

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Items 2, 4.1, 4.2, 5, 6.2, 6.21, 7, 8

CRD39

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES

Forty-fourth Session

Dresden, Germany

(Comments by Nigeria)

AGENDA ITEM 2 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

53rd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA53)

Para 7

Nigeria agrees that the food additives listed in CXG 10-1979 part D can be used as carriers in baby foods in the standard for CXS 73-1981.

Rationale

The listed food additives are technologically justified and approved for use in food for infants and young children. Canned baby foods are also considered as complementary foods. So, the additives can improve both foods. There are also adequate safety assessment data.

54th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA54)

Para 8

Nigeria agrees that there is a technological justification for use of BMC as a carrier/glazing agent for nutrients in FC 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 for products covered by CXS 72-1981, CXS 156-1987, CXS 73-1981, CXS 74-1981, and CXG 95-2022.

Rationale

The risk assessment result for BMC (INS 1205) as a glazing agent did not indicate any adverse health effects. It is also recognized as a safe substance that helps to prevent degradation of micronutrient, thereby facilitating its intake which is relevant in mitigating micronutrient deficiency especially in infants and young children.

43rd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS43)

Para 9

Nigeria supports the inclusion of an annex into CXS 234-1999 for the nitrogen conversion factors and subsequent revocation of nitrogen conversion factors in commodity standards. Though, there is need to provide a standard text as a guideline for the commodity standards users linking the proposed annex in CXS 234-1999 and commodity standards regarding Nx values.

Nigeria does not support retention of Nx values of products in commodity standards under the purview of CCNFSDU.

Rationale

It is consistent with the ongoing effort of Codex alimentarius to Codex Commodity standards for ease of referencing and application.

AGENDA ITEM 4.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NRVS-R FOR PERSONS AGED 6 –36 MONTHS (AT STEP 7)

Nigeria appreciates the work done by the electronic Working Group chaired by Ireland and co-chaired by USA and Costa Rica and submit comment on the draft documents as follows:

Issue 1: Definition of Adequate Intake

Nigeria agrees with the definition of Adequate Intake as provided by FAO/WHO and therefore support that the text be retained with the square brackets removed.

Rationale:

The definition took into cognizance the level of intake that can be considered adequate for healthy population of the age group that is expected to meet the amount of nutrients needed to maintain a nutritional state of the defined age group.

Issue 2: Consideration of Option 3.

Nigeria agrees with option (3) whereby the combined NRV-R value for persons aged 6-36 months is determined by selecting the mean value of the proposed NRVs-R for older infants and young children.

Rationale:

The option allows for flexibility and broader application on the level of nutrients required for infants and young children as it addresses concerns on the level of nutrients for the vulnerable age group to ensure that it is not either excessive or insufficient.

AGENDA ITEM 4.2 NRVS-R FOR PERSONS AGED 6 – 36 MONTHS

Issue 1: The Committee is invited to adopt the draft Stepwise Process presented in Appendix I, for use to establish NRVs-R for R for persons aged 6–12 months, 12–36 months and 6–36 months.

Nigeria accepts adoption of the draft stepwise process as recommended by the EWG with step 4 indicating Option 3 only.

Rationale:

The draft Stepwise Process has been revised and aligned to section 3.1 and 3.2 in the draft General Principles with respect to establishment of NRV-R

Issue 2: The Committee is invited to: agree that Approach 1 should be used when applying the draft Stepwise Process so that more recent data from RASBs is used.

Nigeria agrees with proposal of EWG chairs that Approach 1 should be used when applying the draft Stepwise Process so that more recent scientific data from RASBs is used.

Rationale:

Both options were piloted and there seems to be no significant differences from the results other than for a few vitamins identified by the EWG. The advantage of using recent data provides an opportunity to use data based on developments in science and technology.

Issue 3: Consider the NRVs-R for all nutrients established through application of the Stepwise process using Approach 1 and presented in the Summary Table 1, Appendix I, and to be recommended as the established NRVs-R for a. Older Infants and b. Young Children.

Nigeria agrees with the recommendation of the EWG.

Rationale:

The NRVs-R for Older Infants and Young Children have been obtained through piloting the stepwise process which is considered appropriate for deriving the NRVs-R. A similar stepwise approach was applied for the work on NRVs-R for the general population.

Issue 4: The NRVs-R for all nutrients established through application of the Stepwise process using Approach 1 and in Option 3 (highlighted in the Summary Tables 2 and 2b, Appendix I) are recommended for the combined age range 6-36 months.

Nigeria agrees with the provided NRVs-R for the combined age group using Approach 1 and Option 3.

Rationale:

The approach ensures that nutrient requirements for the combined age groups are sufficient.

Issue 5: CCFSDU44 to agree that as part of the process when finalizing the NRVs-R to be established for 6-12 months, 12-36 months and 6-36 months, values should be rounded (as was undertaken when establishing NRVs-R for the general population).

Nigeria agrees with the proposal of the EWG on the presentation of NRVs-R values.

Rationale:

This approach has already been used in deriving Nutrient Reference Values for the general population.

AGENDA ITEM 5 TECHNOLOGICAL JUSTIFICATION FOR SEVERAL FOOD ADDITIVES

Nigeria appreciates the work done by the electronic Working Group led by European Union and submit comment on the agenda as follows:

Issue: There is no technological justification for use of guar gum, distarch phosphate, phosphate distarch phosphate, acetylated distarch phosphate and hydroxypropyl starch in foods conforming to CXS 72- 1981 (Infant formula).

Nigeria endorses the conclusion that there is no technological need for the use of the above-mentioned food additives conforming to CXS72-1981.

Rationale:

It is apparent that JECFA will not be able to conduct risk assessment due to lack of supporting data. In addition, the additives are not currently in use based on the feedback received after the circular letter was issued.

AGENDA ITEM 6.2 PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK/EMERGING ISSUES**(REPLIES TO CL 2024/52-NFSDU)**

Issue: CCFNSDU44 is invited to consider the report to be produced by the PWG and the new work proposals in light of the prioritization mechanism (see CL 2024/52-NFSDU, Appendix I and CX/NFSDU 24/44/6, Annex I).

Nigeria supports the adoption of the items as listed as proposals for new work/emerging issues.

Rationale:

The PWG has considered and assessed the new work proposals submitted using the guidelines and criteria as outlined in the Draft Guideline for the preliminary assessment to identify and prioritize new work for CCFNSDU (see CL 2024/52-NFSDU, Appendix I).

AGENDA ITEM 6.21 DISCUSSION PAPER ON HARMONIZED PROBIOTIC GUIDELINES FOR USE IN FOODS AND FOOD SUPPLEMENTS

Nigeria appreciates and support the work done by the electronic Working Group Chaired by Argentina and co-Chaired by Malaysia and China on harmonized probiotic guidelines for use in food and food supplements.

Rationale:

The Guidelines will provide a harmonized framework on probiotics including definition and other positions since the product is already in trade

AGENDA ITEM 7 REVIEW OF TEXTS UNDER THE PURVIEW OF CCFNSDU

Issue: CCFNSDU is invited to consider the recommendations from the Codex Secretariat on the process of revision/ amendment of the standards under the Committee.

Nigeria agrees with the recommendations presented.

Rationale:

There are existing procedures and guidelines in the codex procedural manuals to guide new work development including revision/amendment of standards. Therefore, the need for a specific mechanism for review of texts under the purview of CCFNSDU will not be necessary.

AGENDA ITEM 8 DISCUSSION PAPER ON USE OF FRUCTANS, BETA-CAROTENE, LYCOPENE IN STANDARD FOR INFANT FORMULA AND FORMULAS FOR SPECIAL MEDICAL PURPOSES INTENDED FOR INFANTS (CXS 72-1981)

Nigeria appreciates and supports the recommendation of the Electronic Working Group Chaired by the United States of America for use of beta carotene and declines support for fructose and oligosaccharides, lycopene.

Rationale:

Beta carotene is already listed in the advisory list of nutrient compounds for use in foods for special dietary uses intended for infants and young children (CXG-10-1979).