

INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION FOR THE TBT COMMITTEE MEETING OF 4 NOVEMBER 2004

Agenda Item 5(b): Updating by Observers

The following document, dated 22 October 2004, is being circulated at the request of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

I. CODEX SESSIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE TBT COMMITTEE (1 JULY 2004)

- The 54th Session Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Geneva, Switzerland, 24-26 June 2004).
- The 27th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Geneva, Switzerland, 28 June - 3 July 2004).
- The 14th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (Jeju, Republic of Korea, 7-10 September 2004).
- The 24th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (Bratislava, Slovak Republic, 20-23 September 2004).
- The 22nd Session of the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (Washington DC, United States, 27 September -1 October 2004).
- The 4th Session of the Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Fruit and Vegetable Juices (Fortaleza (Ceará), Brazil, 11 - 15 October 2004)

1. In particular, the TBT Committee may wish to draw its attention to the following.
2. The 54th Session of the **Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission** had considered and provided advice to the Commission on, among other issues, the possible future work for the Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology and the Task Force on Animal Feeding.
3. The 27th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission:
 - (a) Adopted amendments to several sections of the Procedural Manual, including amendments to *Procedures for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts* and to *Definitions for the Purpose of the Codex Alimentarius*;
 - (b) Adopted 19 new or revised Codex standards or related texts, including the *Code of Practice for Good Animal Feeding* and the *Standard for Oranges* (see Appendix);

- (c) Approved a number of new work proposals, including the re-establishment of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology;
- (d) Agreed that a new Strategic Plan should cover the period 2008-2013 and, once adopted, be renewed every two years on a rolling basis;
- (e) Approved the procedures for the review of the Committee structure and mandates of Codex Committees and Task Forces;
- (f) Deferred the decision on whether to start the elaboration of a standard on Parmesan cheese to its 28th session, did not approve the discontinuation of work on the revision of the *Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-type Products* and returned the matter to the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products, and referred the issue on the revision of country-of-origin labelling back to the Committee on Food Labelling;
- (g) Agreed, in regard to its relations with other international organizations, that:
 - FAO and WHO initiate discussion with OIE on how to foster and oversee the relations between Codex and OIE; and
 - the Secretariat maintain its contacts with ISO and report to the Executive Committee and the Commission on ISO's activities of relevance to Codex work;
- (h) Welcomed that the FAO/WHO Trust Fund for Enhanced Participation in Codex had become operational, expressed its appreciation to the donor countries, and requested that the criteria used in the distribution of funds be kept under review;
- (i) Expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO for their efforts to improve the scientific advice provided to the Commission, agreed to further consider how to address the issue of antimicrobial resistance at its 28th session, and noted the capacity building activities provided by FAO and WHO;

4. The 14th Session of the **FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia** agreed to forward the *Proposed Draft Standard for Ginseng Products* to Step 5 for consideration by the Commission and further elaboration in the Codex process, preferably by the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV), as an international standard. The Committee agreed to continue to work on the *Proposed Draft Standard for Fermented Soybean Paste* and the *Proposed Draft Standard for Gochujang*.

5. The 22nd Session of the **Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables** continued work on the elaboration of Standards for: Pickled Fruits and Vegetables (formerly named "Pickled Products"); Processed Tomato Concentrates; Preserved Tomatoes (formerly named "Canned Tomatoes"); Canned Vegetables, including Guidelines for Packing Media for Canned Vegetables; Jams, Jellies and Marmalades; Canned Citrus Fruits; and Methods of Analysis and Sampling for Processed Fruits and Vegetables. The Committee agreed to discontinue work on the standardization of soy sauce and, proposed to entrust this work to the Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses, and Legumes, on the understanding that, before proceeding further with the elaboration of the Standard, this Committee should have a full discussion on the need for the Standard.

6. The fourth session of the **Codex Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Fruit and Vegetable Juices** agreed to advance the draft Codex General Standard for Fruit Juices and Nectars to the 28th Session Codex Alimentarius Commission (July 2005) for final adoption together with proposed draft and draft minimum Brix levels for reconstituted juice and reconstituted purée and minimum juice and/or purée content for grape, guava, mandarine/tangerine, mango, passion fruit, tamarind (Indian date), lime, lemon, orange, and pineapple juices/nectars.

II. FORTHCOMING CODEX MEETINGS

- The 8th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for North America and South West Pacific (Apia, Samoa, 19-22 October 2004).
- The 15th Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (Washington DC, United States, 26-29 October 2004)
- The 26th Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (Bonn, Germany, 1-5 November 2004)
- The 21st Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles (8-12 November, Paris, France)
- The 14th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (29 November- 3 December 2004, Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- The 13th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (6-10 December 2004, Melbourne, Australia)
- The 16th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (Dates and venue to be announced)
- The 55th Session of the Executive Committee (9-11 February 2005, Rome)
- The 11th Session of the Codex Committee on Meat and Poultry Hygiene (14-18 February 2005, Christchurch, New Zealand)
- The 19th Session of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (21-25 February 2005, London, United Kingdom)
- The 27th Session of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (28 February- 4 March 2005, TBA)
- The 3rd Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Near East (7-10 March 2005, Amman, Jordan)
- The 37th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (14-19 March 2005, Buenos Aires, Argentina)

III. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

7. Ukraine has become a Member of the Codex Alimentarius Commission since the last session of the TBT Committee. The membership currently comprises 171 Member Nations and one Member Organization.

APPENDIX

Part 1. Standards and Related Texts Adopted at Step 8 as Final Texts

Standard and Related Text	Reference
Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding	ALINORM 04/27/38; Appendix II and ALINORM 03/38A: Appendix II
Food Category System of the Codex General Standard for Food Additives	ALINORM 04/27/12; Appendix V, para. 68
Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Aflatoxin Contamination in Peanuts	ALINORM 04/27/12; Appendix XV, para. 140
Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Lead Contamination in Food	ALINORM 04/27/12; Appendix XVI, para. 168
Revisions to Table 1 of the Codex General Standard for Food Additives	ALINORM 04/27/12; Appendix VI, para. 81
Standard for Salted Atlantic Herring and Salted Sprat	ALINORM 04/27/18; Appendix II, para. 54
Model Certificate for Fish and Fishery Products (sanitary certificate)	ALINORM 04/27/18; Appendix III, para. 68
Amendment to the Standard for Quick Frozen Lobsters	ALINORM 04/27/18; Appendix IV, para. 74
Standard for Oranges	ALINORM 04/27/35; Appendix II, para. 18
Code of Hygienic Practice for Milk and Milk Products	ALINORM 04/27/13; Appendix II, para. 53
Guidelines for Use of Nutrition and Health Claims	ALINORM 04/27/22; Appendix III, para. 51
Amendment to the Standard for Quick Frozen Fish Sticks (Fish Fingers), Fish Portions and Fish Fillets, Breaded or in Batter (Labelling Section)	ALINORM 04/27/22; Appendix II, para. 11
Amendment to the Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods: Revised Annex 2 – Tables 1 and 2	ALINORM 04/27/22; Appendix IV, para. 75
General Guidelines on Sampling	ALINORM 04/27/23; Appendix III, para. 25
Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty	ALINORM 04/27/23; Appendix IV, para. 37
Methods of Analysis for Additives and Contaminants	ALINORM 04/27/23; Appendix VI- Part E
Methods of Analysis (for inclusion in the Standard of Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils)	ALINORM 04/27/23; Appendix VI- Part A
Methods of Analysis (for inclusion in the Standard of Named Vegetable Oils)	ALINORM 04/27/23; Appendix VI- Part A
MRLs for Pesticides	ALINORM 04/27/24; Appendix II, paras 60-175

Part 2. Standards and Related Texts Adopted at Step 5 and Step 8 as Final Texts with Recommendations to Omit Step 6 and 7

Standard and Related Text	Reference
Revisions to Table 1 of the Codex General Standard for Food Additives	ALINORM 04/27/12; Appendix VI, para. 81
Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives (Category I) arising from the 61 st JECFA Meeting	ALINORM 04/27/12; Appendix XI, para. 99
Amendments to the International Numbering System for Food Additives	ALINORM 04/27/12; Appendix XII, para. 103
Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (quick frozen coated fish products) ¹	ALINORM 04/27/18, Appendix V, para. 113; ALINORM 06/27/13, paras. 13-14
Principles and Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Safety Emergency Situations	ALINORM 04/27/30; Appendix II, para. 61
MRLs for Pesticides	ALINORM 04/27/24; Appendix III, paras 60-175

¹ The Code of Practice supersedes the provisions on fish products in the Code of Practice for Frozen Battered and/or Breaded Fishery Products (CAC/RCP 35-1985).