



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK

Introduction

1. This document is a compilation of new work proposals that are being submitted for approval by the 49th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC49) from subsidiary bodies that have met between October 2025 and May 2026 (Table 1) as well as three new work proposals submitted by Members since CAC48 (Table 2). The proposals are being presented in this compiled format to provide an overarching view to support the Commission in its consideration of new work proposals.
2. All the new work proposals are available in English, French and Spanish and can be accessed [here](#).

New work proposals submitted by active subsidiary bodies for approval by CAC49

3. Table 1 provides an overview of all new work proposals submitted by active Codex subsidiary bodies between October 2025 and May 2026, and includes the relevant references, including where to find the project documents.
4. The six new work proposals for consideration by CAC49 arising from Codex subsidiary bodies include proposals for new food additive provisions, three revisions to one commodity standard, and two priority lists for evaluation by relevant expert committees.

New work proposals not falling under the purview of an active subsidiary bodies

5. Table 2 presents three new work proposals submitted directly to the Codex Secretariat as they do not fall under the terms of reference of an active Codex subsidiary body.

A. Proposal for development of a standard for cashew kernels

6. At CAC48 (2025), under the agenda item "Other business", India presented a new work proposal, including a project document, on the development of a standard for cashew kernels.¹ It was highlighted that the new work had been approved by CAC44 (2021) and had received further support from coordinating committees, but the work had been stalled because the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV) had been adjourned *sine die* by CAC43 (2020).
7. CAC48 noted the ongoing interest in this area of work and that, given the recent designation of a new host for CCPFV, the transition period needed, and that there would be further consideration of CCPFV's terms of reference (ToR) at CAC49, it would be premature to take any decision to change the status of the committee at CAC48.
8. CAC48 recommended that a circular letter (CL) be issued to seek comments from Members and Observers to facilitate consideration of the new work proposal by CCEXEC90 and CAC49.
9. CL 2026/23-CAC was issued in February 2026 seeking comments from Members and Observers on the proposal for development of a Codex standard for cashew kernels. The CL included, as an Appendix, the project document for this proposed new work.
10. The comments received in response to CL 2026/23-CAC are collated in CX/CAC 26/49/12 Add.1.

¹ CAC48/CRD23

B. Proposal for the development of a group standard for flours from roots and tubers

11. At CAC48, under the agenda item “Other business”, Nigeria presented three new work proposals on the development of standards high quality cassava flour, sweet potato flour, and yam flour.²
12. CAC48 noted the strong interest in this area of work, but that the proposals had not undergone review, including a critical review. It was also noted that the relationship between the Standard for edible cassava flour (CXS 176-1989) and the proposed standards needed to be established, and that CCEXEC recommended a horizontal approach to commodity standards, and further consideration needed to be given to possible grouping of these flours.
13. CAC48 recommended that Nigeria, together with interested Members, review and update the new work proposal.
14. Following CAC48, Nigeria has prepared a discussion paper and a project document on the development of a group standard for flours from roots and tubers. CL 2026/26-CAC was issued in May 2026, in accordance with the recommendation of CAC48, to solicit comments from Members and Observers to facilitate consideration of the new work proposal by CCEXEC90 and CAC49. The discussion paper and project document are contained in Appendices I and II of CL 2026/26-CAC, respectively.
15. The comments received in response to CL 2026/26-CAC are collated in CX/CAC 26/49/12 Add.2.

C. Proposal for the development of principles for the risk analysis of new food sources and production systems (NFPS)

16. The European Union (EU) submitted a new work proposal on the development of principles for the risk analysis of new food sources and production systems (NFPS) to the Codex Secretariat in 2025, for discussion by CCEXEC89 and CAC48, noting that no active Codex subsidiary body had been identified for which the new work proposal could be sent for further consideration.³
17. CCEXEC89 recommended that general comments be sought on the new work proposal, and that the new work proposal be revised accordingly, following which inputs could be sought through a CL on the needs and gaps to facilitate further consideration of the proposed new work.
18. CAC48:
 - i. noted the interest in NFPS and highlighted the need for a review and further development of the new work proposal, in particular with regard to the scope and definition of NFPS;
 - ii. noted that a gap analysis should be conducted and the experiences of Members should be solicited to clearly establish the gaps in the risk analysis of NFPS to avoid duplication and inconsistency;
 - iii. requested the EU to revise the new work proposal taking into consideration the comments made at CCEXEC89 and CAC48;
 - iv. in line with an inclusive approach, requested the Codex Secretariat, upon receipt of the revised new work proposal, to issue a CL to seek the comments of Members and Observers to facilitate a further consideration of the new work proposal; and
 - v. highlighted that further consideration of the new work proposal should not delay the consideration of other work on NFPS in Codex subsidiary bodies.
19. Following CAC48, the EU has revised the discussion paper with the gap analysis and project document on the development of principles for the risk analysis of NFPS. CL 2026/44-CAC was issued in May 2026 to solicit comments from Members and Observers to facilitate consideration of the new work proposal by CCEXEC90 and CAC49. The discussion paper and project document are contained in Appendices I and II of CL 2026/44-CAC, respectively.
20. The comments received in response to CL 2026/44-CAC are collated in CX/CAC 26/49/12 Add.3.

RECOMMENDATIONS

21. CAC49 is invited to:
 - i. consider the new work proposals in light of the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 and the *Codex Procedural Manual's* Criteria for the establishment of work priorities (Section 2.3) and Criteria for the establishment of subsidiary bodies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Section 2.2); and

² CAC48/CRD22

³ CX/CAC 25/48/10, Appendix II

- ii. decide whether or not to undertake new work in each case, as appropriate, taking into account the critical review conducted by CCEXEC90 as relevant, and if needed to decide which subsidiary body or other body should undertake the work.

Table 1: Proposals to undertake new work or revise a standard arising from active subsidiary bodies⁴

Note: These proposals are available in English, French and Spanish and can be accessed [here](#).

Committee /Proposer	New work proposal	Reference and project document
CCFO29	Revision of the <i>Standard for named vegetable oils</i> (CXS 210-1999) to include Shea butter	REP26/FO, paragraph 144(i), Appendix V
CCFO29	Revision of the <i>Standard for named vegetable oils</i> (CXS 210-1999) to adjust stearic acid content for high oleic acid sunflower seed oil	REP26/FO, paragraph 159(i), Appendix VI
CCFO29	Revision of the <i>Standard for named vegetable oils</i> (CXS 210-1999) to include sea buckthorn pulp oil and sea buckthorn seed oil	REP26/FO, paragraph 169(i), Appendix VII
CCRVDF28	Priority list of veterinary drugs for approval by CAC49	REP26/RVDF28, paragraph 170(i), Appendix VIII (Parts I, IV and V)
CCFA56	Priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA	REP26/FA, paragraph 146(i) and Appendix XI
CCFA56	Proposed draft food additive provisions of the GSFA	REP26/FA, paragraph 120(iv) and Appendix IX

Table 2: Proposals to undertake new work or revise a standard submitted by Members

Committee /Proposer	New work proposal	Reference and project document
India	Standard for cashew kernels	CL 2026/23-CAC, Appendix
Nigeria	Group standard for flours from roots and tubers	CL 2026/26-CAC, Appendix II
EU	Principles for the risk analysis of new food sources and production systems (NFPS)	CL 2026/44-CAC, Appendix II

⁴ No new work proposals were submitted from the 8th session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH8), the 55th session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH55), the 45th session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS45), the 37th session of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP37) and the 49th session of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL49).