



## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

#### Twenty-second Session

#### Virtual

24 to 28 October 2022

### CODEX WORK RELEVANT TO THE REGION

#### *Comments of Chile*

Chile appreciates the document prepared by the Chair and Secretariat of the CCLAC and, based on the recommendations, would like to comment on Table 3, where the need has been identified to add three important topics for the establishment of regional positions at the next CCLAC meeting, which are detailed below:

#### **I. CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES (CCFA) - Use of certain additives in wine.**

At the CCFA49 Agenda Item 5d - Discussion Paper on the Use of Certain Food Additives in Wine the Committee discussed the issue and concluded that due to the lack of consensus on the text discussed during plenary, particularly to note to relate to food additive provisions belonging to the following functional classes: acidity regulators, stabilizers and antioxidants for wine food categories, the Committee agreed to discontinue the consideration of this item and noted that the food additive provisions for grape wine (CA 14. 2.3) would be retained at Step 4 (REP17/FA49 para. 102).

The incorporation of the additives discussed at the CCFA49 would have made it possible to make progress in harmonizing international standards in this area, since having a reference point in the Codex Alimentarius would facilitate the marketing, safety, authenticity and integrity of these products.

During the CCFA52, agenda item 9 again discussed this issue, which was retained in the Committee, and concluded that the Committee agreed to ask Chile, as author, and the European Union and the United States, as coauthors, to prepare a discussion paper to continue analyzing the problems and present specific recommendations. The discussion paper would be included in the agenda for the CCFA53 (REP21/FA52 para. 240).

Chile, together with the co-authors, is currently working on the discussion paper requested by the CCFA, in order to make progress on a proposal to reach a consensus on the use of additives in wines, for their eventual incorporation into the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA).

It is for this reason that Chile requests CCLAC member countries to support the progress of this work during the 53rd Meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA53) to be held in 2023.

#### **II. CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD CONTAMINANTS (CCCF) - Proposal for the establishment of Maximum Levels (MLs) for Inorganic Arsenic in shellfish and fish.**

At present, the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) does not consider these matrices for inorganic arsenic.

In turn, member countries such as the European Union have been making modifications to their internal regulations, particularly for this issue, the modification of regulation EC 1881/2006 has been made, incorporating maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in mollusk and fish matrices, which will enter into force in 2023.

The maximum levels proposed, according to the available data, would be a potential obstacle to trade for Chile, in accordance with the levels known for total arsenic in these products; even more so if the European Union regulation is used by other countries as a reference, hindering not only trade with EU countries, but potentially with the rest of the world, given the lack of a level in the texts of the Codex Alimentarius.

On the other hand, the test methodology for the determination of inorganic arsenic is not massively implemented in the CCLAC countries, and therefore it is necessary to ensure, in the event that MLs are established for this analyte, that total arsenic is authorized to be measured in the first instance, and only if the ML for inorganic arsenic is exceeded, should it be analyzed for this particular analyte, due to the difficulties that this entails.

For the above reasons, Chile wishes to request the CCLAC region to analyze this information and, based on it, to support the work proposal for the establishment of these MLs.

**III. CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES (CCPR) - Guidelines for the recognition of active substances or authorized uses of active substances of low public health concern that are considered exempt from the establishment of maximum residue limits or that do not give rise to residues.**

After the 53rd Session of the CCPR was held virtually in July 2022, the Committee agreed to advance to Step 8 for adoption by the CAC the Guidelines for compounds of low public health concern that may be exempt from the establishment of CXLs or that do not give rise to residues (REP22/PR53 para. 196), a guideline that can be found in Appendix IX of the report.

Considering the importance of this work for the region, the CCLAC is requested to adopt a regional position for the guideline to be adopted at CAC45.