



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CEREALS, PULSES AND LEGUMES
Eleventh Session
Comments of Zambia

Agenda Item 2: Matters arising from the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Codex Subsidiary bodies- CX/CPL 25/11/2

Background

The Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL) has been reactivated to work by correspondence, with the United States of America as its member. This has led to the development and adoption of the Standard for quinoa. The 43rd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS43) requested advice from CAC47 on determining the original intent for ashing temperatures in several standards.

CAC47 also requested the 34th session of the Codex Committee on General Principles to review the Codex Procedural Manual's application for committees working by correspondence.

The Committee for Food Additives agreed to publish a document on avoiding future divergence of food additive provisions in the General standard for food additives. CAC47 welcomed publication of EWG, which is available online.

CAC44 adopted the General standard for labelling non-retail containers of foods (XCS 346-2021) and requested commodity committees to review the labeling provisions in existing and draft standards.

The Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS) reaffirmed its decision to have the recommended methods of analysis and sampling (XCS 234-1999) as the single reference for methods of analysis in Codex standards. CCMAS42 informed relevant Codex committees of the revised General guidelines on sampling (CXG 50-2004) and requested them to review their sampling plans in compliance with CXG 50-2004. CCMAS43 submitted methods included in standards established by CCCPL for adoption/revocation by CAC47, and consequential amendments were made to existing CPL standards.

The Committee on Food Inspection and Export Certification Systems (CCFICS26) has agreed to update the Principles for traceability/product tracing as a tool within a food inspection and certification system. The Committee on General Principles (CCGP33) has agreed to inform other Codex committees of ongoing work to better align with current practices in Codex and international publishing standards.

Recommendation

CCCPL11 is invited to:

- i) note the matters for information provided above;
- ii) note the request from CCMAS on the intent of ashing temperatures (paragraph 7) and request further background information to facilitate consideration at a future session of CCCPL as needed; and
- iii) note the matters for action on labelling provisions for non-retail containers in CPL standards (paragraph 13) and consider referring this CCCPL12 for consideration.

Comment

Zambia welcomes and notes the information provided from Codex Alimentarius Commission and Codex subsidiary bodies, CCMAS and matters of action on labelling on non- retail containers in CPL standards. Zambia looks forward to actively contributing to the deliberations of CCPL11 and consideration of matters as referred from the subsidiary Codex committees.

Agenda Item 3: Development of a group standard for whole millet grains -CX/CPL 25/11/3**Background**

India proposed a group standard for certain millets at the 46th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC46) to address international trade in these products. The proposal was welcomed by CAC46 and requested further assessment by the Codex Secretariat. A Circular Letter was issued, inviting comments from members and organizations. The 87th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC87) recommended a revised proposal for a group standard for millet, considering existing standards. India revised its discussion paper and project document to include a group standard for whole millet grains, clarify that the standard does not apply to other products, and incorporate provisions from the Standard for sorghum grains and the Standard for whole and decorticated pearl millet grains. CAC47 approved the new proposal. The EWG is set to establish a group standard for millet grains, aiming to accommodate the diversity of millets and address international market needs.

The standard will set minimum quality and safety requirements, aligning with Codex principles and global trade practices. The scope of the standard will include millets, existing standards, and pseudo-millets. A comprehensive report will be prepared, along with a draft group standard for consideration by CCCPL12. The EWG will begin work after CCCPL11's conclusion and conclude by April 30, 2026.

Recommendations

CCCPL11 is invited to consider the above proposal and establish an EWG to take forward the work on the development of a group standard for whole millet grains, agreeing on its terms of reference, chair and co-chairs, working language(s) and timelines.

Comment

Zambia welcomes the proposal to develop group standard for whole millet grains as one of the major cereals in the diet, the group standard will significantly contribute to enhancing food safety and increased trade with other Members in the region. Furthermore, with diversification of diets from maize to other cereals, this standard will ensure populations have access to safe food. Zambia further supports the proposal to establish an EWG that will take forward the work on the group standard