



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

Ninetieth Session

WHO headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland

29 June – 3 July 2026

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

1. This agenda item that was introduced at CCEXEC89 (November 2025) captures issues of relevance to CCEXEC not included under other agenda items.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CAC48)

Monitoring of the implementation of the revised Section 2.1 of the *Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual*

2. CAC48 (2025) noted the willingness of CCEXEC to monitor the implementation of the revised Section 2.1, Part 7 of the *Codex Procedural Manual*: “Guide to the procedure for the amendment and revision of Codex standards and related texts”.¹ Hence consideration needs to be given as to how CCEXEC will undertake this work.

Terms of reference (ToR) of the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)

3. At CAC48, with the change in the designated country responsible for the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV), a proposal to take this opportunity to review the ToR of CCPFV was positively received, and it was agreed to review the ToR for CCPFV at CAC49.²
4. A discussion paper was prepared by the CCPFV secretariat with assistance from the Codex Secretariat and published as CX/CAC 26/49/14 Add.3. Following an analysis of the role and potential work of the committee, no specific changes have been proposed to the TOR at this time, while proposing that flexibility to do this in the future be retained. Considerations on future work have also been proposed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES: GENERAL SUBJECT COMMITTEES AND COMMODITY COMMITTEES

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs, 8th session (CCSCH8)

5. Noting section 2.6. “Format for Codex committee standards” in the *Codex Procedural Manual*, CCSCH8 (2025) requested CCEXEC and CAC to consider providing further guidance on how CCFICS texts could be best integrated into commodity committee standards to provide for a more integrated approach to the inclusion of other fair trade related tools that can remind users of the food standards on how to address issues such as food fraud, traceability/product tracing among others.³

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene, 55th session (CCFH55)

6. As the 44th Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS44) (2025) had completed work on an Information document to support implementation of the *General guidelines on sampling* (CXG 50-2004) and relevant tools,⁴ CCFH55 discussed the outstanding work on sampling plans for histamine for 11 commodity standards for fish and fishery products, which had previously been suspended pending updates from the CCMAS.

¹ REP25/CAC, paragraph 23iv

² REP25/CAC, paragraph 184

³ REP26/SCH, paragraph 26(ii)

⁴ Available at https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/codexalimentarius/committee/docs/INF_DOC_MUe.pdf

7. CCFH55 (2025) requested CAC49 to return the work to develop the appropriate sampling plans for histamine for the 11 fish and fishery product commodity standards to CCFFP, and inform CCFFP of this request, as well as the existing work of CCFH and the related electronic working group (EWG)⁵ discussions on this issue.⁶

Joint electronic working group on dual-use compounds of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF)

8. A virtual meeting of the joint CCPR and CCRVDF electronic working group (Joint EWG) was held on 28-29 April 2026, and the report of the virtual meeting of the Joint EWG (hereafter referred to as the “virtual working group (VWG)”) will be published on the joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG website⁷ in due course. The recommendations of the VWG will be considered by the joint virtual session of CCPR and CCRVDF in 2027 to make recommendations for adoption by CAC50 in 2027.
9. For the reasons outlined in paragraph 6 of CX/CAC 26/49/14 Add.1, the VWG requested CAC49 to amend its ToR by including a new task as follows:

To explore and possibly develop pathways that promote the development of harmonized maximum residue levels (MRLs) at the risk assessment and risk management stage, when applicable, before JMPR and JECFA recommend MRLs to CCPR and CCRVDF.

10. In addition, CAC48 requested the Joint EWG to prepare a draft provisional agenda for the session. The draft provisional agenda is presented in Annex 1 of CX/CAC 26/49/14 Add.1 for consideration and approval by CAC49.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling, 49th session (CCFL49)⁸

11. The use of country of harvest (COH) in the labelling of spices and culinary herbs has been discussed in several sessions of both CCSCH and CCFL.
12. CCFL48 (2024) discussed the request by CCSCH for the endorsement of the labelling provisions of COH in *Standard for dried floral parts – saffron* (CXS 351-2022). However, CCFL48 was unable to reach consensus to endorse mandatory declaration of country of harvest and thus referred the matter to CCEXEC87 (2024) and CAC47 (2024) for consideration.
13. CCEXEC87 (2024) recognized the need for a solution that was inclusive, timely and resource efficient, and made several recommendations to CAC47 for consideration.
14. CAC47 (2024) endorsed the recommendations of CCEXEC87 and agreed to: a) use a circular letter (CL) to seek potential solutions regarding the use of COH in food labelling of spices; b) establish an EWG jointly chaired by Iran and Canada and co-chaired by India and Madagascar, to review the information gathered from the comments to the CL as well as discussions at CCSCH, CCFL and CAC47 and provide potential options. The comments submitted in response to CL 2025/07-FL were shared with both the EWG chairs and CCSCH for consideration, as directed by CAC.CCSCH8 (2024) reviewed the comments and provided input to CCFL for consideration.
15. CCFL49 (2026) considered the EWG report as well as the request from CCSCH8, endorsed all the nine (09) conclusions made by the EWG on COH to be used as guiding principles to support CCSCH when determining commodity specific labelling related to origin. CCFL49 agreed to inform CAC on the outcome of the discussions and recommend that CAC share the nine conclusions, agreed by CCFL49, with CCSCH, to be used as guiding principles by CCSCH when determining origin-related labelling provisions for SCH commodities (CX/CAC 26/49/14 Add.2).
16. CCFL49 applied the relevant conclusions to the outstanding labelling provision for Section 8.2 Country of origin (COO) and COH in the *Standard for dried floral parts – Saffron* (CXS 351-2022) i.e. “To be developed” and elaborated draft labelling provisions.
17. CCFL49 agreed to forward the following final agreed draft labelling provisions for section 8.2 COO and COH for the *Standard for dried floral parts – Saffron* (CXS 351-2022) for consideration by CAC with a view to address the outstanding provisions on COO and COH in CXS 351-2022.

⁵ REP19/FH, paragraphs 40-47; CX/FH 18/50/6; CX/FH 18/50/6 Add 1; CX/FH 18/50/6 Add 2; FH50/CRD06

⁶ REP26/FH, paragraph 15

⁷ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCPR-CCRVDF>

⁸ CX/FL 26/49/2 Add.1; REP26/FL paragraph 33 and 35, Appendix II, Part A and Part B

18. *Standard for dried floral parts – Saffron* (CXS 351-2022) read as follows:

8.2 Country of origin and country of harvest

- a) 8.2.1 Country of origin shall be declared.*
- b) 8.2.2 Region of harvest and year of harvest (optional).

*Footnote: *For this standard, the country of origin is the same as the country of harvest.*

Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products, 37th session (CCFFP37)⁹

19. CCFFP36 (2024) had discussed a proposal for the inclusion of “seaweed” in the ToR of CCFFP and informed CAC47 (2024) of the considerable interest in future Codex work on seaweed and other algae.¹⁰
20. At CCFFP37 (2026), FAO proposed a change of the ToR and the name of CCFFP, emphasizing that in light of the significant transformation the global fisheries and aquaculture sector was undergoing, it was considered timely and strategic to start discussion on revising the ToR of CCFFP, and consequently, and depending on the decision regarding the ToR, also the name of CCFFP.¹¹
21. CCFFP37 agreed to inform CCEXEC90 and CAC49 of:
- i. CCFFP37’s consideration of the need for revising the ToR for the committee to better reflect the growing role of aquaculture products in the global aquatic food supply and consequently also the name of the committee.
 - ii. CCFFP37’s proposal for a slightly revised ToR for the committee:
 “To elaborate worldwide standards for live, fresh, frozen (incl. quick frozen) or otherwise processed aquatic food products.”
22. CCEXEC90 may consider recommending CAC49 endorse CCFFP37’s proposal for a slightly revised ToR. As regards the name of the committee, this could be further considered by CCFFP once there is clarity on the ToR, before going back to CAC for endorsement.
23. CCFFP37 confirmed that subject to the decision of CAC49, CCFFP would be prepared to develop appropriate sampling plans for histamine for the 11 commodity standards for fish and fishery products as requested by CCFH55 (see paragraph 7).

RECOMMENDATIONS.

24. CCEXEC90 is invited to:
- note the information provided,
 - consider how to monitor the implementation of the revised Section 2.1, Part 7 of the *Codex Procedural Manual*; and
 - advise CAC49 as appropriate on the various matters as summarised in the table 1.

⁹ REP26/FFP, paragraph 121

¹⁰ REP24/FFP, paragraph 41

¹¹ FFP37/CRD04

Table 1

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CAC49

Referred by	Matters	Reference
CAC48	Review the ToR of CCPFV.	CX/CAC 26/49/14 Add.3
CCSCH8	Request for guidance to CCSCH on how CCFICS texts could be best integrated into commodity committee standards to provide for a more integrated approach.	-
CCFH55	Proposed referral of the work to develop the sampling plans for histamine for the 11 commodity standards for fish and fishery products from CCFH to CCFFP.	-
Joint EWG on dual-use compounds (CCPR/CCRVDF)	Proposed amendment to the ToR of the joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG to include a new task. Approval of the draft provisional agenda of the joint session of CCPR/CCRVDF.	CX/CAC 26/49/14 Add.1
CCFL49	Proposed forwarding of the nine conclusions agreed by CCFL49 to CCSCH to facilitate future deliberations on similar issues of COO and COH. Proposed adoption of the draft provisions for Section 8.2 in the <i>Standard for dried floral parts – Saffron</i> (CXS 351-2022).	CX/CAC 26/49/14 Add.2
CCFFP37	Endorse the proposed revision of the ToR for CCFFP.	Paragraph 21ii of this document