



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS**

**Second Session**

**Goa, India, 14 – 18 September 2015**

**DISCUSSION PAPER ON GROUPING OF SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS**

**Comments of Argentina, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Cote d' Ivoire, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinee, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan and Thailand**

**ARGENTINA**

Argentina considera que elaborar una norma general para el agrupamiento basado en la similitud de la morfología y partes de plantas de especias y hierbas utilizadas es adecuado.

Sería interesante al agruparlas, establecer otras características que las definan y en la medida de lo posible, aunque es complejo reunir las bajo algunos parámetros comunes. (Ej tomillo y orégano).

**CAMEROON**

**Annex 1-Spices Grouping**

**Dried Fruits and Berries Dried Seeds**

**25. Dried Mango (*Mangifera indica* Thwaites)**

**Rationale:** It is the mango seed that is consumed as a spice

**New Proposals**

**Dried seeds**

- 1) Njangsa (*Ricinodendron heudelotti*)
- 2) Mbongo spice (*Aframomum citratum*)
- 3) Country onion (*Afrostryax lepidophyllus*)

**COSTA RICA**

Costa Rica supports the advancing of DISCUSSION PAPER ON GROUPING OF SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS.

**COTE D' IVOIRE, GABON, GUINEE, MALI, MAURITANIA AND SENEGAL**

Nous félicitons l'Inde qui a élaboré ce document de travail portant sur le regroupement des épices et des herbes culinaires, tout en faisant part des observations ci-dessous.

Ce regroupement devrait rendre plus facile la définition de spécifications de qualité en évitant les chevauchements, tout en tenant compte de l'uniformité des caractéristiques de qualité d'un groupe particulier.

**But et objectif du regroupement**

Nous proposons de remplacer ce titre par « Objectif du regroupement ».

Les mots « but » et « objectif » signifient ici la même chose.

**But et objectif du regroupement paragraphe 2**

Supprimer les mots « médecine et parfumerie » de ce document de travail.

Ces deux domaines ne relèvent pas du CCSCH.

**Regroupement proposé des épices et des herbes culinaires**

Il a été observé qu'il ne serait techniquement pas possible qu'une seule norme couvre la totalité d'un groupe aussi nombreux et divers que celui faisant l'objet de cette discussion. Nous proposons que le regroupement des épices et des herbes tienne compte des similarités botaniques. Par exemple le regroupement de la mangue séchée avec le poivre ne nous semble pas justifiable.

Dans la norme du Codex, le code SH pourrait ne pas être particulièrement significatif aux fins du regroupement des épices et des herbes. C'est pourquoi le regroupement devrait être réalisé selon les similarités botaniques, le document ne fournissant aucun

critère scientifique sur lequel le regroupement pourrait se fonder. Les regroupements ont été effectués sur la base des catégories commerciales et ne sont pas conformes aux normes du Codex.

#### DIJBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, GAMBIA AND NIGER, NIGERIA

We commend India for developing this discussion paper on grouping of spices and culinary herbs while considering the comments below.

The grouping is expected to ease the development of quality specifications by eliminating duplication of efforts considering the uniformity in quality profile of a particular group.

#### Intent and purpose of grouping

We propose replacement of the title as "Purpose of grouping" as the words "Intent" and "purpose" convey the same meaning

**Para 2 under Intent and purpose of grouping** - delete the words "medicine or perfume" as these are outside the scope of the work of CCSCH.

#### Proposed grouping of spices and culinary herbs –

We want to observe that it is not technically possible to have a single standard covering the large and diversified groups as presented. We propose re-grouping of spices and herbs taking into consideration the botanical similarity e.g. dried mango and pepper being grouped together does not seem justifiable.

In Codex Standard, HS code may not be relevant for purposes of grouping spices and herbs hence need for grouping according to botanical similarity as the document did not provide scientific criteria for the grouping. The grouping was made on commercial classes and does not conform to Codex Standards.

#### INDONESIA

#### General Comments

Indonesia is largely satisfied with the text as it currently stands and would like to make only some minor technical aspects.

#### Specific Comments

#### Annex I. Spices Grouping, Annex II. Culinary Herbs Grouping and Annex III. List of Remaining

#### Indonesia would like:

1. To propose the deletion of country names of spices in annex 1, annex II and annex III. Indonesia would also like to recommend the use of common name, scientific name and HS Code.

Justification: This grouping will be a reference in the preparation of an international standard and used by all countries.

2. To propose the insertion of Cardamom (Large) (*Amomum compactum*) into Annex 1.

Justification: Cardamom (Large) (*Amomum compactum*) is one of important commodity in world trade of spices.

3. To seek for clarification on the inclusion of Scientific name *Piper nigrum*. Beyr. Ex Kunth to Black, White and Green Pepper in annex 1 number 20.

Indonesia proposes to replace *Piper nigrum*. Beyr. Ex Kunth with *Piper nigrum* L to be consistent to section 1. The scope of the proposed draft standard on Black, White and Green Pepper.

Justification: *Piper nigrum* L is the scientific name for Black, White and Green Pepper in section I. Scope in the proposed draft standard on Black, White and Green Pepper.

4. To request clarification on the inclusion of Chilli (Num. 13), Paprika (Num.14), Dried Garlic (Num. 33), Shallot (Num. 34) and Ginger (Num. 38) as Spices in Annex 1. Spices Grouping.

- To propose the commodity number 72 (pandanwangi) and t number 79 (carambola) of Annex I. Spices Group moved into Annex II. Culinary Herbs Grouping.

Justification: Indonesian and other South East Asian countries uses pandan wangi and carambola as culinary herbs.

- To rename the commodity number 75 (Indonesia Cassia) of annex I with "Indonesia Cassiavera".

#### KENYA

- Kenya appreciate the work done by India, Egypt, Iran and Nigeria on the various spices they have proposed for future work for safety and trade, and we recommend the new work to be advanced to the next stage.

#### SUDAN

We appreciate the work done by the group of India, Egypt, Iran, Nigeria and Indonesia on other spices and culinary herbs, we hope it can find a chance for discussion in the future.

#### THAILAND

- Thailand would like to support the proposed document on grouping of spices and culinary herbs prepared by India as it conforms to the major grouping of spices and culinary herbs provided by CCPR.

- Thailand would like to add the other types of spices and culinary herbs in the Annex of this document. These are including finger root and Kaffir lime leaf and fruit, etc.

Group	Common name	Scientific name
Dried Roots, Rhizomes, Bulbs	Finger root	<i>Boesenbergia rotunda</i> (L.) Mansf.
Dried Fruits and Berries	Kaffir lime (fruit)	<i>Citrus hystrix</i> DC.
Dried Herb	Kaffir lime (leaf)	<i>Citrus hystrix</i> DC.