members and in-kind contributions from China, Germany Japan and the Republic of Korea to the Secretariat.

#### **Discussion**

156. The member States of the EU expressed appreciation to the Secretariat for the allocation of USD 23,000 for the provision of Russian language services in the next session of CCEURO, reaffirmed that a long-term solution was necessary to ensure Russian language services were available beyond 2018-19.
157. The representative of WHO recalled that, in accordance with Article 9 of the Statutes, the determination of the FAO and WHO proportions of the Codex budget was a joint decision for the Directors-General of FAO and WHO. While WHO was committed to maintaining its share of contributions to the Codex budget for 2018-19, future WHO financial contributions to Codex would depend on the degree of support for food safety, nutrition and Codex matters expressed by member States the WHO Executive Board (EB) and the World Health Assembly (WHA). In this regard, the importance of ongoing communication and coordination between Codex delegates and EB/WHA delegates was highlighted, especially for countries where the responsibility for Codex matters was not held by the Ministry of Health.

#### **Conclusion**

158. The Commission endorsed the conclusion of CCEXEC73 (see para. 157 above).

#### **FAO/WHO SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO CODEX: REPORT ON ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE WORK (Agenda item 14.1)<sup>61</sup>**

159. The representatives of FAO and WHO summarized the key points raised in the document. The representative of FAO thanked France and Canada for their voluntary contributions and noted Canada’s additional in-kind contribution. She also encouraged members to provide reliable and predictable support for the provision of scientific advice.
160. Delegations underlined the importance of scientific advice to the work of Codex and stressed the need for developing both short- and long-term strategies that would sustain funding in this area.

<sup>58</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/13

<sup>59</sup> CX/CAC 16/39/14

<sup>60</sup> REP17/EXEC2, para. 140.

<sup>61</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/14; Comments of Health for Animals (CRD12)

161. Delegations underscored the importance of scientific advice and, therefore, of JECFA, JEMRA and JMPR to the work of Codex, noting that insufficient resources could hinder the timely availability of relevant Codex Standards, resulting in barriers to trade and inadequate protection consumers. Delegations further noted the ongoing FAO and WHO initiatives — including the database of experts and the open-ended working group — to address the challenges, encouraged members to provide support in the form of financial resources and technical expertise, and stressed the urgent need to make JEMNU operational.
162. One observer organization called for the further harmonization of terminology used in scientific risk assessment.

### **Conclusion**

163. The Commission:
- (i) noted the information provided and thanked FAO and WHO for their continuous scientific support, which was crucial for the development of food safety standards;
  - (ii) noted the long list of pending requests and called on relevant Codex Committees to prioritize requests for scientific advice; and
  - (iii) noted that additional resources were needed to address all pending requests and encouraged in particular those countries having put forward numerous requests to provide support.

### **FAO/WHO SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO CODEX: BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MATTERS (Agenda item 14.2)<sup>62</sup>**

164. The representatives of FAO and WHO reiterated the points summarized in REP17/EXEC2<sup>63</sup> and recalled the decision of the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Agriculture to establish an Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) to consider options for the adequate and sustainable funding for the FAO/WHO Programmes for food safety scientific advice, including consideration of involving contributions from non-State actors.
165. Delegations emphasized the need for sustainable and predictable funding for the provision of scientific advice in support of Codex work and encouraged other members to provide financial or in-kind support to that end and looked forward to the findings of the OEWG. The EU further informed the Commission that the United Kingdom had sent an expert to support AMR-related activities in FAO, including the delivery of an AMR-focused project funded by the United Kingdom Fleming Fund, and that Germany intended to send an expert to work on food-safety issues in WHO.
166. Japan informed the Commission of its national initiative to raise awareness of the importance of providing scientific advice to Codex and the need for financial and other support.

### **Conclusion**

167. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of CCEXEC73 as laid out in paragraph 150 REP17/EXEC2.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO: POLICY AND RELATED MATTERS (Agenda Item 15.1)<sup>64</sup>**

168. The representative of WHO introduced the document and called for strategic positioning of Codex in a broader context in relation to the policies and strategies of FAO and WHO as well as the major initiatives within the United Nations system such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In particular, he drew the attention of the Commission to the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, noting that it provided an opportunity for members to publicize their national commitments expressed in SMART objectives, within which nutrition as well as food safety could be covered.
169. The representative of WHO outlined the nutrition-related activities, including: i) the outcomes of the Second Global Nutrition Policy Review (2015–2017), which would serve as the baseline for monitoring countries' progress in implementing the commitments of ICN2 (2014) and in turn the implementation of the commitment of the Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025); and ii) the work of the WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group (NUGAG) in nutrition guideline development, the sub-group on diet and health of which would provide the systematic reviews on n-3 PUFA to serve as scientific advice to the on-going work of CCNFSDU on NRV-NCD on EPA and DHA. The representative informed the Commission of the attendance of the representatives of FAO and the Codex Secretariat as observers at the recent 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of NUGAG.

<sup>62</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/15

<sup>63</sup> REP17/EXEC2, paras 141-144.

<sup>64</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/16



170. The representative of WHO further underlined the considerable impact the harmful use of alcohol had on the global burden of disease. The existing global strategies, recommendations and guidelines on alcohol included: the 2010 WHO Global Strategy to Reduce the Harmful Use of Alcohol, the WHO Global action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and Target 3.5 of the SDGs. These and other developments had led to the idea that Codex could consider work to support the prevention of the harmful use of alcohol by standard setting within its mandate to protect consumer health, possibly through the definition of “alcoholic beverage”, labelling of alcoholic content and calories as well as health warnings.
171. The representative of FAO highlighted a number of decisions/statements made by FAO Governing Bodies that have met since the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the CAC that could be of interest to the Commission including: the resolution by the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference calling for World Food Safety Day; the decision of the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Agriculture to establish an Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) to consider options for the adequate and sustainable funding for the FAO/WHO Programmes for food safety scientific advice.
172. The representative of FAO further outlined a selected number of FAO initiatives and programmes of relevance to the work of Codex especially those dealing with sustainable food systems, climate change, water scarcity, trade and sustainable crop and livestock production intensification, noting the engagement of the FAO Food Safety and Quality Unit in the programmes and their relatedness to the work of Codex. She also noted opportunities for the food safety community to engage in some ongoing national processes that could facilitate better integration of food safety issues in national planning and promote policy coherence across sectors.

### **Discussion**

173. Delegations recognized the global leadership of both FAO and WHO, noted the support provided to different members and called for continued support to members to address the diverse challenges related to food safety, nutrition and prevention of noncommunicable diseases.
174. Delegations reaffirmed the important role of FAO and WHO as parent organizations in ensuring the optimal functioning of Codex, including the joint approach to provision of scientific advice to Codex.
175. Members intervening on this item also touched on the broader issues of the relationship between FAO and WHO policies and the work of CAC. Several members and one observer questioned the presumption that Codex outputs were inconsistent with the policies of FAO and WHO. In addition, delegations stated that the mandates of FAO, WHO and Codex were different, and that there was a need for them to work closely within their respective mandates. They observed that the unique mandate and autonomy of Codex should be respected. At the same time, it was vital to coordinate their efforts through open communication channels and cooperation, for example by including an agenda item on Codex on the agendas of the governing bodies of FAO and WHO. Coherence to policies of FAO and WHO should be considered in a holistic way, while exploring what could be achieved practically. The dual mandate of Codex was duly recognized under the WTO Agreements. Egypt recalled the conclusion of CCEXEC73 noting the lack of support for further guidance or the need to amend the Procedural Manual as suggested in paragraph 15 of CX/EXEC 17/73/12 and requested that the mandate of Codex be respected.
176. Delegations noted that the document had been distributed late, and that there had not been enough time to undertake thorough review as well as carry out consultations with key stakeholders on important policy issues outlined in the document. They proposed that the document be considered at the next Session of the Commission to allow for informed discussion and decisions building on appropriate consultations in countries on some of the policy matters in the paper.
177. Norway reported that they were in the process of establishing a global action network on sustainable food from the ocean for food security and nutrition aimed at increasing the consumption of seafood under the umbrella of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025 and invited other members to join the initiative. Morocco noted that, given its mandate, Codex should not mix fiscal and science-based measures (e.g. taxation on foods high in sugar, fats and sodium) and that fiscal measures could potentially leave consumers without adequate protection since they could lead to illegal trade of low-quality food. Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania indicated developments at the national level to address the abuse of alcoholic beverages and suggested the possibility of developing international guidance on this matter. Other concerns expressed by delegations included: nutritional profiles should be region specific and not global; the need to restrict the marketing of high-sugar-content non-alcoholic beverages and alcoholic beverages to children; the challenge of obesity etc.
178. Two observer organizations suggested that Codex consider making a distinction between non-profit civil society organizations and business associations within the category of NGOs with observer status in Codex.

179. The Coordinator of CCLAC referred the following CCLAC position on this topic: "CCLAC agreed that the Codex Alimentarius Commission considers the policies and guidelines of FAO and WHO, which may be relevant to the work of Codex, respecting the autonomy of the Commission, reflected in its mandate and Procedural Manual, and that it is therefore the CAC, with the agreement of its Members, that defines how it will address and take into account such policies".<sup>65</sup>
180. The United States of America informed the Commission that it had disassociated itself from the WHA resolution reference by WHO (resolution WHA70.11) because the evidence underpinning certain recommendations was not yet sufficient to support them. The United States of America also supported the intervention by the delegation of Morocco.
181. The representative of WHO clarified that international food standard setting had been and continued to be part of the WHO mandate (Footnote to WHO Constitution Article 2(u)) since its establishment and this mandate had later been reflected in the mandate of Codex, and that while the Codex standards has a specific status under the WTO SPS Agreement, FAO and WHO standards could, in his view, be considered as relevant international reference under the WTO TBT Agreement.
182. On the question of implementation of fiscal measures, the representative of WHO referred to the work related to recommended interventions to prevent and control NCDs which included economic measures to reduce risk factors, such as tobacco, alcohol and unhealthy diet. This work, together with the scientific evidence reviews and cost-effectiveness analyses for respective interventions, was presented to and endorsed by Member States at the 70<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly in May 2017.
183. The representative of WHO also highlighted the planned work in the African region of WHO to develop their regional nutrient profile model following five other WHO regions. The representative further provided information on a number of action networks under consideration by various Member States, for example nutrition labelling, portion size and school food procurement, as a means effectively to implement the Decade of Action on Nutrition.

### Conclusion

184. The Commission:
- (i) noted the resolution adopted by the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference following the decision of CAC39 regarding the establishment of a World Food Safety Day on a permanent basis;
  - (ii) noted that WHO and FAO policies were important and taken into account in Codex as appropriate in accordance with the need to respect the unique and specific mandate of Codex;
  - (iii) noted that the late submission of the document made available in English only had prevented members from consulting fully; and
  - (iv) agreed to further discuss an updated document at CAC41.

### MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO: CAPACITY-DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES (Agenda item 15.2)<sup>66</sup>

185. The representatives of FAO and WHO highlighted the capacity-development activities undertaken since CAC39 as presented in CX/CAC 17/40/17. The representative of WHO emphasized the complementary mandates — food for all and health for all — of FAO and WHO, which was important for capacity development and facilitated collaboration with all relevant partners. The representative of FAO highlighted the importance of capacity development as a means to strengthen the development and implementation of Codex standards. She emphasized that adequate attention to capacity-development activities was necessary to enable Codex to maintain its unique place in the global governance of food safety and quality. She noted that the process of "revitalization" of the RCCs involved greater discussion of capacity development in those committees and highlighted the need to reflect on how to optimize the discussion within the Commission.

### Conclusion

186. The Commission expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO for their work and support to member countries and acknowledged the importance and contribution of capacity development in increasing the global impact and relevance of Codex standards.

<sup>65</sup> REP/17/LAC para. 88

<sup>66</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/17

**MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO: CODEX TRUST FUND ACTIVITIES (Agenda Item 15.3)<sup>67</sup>**

187. The representative of WHO introduced the item and reported on work that had been carried out in 2016, including activities focused on helping countries to prepare robust applications. A review of the first year of operations had been carried out and the results were used to target areas for increased efficiency. The “Call for Applications” for Round 2 was opened on 17 July and it was expected that there would be more applications than in Round 1, and more robust applications. She confirmed the objective was to support more countries in Round 2 with the budget available and cover all Codex regions. Donor contributions, including the recent multi-year contributions from the EU and the Netherlands, were acknowledged and Codex members were reminded of the conditions on the Dutch contribution to meet funding targets.
188. The representative of FAO reported on activities and ongoing project work in first four CTF2 countries, highlighting the ownership evident at country level. She made reference to mentoring activities and innovative approaches such as peer learning which were improving results and the impact of projects. She explained that these activities benefitted from transfer of knowledge and experience between Codex members. She also noted the interest expressed by some countries to use the results and experiences from the first four countries. This demonstrated the potential for a multiplier effect leading to greater impact from CTF activities. The representative underlined the uniqueness of CTF in the Codex system, bringing together beneficiaries, donors as well as FAO and WHO to contribute to, and maximize the global benefits of a strong partnerships through the CTF.
189. The representative of WHO expressed appreciation to the members of the CTF Advisory Group established to institutionalize the two-way interaction between Codex members and the CTF Secretariat, as previously requested by Codex Members. Regional Coordinators, as ex officio members of the Group, were expected to continue to play a key role in conveying the voices of Members to the Advisory Group. He also expressed appreciation for the contributions of donors and underlined the importance of securing sustainable funding.

**Discussion**

190. The following views were expressed:
- (i) There was ongoing commitment to participation and it would be important to encourage national engagement and promote the sustainability of activities.
  - (ii) The work of CTF was important for SDGs 1, 2, 8, 12 and 17 and emphasizing these links could help secure funding in national budgets.
  - (iii) Past beneficiaries of CTF were well placed to use their experience to advise new applicants and participants.
  - (iv) There was support for perfecting the diagnostic tool and for improving the balance between capacity building activities and support for participation in Codex meetings.
  - (v) Access to CTF was limited by eligibility requirements and there was a need to find innovative solutions to extend the possible number of beneficiaries.
  - (vi) It was important to secure funding at the national level to ensure the sustainability beyond the end of a project cycle of activities already under way.
  - (vii) Countries needed to build capacities to understand national challenges, better prepare and identify solutions to national requirements in order to take advantage of CTF2.
  - (viii) A methodology was required at the national level to evaluate outcomes and the substantive contribution to Codex of CTF initiatives.
191. In response to questions, the representative of WHO stated that the contribution that CTF made to achieving the SDGs would be highlighted in reporting. She thanked those supporting or offering support to mentoring or twinning programmes, which were being tested in the project countries and would continue to grow. She was confident that balance in the countries being supported could be achieved in Round 2 with the receipt of a greater number of robust applications. Regarding sustainability, she highlighted that securing political and economic support for Codex work in countries was critical for sustaining gains beyond the end of projects and she advised applicants to critically consider this aspect both when making applications and when implementing programmes.

<sup>67</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/18; CX/CAC 17/40/18-Add1; Comments of Papua New Guinea (CRD14); Summary report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Codex Trust Fund Advisory Group (CRD34)

192. The representative of FAO explained that twinning activities were developed on a case-by-case basis and that funding for twinning, when needed, was included as a budget line in CTF2 projects. She also noted that positive use was being made of videoconferencing and online systems for these activities. Regarding applications for funding, she recalled that webcast seminars had been held on the use of the diagnostic tool and that materials were available to support applicants. She stressed the need for CCPs to lead the completion of each application with support from FAO/WHO as required.

### Conclusion

193. The Commission:
- (i) congratulated FAO/WHO on the transition from CTF1 to CTF2;
  - (ii) noted the successful start made by four countries under CTF2;
  - (iii) noted the new application period and encouraged eligible countries to take full advantage and apply for support; and
  - (iv) thanked donors and invited potential donors to give support.
194. Requested that FAO/WHO:
- (i) consider revising the eligibility criteria for access to CTF2;
  - (ii) improve the balance of support between countries from all regions; and
  - (iii) continue their strong commitment to implement the CTF2 programme.

### RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (Agenda item 16)<sup>68</sup>

195. The Commission noted the new approach to this item whereby discussion panels with IGOs and NGOs were held and the customary paper was not presented.
196. The Secretariat recalled that a lesser-known mandate of Codex — “*promoting coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations*” (Article 1 (b)) — was the basis of the standing item on the agenda of the Commission on the relations between CAC and other international organizations (IGOs), under which a paper was customarily presented outlining various activities of IGOs and the participation of the Codex Secretariat in these activities and vice versa.
197. With a view to gaining greater value from this item, the Commission, for the first time, convened discussion panels. The Secretariat requested feedback on the usefulness of the discussion panels and the value of the document as presented in the past.
198. There was broad support for the initiative of the Secretariat with regard to the discussion panels as well as the webpage dedicated to collaboration with observer organizations. It was suggested that panel discussions could be improved by taking a more thematic approach — for example, by focusing on emerging issues — to facilitate the identification of areas for collaboration.
199. Other comments made included:
- (i) the proliferation of private standards by some NGOs and the impact these were having on small and medium enterprises, in particular in developing countries, and the need for Codex to engage further with organizations developing private standards; and
  - (ii) concerns on the role of NGOs in Codex, in particular the possible conflict of interest of industry groups, and the need to have a clear distinction between those organizations presenting industry and those representing civil society.
200. Regarding observer organizations in Codex, the Secretariat clarified that there were clear principles on the participation of NGOs and that all applications underwent review by the legal offices of FAO and WHO to verify there was no conflict with the statutes of the parent bodies.
201. The Secretariat also informed the Commission that reporting on collaboration with IGOs would occur in the context of the monitoring of the Codex Strategic Plan.
202. The Secretariat noted that, taking into account the concerns on the proliferation of private standards, consideration could be given to having a panel discussion on this topic.

<sup>68</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/19; CAC/40 INF/01; CAC/40 INF/02; CAC/40 INF/03; CAC/40 INF/04; CAC/40 INF/05; CAC/40 INF/06; CAC/40 INF/07; CAC/40 INF/08; CAC/40 INF/09; CAC/40 INF/10-Rev.1; CAC/40 INF/11

## Conclusion

203. The Commission expressed its support for continuing with panel discussions following a more thematic approach and noted that the Secretariat would no longer prepare a paper on collaboration with international organizations instead reporting through the monitoring of the Codex Strategic Plan.

### **ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTED ON A GEOGRAPHICAL BASIS AND APPOINTMENT OF THE COORDINATORS (Agenda item 17)<sup>69</sup>**

204. The Commission elected the following persons to hold office from the end of its present Session to the end of the next regular (41<sup>st</sup>) Session of the Commission:

<b>Chairperson:</b>	Mr Guilherme Antonio da Costa Jr. (Brazil)
<b>Vice-Chairpersons:</b>	Mr Purwiyatno Hariyadi (Indonesia)
	Ms Mariam Eid (Lebanon)
	Mr Steve Wearne (United Kingdom)

205. The Commission noted that because of the election of Ms Mariam Eid (Lebanon) as Vice-Chairperson, Lebanon was no longer eligible for election as a member of the Executive Committee on a geographical basis.

### **Members of the Executive Committee Elected on a geographic basis**

206. The Commission elected/re-elected the following members of the Executive Committee on a geographical basis for the period from the end of the current session to the end of the second succeeding regular session of the Commission, scheduled for CAC42 (2019):

<b>Africa:</b>	Nigeria (re-elected)
<b>Asia:</b>	Malaysia (re-elected)
<b>Europe:</b>	Norway (re-elected)
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean:</b>	Mexico (re-elected)
<b>Near East:</b>	Egypt
<b>North America:</b>	United States of America
<b>South-West Pacific:</b>	Australia

### **Regional Coordinators**

207. In accordance with Rule IV.2 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, and on the basis of the nominations made by the Coordinating Committees, the following members of the Commission were appointed/reappointed as Coordinators to hold office from the end of CAC40 until the end of the first regular session of the Commission, scheduled for CAC42 (2019), which follows the next session of the relevant Coordinating Committee:

<b>Africa:</b>	Kenya (reappointed)
<b>Asia:</b>	India (reappointed)
<b>Europe:</b>	Kazakhstan
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean:</b>	Chile (reappointed)
<b>Near East:</b>	Iran (reappointed)
<b>North America and South-West Pacific:</b>	Vanuatu (reappointed)

<sup>69</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/20-Rev.1

**DESIGNATION OF COUNTRIES RESPONSIBLE FOR APPOINTING THE CHAIRPERSONS OF CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES (Agenda Item 18)<sup>70</sup>**

208. The Commission confirmed the designation of the Host Governments. (Appendix IX). The Commission further agreed to adjourn *sine die* the Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP) following the adoption of the *Standard for Dairy Permeate Powders* (agenda item 5) and the discontinuation of work on the general standard for processed cheese (agenda item 12), expressing its gratitude to New Zealand as host country of the committee.
209. New Zealand, as host of CCMMP, expressed its willingness to continue hosting CCMMP should any new work so require.
210. The Commission noted that the next sessions of CCFL and CCFFV would be co-hosted by Paraguay and Uganda, respectively.

**OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 19)****Establishment of a World Food Safety Day<sup>71</sup>**

211. Costa Rica recalled the discussion in CAC39 on a world food safety day and that the initiative would require the proposal by Codex members for the decision of the FAO Conference and WHA as well as a decision at the United Nations level. The FAO Conference had adopted a resolution on declaration of 7 June as World Food Safety Day. For such a declaration to proceed, the WHO governing bodies needed to adopt a resolution in support then transmit the initiative to the General Assembly for endorsement. Delegations were encouraged to bring this to the attention of the WHO governing bodies.
212. Delegations supported the resolution and hoped that the same could be passed by WHO. World Food Safety Day would contribute to raising awareness of food safety issues amongst all relevant stakeholders worldwide and thereby raise the profile of Codex with respect food safety.
213. Questions were however raised on whether the process could be expedited. Having to go through WHO would delay putting the proposal to the General Assembly of the United Nations. The membership of FAO and WHO were almost identical and by implication support would be expected also in WHO.
214. The representative of WHO explained that WHO, like FAO, was a Member State-driven organization and that the preparation of the agenda for and discussion and decisions at the governing bodies of WHO were primarily in the hands of the Member States. In order for a resolution recommending the establishment of a World Food Safety Day by the United Nations General Assembly to be adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2018, an appropriate agenda item should be included on the agenda of the next session of the WHO Executive Board, to be held in January 2018. Member States were currently able to put forward proposals for agenda items for the next session of the Executive Board, for consideration by the Officers of the Executive Board.
215. The representative of the WHO Legal Office informed the Commission that all World Health Days had been established through decisions of WHO's governing bodies and that such a decision would also be needed for the purpose of establishing a World Food Safety Day. She further indicated that the Commission's support for the proposal related to the establishment of a World Food Safety Day on a permanent basis could be brought to the attention of the Officers of the Executive Board, in first instance, and to the Executive Board afterwards. At the same time, she also stated that, it would have been suitable for WHO Member States to propose an agenda item aimed at establishing of a World Food Safety Day to be added to the provisional agenda of the forthcoming session of the Executive Board.
216. In response to the question from the Chairperson relative to the channels of communication between the Commission and the governing bodies of WHO as provided for in Article 5 of the Statutes of the Commission, the Representative of WHO informed the Commission that the important recommendations of the Commission, including the recommendation of CAC39 to establish a World Food Safety Day on a permanent basis, had systematically been brought to the attention of the Director-General of WHO. On the establishment of a World Food Safety Day, the representative further clarified that such a proposal would have had to be made by a Member State of WHO.

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<sup>70</sup> CX/CAC 17/40/21

<sup>71</sup> Proposal for the Establishment of the World Food Safety Day, submitted by Costa Rica (CRD23)

**Conclusion**

217. Following discussion on how the Commission could expedite the decision on a World Food Safety Day, and noting the explanations from WHO on the process to be followed to receive consideration in WHO governing bodies, the Commission:
- (i) congratulated Codex Members for having proactively followed up through the FAO Governing Bodies on the decision of CAC39 on the establishment of a World Food Safety Day on a permanent basis by the FAO Conference;
  - (ii) welcomed and strongly supported the adoption by the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the FAO Conference of the Resolution on the observance of the World Food Safety Day on 7 June; and
  - (iii) strongly encouraged WHO Member States to propose the inclusion of an agenda item on the observance of the World Food Safety Day for consideration by the 71<sup>st</sup> World Health Assembly (May 2018), through the 142<sup>nd</sup> session of the WHO Executive Board (January 2018), with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider, ideally during its 73<sup>rd</sup> Session, declaring 7 June World Food Safety Day.
218. In view of the adoption of the FAO resolution, the Commission further encouraged each member to consider holding a national food safety day to promote awareness on food safety at country level, while waiting for the official establishment of the World Food Safety Day by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

**Biopesticides, biofertilizers, biostimulants<sup>72</sup>**

219. Chile requested guidance from the Commission on how the current lack of definitions and recommendations for biopesticides, biofertilizers and biostimulants should be addressed including the option of presenting a discussion paper on the subject to a suitable subsidiary body of the Commission. Although no problems were detected in trade currently, it could not be ruled out that this might be the case in future because of the different legislation initiatives that were currently taking place to address the use and safety of these products, therefore such international guidance was required to ensure a harmonized approach to regulating these products. This would also be in line with the Strategic Plan (2014–2019) strategic objective 1.2 on identification of emerging issues.
220. The Commission noted:
- (i) countries were starting to develop national legislation, which could benefit from international guidance;
  - (ii) these substances were increasingly being used as an alternative to or to complement traditional agricultural practices, yet were not scientifically evaluated to ensure their safety;
  - (iii) clear definitions of these substances and their safe use and appropriate residue levels should be addressed; and
  - (iv) the technical nature of the issue required considered in specialized subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

**Conclusion**

221. The Commission:
- (i) acknowledged the relevance of the issue and the support for the proposal from Chile; and
  - (ii) recommended that Chile submit a discussion paper for consideration by CCFL, CCPR and CCCF.
  - (iii)

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<sup>72</sup> Biopesticides, biofertilizers, biostimulantes, submitted by Chile (CRD28)

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**Appendix II****AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL**

<b>Codex body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Status</b>
CCMAS	Principles for the Establishment of Codex Methods of Analysis	REP17/MAS Appendix III	Adopted
CCNFSDU	Nutritional Risk Analysis Principles and Guidelines for Application to the Work of the Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses	REP17/NFSDU Appendix II	Adopted

**Appendix III****LISTS OF ADOPTED STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS**

<b>Standard and Related Texts</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Job No.</b>	<b>Status</b>
Annex on Canned Pineapples (for inclusion in the <i>Standard for Certain Canned Fruits</i> (CODEX STAN 319-2015))	REP17/PFV Appendix II	N20-2011	Adopted
Annexes for Certain Quick Frozen Vegetables (for inclusion in the <i>Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables</i> (CODEX STAN 320-2015))	REP17/PFV Appendix IV	N19-2011	Adopted (subject to endorsement)
Amendment to the <i>Standard for Certain Canned Fruits</i> (CODEX STAN 319-2015)	REP17/PFV Appendix III	-	Adopted
Amendments to the Food Additive Provisions in Codex Standards for Processed Fruits and Vegetables, i.e. Standards for <i>Canned Chestnuts and Canned Chestnut Puree</i> (CODEX STAN 145-1985), <i>Pickled Fruits and Vegetables</i> (CODEX STAN 260-2007), <i>Jams, Jellies and Marmalades</i> (CODEX STAN 296-2009), <i>Canned Applesauce</i> (CODEX STAN 17-1981), <i>Canned Fruit Cocktail</i> (CODEX STAN 78-1981), <i>Canned Tropical Fruit Salad</i> (CODEX STAN 99-1981), <i>Pickled Cucumbers</i> (CODEX STAN 115-1981), <i>Kimchi</i> (CODEX STAN 223-2001), <i>Canned Stone Fruits</i> (CODEX STAN 242-2003).	REP17/PFV Appendix V	-	Adopted
Regional Standard for Laver Products	REP17/ASIA Appendix IV	N14-2011	Adopted (subject to endorsement)
Regional Code of Hygienic Practice for Street-Vended Foods in Asia	REP17/ASIA Appendix V	N05-2013	Adopted
Amendments to CCASIA Regional Standards, i.e. Standards for <i>Tempe</i> (CODEX STAN 313R-2013), <i>Chilli Sauce</i> (CODEX STAN 306R-2011) and <i>Non-Fermented Soybean Products</i> (CODEX STAN 322R-2015)	REP17/ASIA Appendix III	-	Adopted
MRLs for: Lasalocid sodium (Chicken, Turkey, Quail and Pheasant Kidney, Liver, Muscle, Skin+Fat) (78 <sup>th</sup> JECFA); Ivermectin (Cattle Fat, Kidney, Liver, Muscle) (81 <sup>st</sup> JECFA); Teflubenzuron (Salmon Fillet, Muscle) (81 <sup>st</sup> JECFA)	REP17/RVDF Appendix IV	-	Adopted
Revision of the <i>Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables</i> (CAC/RCP 53-2003)	REP17/FH Appendix III	N04-2016	Adopted with amendment (see para. 25)
Regional Standard for Yacon	REP17/LAC Appendix III	N11-2013	Adopted (subject to endorsement)

Standard and Related Texts	Reference	Job No.	Status
Editorial Amendments to Various CCNFSDU Standards: Flavorings, i.e. Standards for <i>Canned Baby Foods</i> (CODEX STAN 73-1981), <i>Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children</i> (CODEX STAN 74-1981), <i>Follow-up Formula</i> (CODEX STAN 156-1987) and <i>Guidelines on Formulated Complementary Foods for Older Infants and Young Children</i> (CAC/GL 8-1991)	REP17/NFSDU Appendix II		Adopted
NRV-R for Vitamins D and E and the Conversion Factors for Vitamin E Equivalents for Labelling Purposes in the <i>Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling</i> (CAC/GL 2-1985)	REP17/NFSDU Appendix III	-	Adopted
Regional Standard for Unrefined Shea Butter	REP17/AFRICA Appendix III	N08-2015	Adopted with amendments (see para. 34 (i)) (subject to endorsement)
Standard for Cumin	REP17/SCH Appendix II	N05-2014	Adopted (subject to endorsement)
Standard for Dried Thyme	REP17/SCH Appendix III	N07-2014	Adopted (subject to endorsement)
Standard for Black, White and Green Pepper	REP17/SCH Appendix IV	N04-2014	Adopted (subject to endorsement)
Standard for Fish Oils	REP17/FO Appendix III	N09-2011	Adopted (subject to endorsement)
Revision to the <i>Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 33-1981): Revision of the Limits of Campesterol	REP17/FO Appendix IV	N12-2015	Adopted
Revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Revision of Quality Parameters for Peanut Oil	REP17/FO Appendix VI	N11-2015	Adopted
Amendment to the Sections on Flavourings of Standards for <i>Edible Fats and Oils not Covered by Individual Standards</i> (CODEX STAN 19-1981) (Section 3.3), <i>Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999) (Section 4.1), and <i>Fat Spreads and Blended Spreads</i> (CODEX STAN 256-2007) (Section 4.6).	REP17/FO Appendix II, part B	-	Adopted
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	REP17/FO Appendix IX	-	Adopted
Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives: Amendments to the <i>List of Codex Specifications for Food Additives</i> (CAC/MISC 6)	REP17/FA Appendix III, Part A	Ongoing	Adopted
Food Additive Provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA) (CODEX STAN 192-1995)	REP17/FA Appendix VI, part A	Ongoing	Adopted with amendments (see para. 50)

Standard and Related Texts	Reference	Job No.	Status
Revision of the <i>Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives</i> (CAC/GL 36-1989)	REP17/FA Appendix X	Ongoing	Adopted
Amendment to the Introduction of the <i>List of Codex Specifications for Food Additives</i> (CAC/MISC 6)	REP17/FA Appendix III, part B	-	Adopted
Revised Food Additives Provisions of the GSFA related to the Alignment of the Standards for Frozen Fish Products and of the Standards for <i>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 37-1991)	REP17/FA Appendix VI, part B	Ongoing	Adopted
Revised Food Additives Sections of the Standards for <i>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</i> (Fish Fingers), <i>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)	REP17/FA Appendix V	Ongoing	Adopted
Amendment to the MLs for Lead and Arsenic in Edible Fats and Oils (Fish Oils) (CODEX STAN 193-1995)	REP17/CF Appendix II	-	Adopted
MLs for Lead in Selected Processed Fruits and Vegetables (Pulses, Jams, Jellies and Marmalades, Preserved Tomatoes, Canned Chestnuts and Canned Chestnuts Puree) (CODEX STAN 193-1995)	REP17/CF Appendix II	N04-2012	Adopted
Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Arsenic Contamination in Rice	REP17/CF Appendix III	N12-2014	Adopted
Annex on Ergot and Ergot Alkaloids in cereal grains (Annex to the <i>Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in Cereals</i> (CAC/RCP 51-2003))	REP17/CF Appendix V	N13-2014	Adopted
Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in Spices	REP17/CF Appendix VI	N13-2015	Adopted with amendment (see para. 59)
MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies)	REP17/PR Appendices II and III	Ongoing	Adopted
Revision of the <i>Classification of Food and Feed: Vegetable Commodity Groups</i>	REP17/PR Appendix VIII Part A	N11-2004 N09-2006	Adopted



<b>Standard and Related Texts</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Job No.</b>	<b>Status</b>
Table 2 on examples of representative commodities for vegetable commodity groups (for inclusion in the <i>Principles and Guidance on the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of MRLs for Pesticides to Commodity Groups</i> ) (CAC/GL 84-2012)	REP17/PR Appendix VIII Part B	N11-2004 N09-2006	Adopted
Revision of the <i>Classification of Food and Feed: Grasses</i>	REP17/PR Appendix XI Part A	N11-2004 N09-2006	Adopted
Table 3 on examples of representative commodities for grasses (for inclusion in the <i>Principles and Guidance on the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of MRLs for Pesticides to Commodity Groups</i> ) (CAC/GL 84-2012)	REP17/PR Appendix XI Part B	N11-2004 N09-2006	Adopted
Guidelines on Performance Criteria for Methods of Analysis for the Determination of Pesticide Residues in food and feed	REP17/PR Appendix XIII	N09-2013	Adopted
Principles and Guidelines for Monitoring the Performance of National Food Control Systems	REP17/FICS Appendix II	N02- 2015	Adopted
Methods of Analysis for Provisions in Codex Standards	REP17/MAS Appendix II (Part 1)	Ongoing	Adopted
Regional Standard for Doogh	REP17/NE Appendix III	N21-2011	Adopted (subject to endorsement)
Standard for Dairy Permeate Powders	CX/CAC17/40/3- Add.1 Annex 2	N16-2015	Adopted with amendment (see para. 54) (subject to endorsement)

**Appendix IV****LIST OF DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS ADOPTED AT STEP 5**

<b>Standard and Related Texts</b>	<b>Job No.</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Status</b>
RMR for gentian violet	-	REP17/RVDF Appendix II	Adopted
Regional standard for fermented cooked cassava based products	N07-2015	REP17/AFRICA Appendix II	Adopted
Regional standard for <i>Gnetum</i> spp. leaves	N09-2015	REP17/AFRICA Appendix IV	Adopted
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	REP17/FO Appendix V	Adopted
MLs for lead in processed tomato concentrates and canned brassica vegetables	N04-2012	REP17/CF Appendix II	Adopted
Revision of the <i>Classification of Food and Feed: seeds for beverages and sweets</i>	N11-2004 N09-2006	REP17/PR Appendix XII	Adopted
Regional standard for mixed zaatar	N13-2013	REP17/NE Appendix IV	Adopted
Standard for quinoa	N17-2015	CL 2017/44- CPL, Annex I	Adopted

**Appendix V****LIST OF REVOKED STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS**

<b>Standards and Related Texts</b>	<b>Reference</b>
Standards for <i>Canned Pineapples</i> (CODEX STAN 42-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Broccoli</i> (CODEX STAN 110-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Brussels Sprouts</i> (CODEX STAN 112-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Cauliflower</i> (CODEX STAN 111-1981), <i>Quick Frozen French Fried Potatoes</i> (CODEX STAN 114-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Green and Wax Beans</i> (CODEX STAN 113-1981), <i>Quick Frozen Peas</i> (CODEX STAN 41-1981) and <i>Quick Frozen Spinach</i> (CODEX STAN 77-1981)	REP17/PFV, paras 29, 42 and 76
Food additive provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA) (CODEX STAN 192- 1995)	REP17/FA, Appendix VII
Maximum levels for lead in pulses, jams (fruit preserves) and jellies, preserved tomatoes, canned chestnuts and canned chestnuts puree in the <i>General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed</i> (CODEX STAN 193-1995)	REP17/CF, para. 89
MRLs(CXLs) for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies)	REP17/PR, Appendix IV
Recommended methods of analysis in Codex standards	REP17/MAS, Appendix II (Part 2)

**Appendix VI****LIST OF APPROVED NEW WORK**

<b>Codex Body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference and project document</b>	<b>Job Number</b>
CCNASWP	Regional standard for kava as a beverage when mixed with cold water	REP17/NASWP CX/CAC17/40/8 Annex I	N01-2017
CCRVDF	Priority list of veterinary drugs requiring evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA	REP17/RVDF Appendix VI Part A	Ongoing
CCSCH	Standard for dried or dehydrated ginger	REP17/SCH Appendix V	N02-2017
	Standard for dried or dehydrated chilli and paprika	REP17/SCH Appendix VI	N03-2017
	Standard for dried or dehydrated garlic	REP17/SCH Appendix VII	N04-2017
	Standard for basil	REP17/SCH Appendix VIII	N05-2017
	Standard for dried saffron	REP17/SCH Appendix IX	N06-2017
	Standard for nutmeg	REP17/SCH Appendix X	N07-2017
	Standard for cloves	REP17/SCH Appendix XI	N08-2017
	CCFO	Revision of the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Essential composition of sunflowerseed oils	REP17/FO Appendix VII
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		REP17/FO Appendix VIII	N10-2017
Revision of the <i>Standard for Olive Oils and Pomace Olive Oils</i> (CODEX STAN 33-1981)		REP17/FO Appendix X	N11-2017
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		CX/CAC/17/40/8 Add.1 Annex 10	N12-2017
CCPFV	Standard for cashew kernels	CX/CAC/17/40/8 Add.1 Annex I	N13-2017
	Conversion of the <i>Regional Standard for Chili Sauce</i> (CODEX STAN 306R-2011) into a worldwide standard	CX/CAC/17/40/8 Add.1 Annex II	N14-2017
	Revision of the <i>Standard for Mango Chutney</i> (CODEX STAN 160-1987)	CX/CAC/17/40/8 Add.1, Annex III	N15-2017

<b>Codex Body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference and project document</b>	<b>Job Number</b>
	Standard for dried sweet potato	CX/CAC/17/40/8 Add.1, Annex V	N16-2017
	Conversion of the <i>Regional Standard for Gochujang</i> (CODEX STAN 294R-2009) into a worldwide standard	CX/CAC/17/40/8 Add.1, Annex VI	N17-2017
	Standard for dried fruits (including dried persimmons)	CX/CAC/17/40/8 Add.1, Annex VIII and IV	N18-2017
	Standard for canned mixed fruits (Revision of the <i>Standard for Canned Tropical Fruit Salad</i> (CODEX STAN 99-1981))	CX/CAC/17/40/8 Add.1, Annex IX	N19-2017
CCCF	MLs for total aflatoxins and ochratoxin A in nutmeg, chili, paprika, ginger, pepper and turmeric	REP17/CF Appendix VII	N20-2017 (i-xii)
	MLs for methylmercury in fish species: tuna, alfonso, kingfish/amberjack, marlin, shark, dogfish and swordfish	REP17/CF Appendix VIII	N21-2017 (i-vii)
	Revision of the <i>Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Dioxin and Dioxin-like PCB Contamination in Foods and Feeds</i> (CAC/RCP 62 – 2006)	REP17/CF Appendix IX	N22-2017
	Code of practice for the reduction of 3-monochloropropane-1,2-diol esters and glycidyl esters in refined oils and products made with refined oils especially infant formula	REP17/CF Appendix X	N23-2017
	Guidelines (best practice) for risk analysis of chemicals inadvertently present in food at low levels	REP17/CF Appendix XI	N24-2017
CCPR	CCPR schedule and priority lists of pesticides	REP17/PR Appendix XIV Part A	Ongoing
CCFICS	Guidance on the use of systems equivalence	REP17/FICS Appendix III	N25-2017
	Guidance on paperless use of electronic certificates (Revision of the <i>Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic Official Certificates</i> ) (CAC/GL 26/1997)	REP17/FICS Appendix IV	N26-2017
	Guidance on regulatory approaches to third party assurance schemes in food safety and fair practices in the food trade	REP17/FICS Appendix V	N27-2017
CCMAS	Revision of the <i>Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling</i> (CODEX STAN 234-1999)	REP17/MAS Appendix VI	Ongoing
TFAMR	Revision of the <i>Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance</i> (CAC/RCP 61-2005)	CX/CAC 17/40/12 Add.2 Appendix1	N28-2017

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<b>Codex Body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference and project document</b>	<b>Job Number</b>
	Guidelines on integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance	CX/CAC 17/40/12 Add.2 Appendix 2	N29-2017

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**Appendix VII****LIST OF DISCONTINUED WORK**

<b>Codex Body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference</b>
CCRVDF	Proposed draft MRL for ivermectin (cattle muscle) (78 <sup>th</sup> JECFA)	REP17/RVDF Appendix III
CCFA	Draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA) (CODEX STAN 192-1995)	REP17/FA Appendix IX
CCPR	Proposed draft and draft MRLS for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) that were withdrawn	REP17/PR Appendix VII
CCMMP	Draft general standard for processed cheese	CL 2016/6-MMP Appendix 1, CX/CAC 16/39.13-Add.1

**Appendix VIII****AMENDMENTS TO CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS**

<b>Codex body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Status</b>
CCNFSDU	<i>Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling</i> (CAC/GL 2-1998)	REP17/NFSDU Para. 12	Adopted
	<i>Standard for Canned Baby Foods</i> (CODEX STAN 73-1981)	CX/CAC 17/40/10	Adopted
CCPR	<i>Classification of Food and Feed</i> (CAC/MISC 4-1989): <i>Fruit Commodity Groups</i>	REP17/PR Appendix IX	Adopted
CCFO	<i>Standard for Edible Fats and Oils not Covered by Individual Standards</i> (CODEX STAN 19-1981)	CX/CAC 17/40/10	Adopted



**Appendix IX**

**CHAIRMANSHIP OF CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES**  
**established under Rule XI.1(b)(i)**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Subsidiary Body</b>	<b>Member Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
CX	703	Committee on Milk and Milk Products	New Zealand <i>Sine die</i>
CX	708	Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate	Switzerland <i>Sine die</i>
CX	709	Committee on Fats and Oils	Malaysia <i>Active</i>
CX	710	Committee on Sugars	Colombia <i>Active</i> <sup>1</sup>
CX	711	Committee on Food Additives	China <i>Active</i>
CX	712	Committee on Food Hygiene	United States of America <i>Active</i>
CX	713	Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables	United States of America <i>Active</i>
CX	714	Committee on Food Labelling	Canada <i>Active</i>
CX	715	Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling	Hungary <i>Active</i>
CX	716	Committee on General Principles	France <i>Active</i>
CX	718	Committee on Pesticide Residues	China <i>Active</i>
CX	719	Committee on Natural Mineral Waters	Switzerland <i>Sine die</i>
CX	720	Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses	Germany <i>Active</i>
CX	722	Committee on Fish and Fishery Products	Norway <i>Sine die</i>
CX	723	Committee on Meat Hygiene	New Zealand <i>Sine die</i>
CX	728	Committee on Vegetable Proteins	Canada <i>Sine die</i>
CX	729	Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes	United States of America <i>Active</i> <sup>1</sup>
CX	730	Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods	United States of America <i>Active</i>
CX	731	Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Mexico <i>Active</i>
CX	733	Committee on Food Import and Export Certification and Inspection Systems	Australia <i>Active</i>
CX	735	Committee on Contaminants in Foods	The Netherlands <i>Active</i>
CX	736	Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs	India <i>Active</i>
CX	804	<i>Ad hoc</i> Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance	Republic of Korea <i>Active</i>

<sup>1</sup>Working by correspondence