

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Items 2, 3, 5.1, 5.2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

CRD21

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE

Fifty-fourth Session

Nairobi, Kenya

11 - 15 March 2024

### Comments of Nigeria

#### Agenda Item 2: Matters referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and/or other Codex Subsidiary Bodies to the Committee (CX/FH 24/54/2)

Nigeria appreciates the work of the other committees and supports postponing consideration of sampling plans for histamine till CCMAS completes its tools to support implementation of the General Guidelines on Sampling (CXG 50-2004).

#### Agenda Item 3: Matters arising from the Work of FAO and WHO (including JEMRA) (CX/FH 24/54/3)

Nigeria appreciates and supports the work of FAO/WHO Joint Expert meetings on Microbiological risk assessment (JEMRA) in providing scientific advice for the development of CCFH documents.

Nigeria has also noted the information on the report and looks forward to using the scientific advice to make the relevant risk management decisions.

#### Agenda Item 5.1: Guidelines for the Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts (CXG 99-2023): Proposed draft Annex II on Fresh Leafy Vegetables (CX/FH 24/54/5)

Nigeria appreciates the work done by the electronic working group chaired by Chile, New Zealand, Kenya, and the United States of America on the preparation of Proposed Draft Annex II on Fresh Leafy Vegetables.

### Appendix I

Para 26

Nigeria supports the retention of the statement on the 2nd square bracket and deletion of the 1st square bracket as follows:

..... When biocides are used, the concentration and other appropriate parameters (e.g., pH and temperature) in this water should be controlled, monitored, and recorded to ensure ~~[cross-contamination will be sufficiently minimized.]~~ **[that biocides are sufficient to reduce the potential risk of cross-contamination.]**

#### Rationale

It provides clearer understanding on Risk Base monitoring and assessment.

#### Figure1: Process Flow for Fresh Leafy Vegetables

1. Nigeria propose inclusion of Farm Site Selection as the 1st step on the Process flow for Fresh Leafy Vegetable.

#### Rationale

Environmental factors around the farm site may have food safety effects on the ~~safety of the~~ vegetables.

2. Nigeria propose that the process flow “Transporting” and “cooling” should be combined to read as “Transport & Cooling” or “cold chain transport”

#### **Rationale**

Transportation of vegetables should be under cold temperature

#### **General Comments**

Nigeria supports the adoption and advancement of the Proposed Draft Annex II on Fresh Leafy Vegetables to the next step of the Codex Procedure.

### **Agenda Item 5.2: Guidelines for the Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts(CXG 99-2023): Proposed draft Annex IV on Sprouts (CX/FH 24/54/6)**

#### **Para 28**

Nigeria recommends deletion of “non-properly composted” from the paragraph.

#### **Rationale**

To avoid ambiguity as the document is guideline.

#### **Para 80**

Nigeria proposed replacement of “contract laboratories” with “competent laboratories” to read as follows:

...sampling, and testing of spent sprout irrigation water (samples to be tested by ~~contract laboratories~~ competent laboratories), as well as cleaning and disinfecting food contact surfaces.

#### **General Comments**

Nigeria supports the adoption and advancement of the Proposed Draft Annex IV on Sprouts to the next step of the Codex Procedure.

### **Agenda Item 6: Guidelines for the Safe Use and Reuse of Water in Food Production (Annex II on Fishery Products at Step 4 and Annex III on Dairy Products at Step 4) (CX/FH 24/54/7)**

#### **Annex IV: Technologies for recovery and treatment of water for reuse**

#### **TECHNOLOGIES**

Nigeria proposed deletion of “**may be**” from the paragraph to read as follows:

1. Several technologies have been developed to recover and/or treat water from dairy plants for reuse. Reconditioning may use treatments or a combination of treatments such as membrane filtration, UV-treatment, or microbiocidal treatments (e.g. chlorination or ozonation). Such reconditioning treatment should be validated considering the source of reuse water and the final intended use of the water to ensure fitness for purpose. Certain parameters of the treatments should be monitored to ensure efficacy. Biocides used for reconditioning treatments ~~may be~~ **are** subject to approval by the competent authority.

#### **Rationale**

To ensure compliance to regulatory requirements

### **Agenda Item 8: Proposed draft Guidelines for Food Hygiene Control Measures in Traditional Markets for Food at Step 4 (CX/FH 24/54/9)**

Nigeria appreciates works done by the electronic Working Group chaired by Kenya and co-chaired by Bolivia alongside Nigeria.

#### **SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION**

Whether the title should be retained as...

Nigeria supports the retention of the original title “Guidelines for food hygiene control measures in traditional markets for food”.

#### **Appendix I**

## 5.1 Health status of food handlers

Nigeria propose deletion of “daily health checks” and replaced with “periodic health checks” so that the section reads as thus

5.1.1 All food handlers in traditional markets for food should undergo ~~daily~~ **periodic** health checks before handling food as well as a scheduled medical examination and, where necessary be certified and /or immunized.

### Rationale

From Food Safety Management “periodic” is more defined while daily health checks and certification are not realistic and impractical for traditional market staff.

### General Comments

Nigeria supports the adoption and advancement of the Guidelines for Food Hygiene Control Measures in Traditional Markets for Food to the next step of the Codex Procedure.

#### **Agenda Item 9: Alignment of Codex texts developed by CCFH with the revised General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), CX/FH 24/54/10**

Nigeria supports new work to align Codex texts, as developed by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH), with the updated General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969).

With respect to options relating to any existing text that follows the structure of the General Principle of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) Nigeria recommends option 3.

### Rationale

The option is much clearer and consistent and applicable to Codex food hygiene texts.

The option also offers the most comprehensive solution to the current misalignments and inconsistencies with the revised CXC 1-1969.

#### **Agenda Item 10: Revision of the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Viruses in Food (CXG 79-2012), CX/FH 24/54/11**

Nigeria appreciates the work and supports revising the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Viruses in Food (CXG 79-2012).

The revision shall provide veritable platform for incorporation of recent scientific developments in virus detection and risk assessment into the guidelines.

#### **Agenda Item 11: Discussion Paper on the Revision of Guidelines for the Control of Campylobacter and Salmonella in Chicken Meat (CXG 78-2011), CX/FH 24/54/12**

Nigeria supports the new work proposal to revise the Guidelines for the Control of Campylobacter and Salmonella in Chicken Meat (CXG 78-2011), and recommends that CCFH54 forwards this new work proposal to CAC47(2024) for approval.

### Rationale

It will assist in maintaining food safety in the Poultry Sector, thereby control/reduce incidence of foodborne illnesses and also enhance trade opportunities by ensuring compliance with international food safety standards.

#### **Agenda Item 12: Discussion Paper on the Revision of Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Listeria monocytogenes in Foods (CXG 61-2007) CX/FH 24/54/13**

Nigeria supports the new work proposal to revise the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Listeria monocytogenes in Foods (CXG 61-2007) and recommends that CCFH54 forwards this proposal to CAC47(2024) for approval.

### Rationale

Nigeria supports the revision of the guideline as Listeria is one of the ten prioritized food borne diseases of public health concern in Nigeria.