



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA**

Twenty-first Session

Goa, India 23 - 27 September 2019

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES**

A. 40TH AND 41ST SESSIONS OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CAC40 and CAC41)

Matters for Information

Regional Standard for Laver Products¹

1. CAC40 agreed to adopt the draft regional Standard at Step 5/8 as endorsed by the CCFA49 and CCMAS38².

Sections “Food Additives” of the Regional Standards for Non-Fermented Soybean Products (CXS 322R-2015) and Chilli Sauce (CXS 306R-2011) and “Methods of Analysis and Sampling” of the Regional Standard for Tempe (CODEX STAN 313R-2013) (Amendments)¹

2. CAC40 adopted the amendments proposed by CCASIA20.

Amendments to the Procedural Manual³⁴

3. CAC40 adopted amendments to the sections on:

- the *Principles for the establishment of Codex methods of analysis* to clarify that “there are numerous ways in which methods and limits that involve a sum of components can be converted into method performance criteria but this should be undertaken with care on a case-by-case basis”; and
- the *Nutritional risk analysis principles and guidelines for application to the work of the Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses* to include the FAO/WHO Joint Expert Meetings on Nutrition (JEMNU) as a primary source of scientific advice.

4. CAC41 adopted the amendment to the section on *Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF* by deleting the requirements that extrapolation of MRLs to one or more species could only be recommended where JECFA had identified that it is scientifically justifiable and the uncertainties have been clearly defined in order to provide more autonomy to CCRVDF.

Member and Coordinator for Asia⁵

5. CAC40 re-elected Malaysia as member of the Executive Committee for Asia for the period from the end of CAC40 to the end of CAC42 (2019).

6. CAC40 reappointed India as coordinator for Asia to hold office from the end of CAC40 to the end of CAC42 (2019).

Matters for action

Regular Review of Codex Work Management: Electronic Working Groups⁶

7. CAC40 recommended that the Codex Secretariat work with regional coordinators in examining barriers to active participation and identifying possible solutions.

¹ REP17/CAC para. 16 and Appendix III.

² The food labelling provisions were endorsed by CCFL44.

³ REP17/CAC para. 11 and Appendix II

⁴ REP18/CAC para. 15 and Appendix II

⁵ REP17/CAC paras. 206 and 207.

⁶ REP17/CAC para. 116

8. The Committee **is invited to considered** this matter.

B. OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

73rd and 74th Sessions of the Executive Committee (CCEXEC73 and CCEXEC74)

Matters for information

Revitalization of FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees (RCCs)⁷

9. CCEXEC73 encouraged FAO, WHO and the Secretariat to continue the revitalization process throughout the next cycle of RCCs meetings; and further encouraged members to actively participate in future surveys conducted in conjunction with RCC meetings.

Horizontal agenda for 2018/2019 round of RCCs⁸

10. CCEXEC74 agreed to include the draft Codex strategic plan 2020–2025 and the Codex Communications Workplan, including linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals in the provisional agenda.

Co-chairing of Codex committee meetings⁹

11. CCEXEC74:

- welcomed the proposal regarding co-chairing in the absence of co-hosting as a positive development, using RCCs as an appropriate forum as suggested by CCASIA, and the confirmation by the Secretariat that there were no procedural impediments to proceeding with this initiative;
- noted that, since there was no applicable procedure or protocol in place, it was a matter for host countries to experiment with arrangements in this area, underscoring the significant responsibilities involved and preparation required, including consideration of issues such as technical support and the clear delineation of responsibilities; and
- welcomed the willingness of members with relevant experience to share their insights.

Matters for action

Overall work¹⁰

12. Noting that CCASIA21 would consider four discussion papers that might lead to new work thereby impact CCASIA's capacity to manage its work efficiently, CCEXEC73 invited CCASIA to prioritize and phase the new work proposals on the development of regional standards so as to balance its role as a regional forum, the horizontal items of the RCC agenda and its function of developing regional standards.

13. The Committee **is invited to considered** this matter. .

38th and 40th Session of Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS38 and CCMAS40)

Matters for information

Presentation of methods of analysis by committees¹¹

14. CCMAS38 agreed to remind committees that when methods are submitted to CCMAS for endorsement, these methods should indicate also the principle as well as proposed typing for the methods.

Matters for action

Methods of analysis for laver products¹²

15. CCMAS38 did not endorse the methods for acid value and agreed to request clarification from CCASIA whether the provision "acid value" applied to the laver product itself, or the extracted oil. If the method was for the extracted oil, it could be endorsed as Type I.

16. CCMAS38 further noted that the extraction method in the Standard for laver products had been validated for instant noodles and not for laver, and that in this case, a classification as Type IV was recommended, and encouraged CCASIA to submit validation data to CCMAS to reconsider the proposed typing.

⁷ REP17/EXEC2, para. 96

⁸ REP18/EXEC1, para. 16

⁹ REP18/EXEC1, para. 14

¹⁰ REP17/EXEC2, para. 15

¹¹ REP17/MAS, para. 27

¹² REP17/MAS, paras. 16-18

17. CCMAS38 did not endorse the sampling plans since the values in the table did not correspond to those recommended in the *General Guidelines on Sampling* (CXG 50-2004). It was noted that the sampling plans provided were attribute based. It was questioned whether a sampling plan by variables is more appropriate for certain provisions and requested CCASIA reconsider the values in line with GL50. CCMAS38 also agreed to inform CCASIA that it would be providing commodity committees with a template for developing sampling plans in case the Committee would like to await developing sampling plans until such time CCMAS would provide the aforesaid template.

18. The Committee **is invited to consider** these recommendations.

Review and update of CXS 234 and development of database of methods¹³

19. CCMAS40 finalised the work on the preamble and structure for the General Standard for Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CXS 234-1999) and agreed to forward it to CAC42 for adoption. The review and update of methods of analysis and sampling in CXS 234 will continue (in particular the work on the remaining dairy package, on fats and oils, and cereals, pulses and legumes). CCMAS40 agreed to inform all Codex committees of this work of CCMAS regarding the review and update of CXS 234 and the development of a database for methods of analysis and sampling endorsed by CCMAS and adopted by CAC.

44th Session of Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL44 and CCFL45)

Matters for information

Labelling of non-retail containers¹⁴

20. CCFL44:

- noted that many commodity standards (including those submitted for endorsement) contained provisions for non-retail containers which referred to a standardized text applicable to this provision that had been endorsed by CCFL at past and present sessions; and
- agreed to inform commodity committees of CCFL's ongoing work on guidance for the labelling of non-retail containers so that they were aware that the current standardized provisions might need to be adjusted or removed to reference the aforesaid guidance.

21. CCFL45¹⁵ made progress on the work on this matter, agreed to forward the proposed draft revision to CAC42 for adoption at Step 5; and to inform the relevant commodity committees on the progress of the work.

50th Session of Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA50)

Matters for action

Guidance on the alignment of food additive provisions and alignment plan¹⁶

22. CCFA50 agreed to:

- publish the guidance document as an information document on the Codex website and inform the relevant committees for their reference; and
- inform RCCs of the alignment plan of CCFA, in which standards developed by RCCs were scheduled for completion in the year of 2022 or 2023.

Consideration of the revocation of a number of food additive provisions^{17,18}

23. Taking into consideration the lack of JECFA specifications, CCFA50 agreed to recommend that CCASIA consider the revocation of the provisions for monosodium tartrate (INS 335(i)), monopotassium tartrate (INS 336(i)) and dipotassium tartrate (INS 336(ii)) in the *Regional Standards for Soybean Paste* (CXS 298R-2009) and *Chilli Sauce* (CXS 306R-2011).

24. The Committee **is invited to consider** the requests contained in paras. 22 and 22.

¹³ REP19/MAS, para59

¹⁴ REP18/FL, para. 20

¹⁵ REP19/FL, para. 64

¹⁶ REP18/FA, paras. 48(vii), (viii) and Appendix XI

¹⁷ REP18/FA, para. 48(iii)

¹⁸ Corrigendum: potassium hydrogen malate (INS 351(i)) and potassium malate (INS 351(ii)) in REP18/FA, para 48(iii) have been deleted as they are not originally included in CXS298R-2009 and CXS306R-2011 .

24th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS24)***Matters for information***Food Integrity, food authenticity and food fraud¹⁹

25. CCFICS24 continued the discussions on the topic of food integrity, food authenticity and food fraud and noted that the work was broad and might overlap with the mandates of other committees and CCFICS could consider seeking advice from the Commission and relevant Committees.

26. CCFICS24 also agreed to inform CCEXEC, the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including CCGP, of its ongoing discussions on this subject.

¹⁹ REP19/FICS, paras. 57-58