



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE

Fifty-first Session

Cleveland, Ohio, United States of America, 4 - 8 November 2019

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND/OR OTHER CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES TO THE FOOD HYGIENE COMMITTEE

A MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (42nd Session)

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Standards and Related Texts Adopted

1. CAC42 adopted the:
 - Consequential amendments to the *Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products* (CXC 52 – 2003) at Step 8 and noted that the guidance on histamine control would be published as the new section 10 of the *Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products* (CXC 52 – 2003)¹; and
 - Proposed draft Code of Practice on Food Allergen Management for Food Business Operators at Step 5 and noted that CCFH should continue to liaise with CCFL on the issue of precautionary labelling to ensure consistency with the work of CCFL².

New work³

2. CAC42 approved the proposal for new work on guidelines for the control of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in beef, raw milk and cheese produced from raw milk, leafy greens, and sprouts.
3. CAC42 noted the proposal from one Member to expand the scope of the work to include beef meet products and other products made from raw milk. It was clarified that the scope could not be changed at this stage as this was also based on the outcome of the work of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA). It was further noted that managing the risk in raw commodities contributed to reducing the risks in all subsequent processed products. As a step-wise approach was foreseen, there was the possibility to include other food categories at a later stage.

Other matters

4. CAC42 adopted the Strategic Plan 2020 - 2025⁴.

B MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Committee on Food Labelling (45th Session)

Code of practice on food allergen management for food business operators⁵

5. CCFL45 agreed to inform CCFH that:
 - a. it was not in a position to provide a reply on the appropriateness of the use of a precautionary allergen labelling statement and definition at this time, and that CCFL had agreed to start new work on allergen labelling including guidance on precautionary labelling and the review of the list of allergens in the GSLPF. CCFL would keep CCFH updated on progress of this work.

¹ REP19/CAC, para 16, Appendix II.

² REP19/CAC, para 80, Appendix III.

³ REP19/CAC, para 97, Appendix V.

⁴ REP19/CAC, para. 122, Appendix IX

⁵ REP19/FL, paras 100 -101

- b. CCFL might be updating the list of food and ingredients in 4.2.1.4 of GSLPF based on scientific advice from FAO/WHO and in the meantime CCFH should use the list in 4.2.1.4 of GSLPF.
6. CCFL45 agreed to endorse the labelling provisions in paragraphs 158 and 159 of the Code of practice.

MATTERS FOR ACTION

Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (40th Session)

Sampling plans related to histamine food safety in fish commodities⁶

7. CCMAS40 welcomed the information that CCFH would take into consideration the revision of CXG 50-2004 when CCFH considers the sampling plans for histamine in fish commodities.

CCMAS to be nodal committee for all methods of analysis / CXS 234 as single reference for methods of analysis⁷

8. CCMAS40 considered a proposal for CCMAS to become a nodal committee for methods of analysis. CCMAS agreed to not proceed further with the proposal at this stage and to:
- a. Inform all Codex committees of the current 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;
 - b. Inform CCFH of the discussion in the Committee on the proposal for CCMAS to become a nodal committee for all methods of analysis and sampling and to request their on this proposal;
 - c. Request CCFH to share information / links to their analytical methods and/or method criteria for future inclusion in CXS 234. This is in order to achieve a single source of information for all analytical methods in Codex.
 - d. Remind CCFH of the decision that CXS 234 is the single reference for methods of analysis and request CCFH to consider the appropriateness of the methods identified in CXS 231 so that the methods could be transferred to CXS 234; or to identify more updated methods or methods performance criteria for inclusion in CXS 234; in order to revoke CXS 231. The request is on the understanding that the responsibility for the methods of analysis remains with CCFH.
9. The Committee is **invited to consider** the above requests from CCMAS.

⁶ REP19/MAS, para. 6

⁷ REP19/MAS, paras 86 - 92