



Agenda Item 2(a)

CX/CF 12/6/2

February 2012

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

Sixth Session

Maastricht, The Netherlands, 26 – 30 March 2012

**MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
AND/OR OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES/TASK FORCES**

A. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 34th SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Standards and related texts adopted at Steps 8 and/or 5/8

1. The Commission adopted the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Ethyl Carbamate Contamination in Stone Fruit Distillates as proposed by the Committee.¹

Standards and related texts adopted at Step 5

2. A number of delegations and one Observer, while supporting the proposed draft ML, expressed their objection or reservation to the note on the exemption from the ML, which read "*The maximum level does not apply to liquid infant formula for which it can be proven that the level of melamine higher than 0.15 mg/kg is the consequence of migration from food contact materials taking into account any nationally authorized migration limit*". These delegations were of the view that the level for melamine in a sensitive product such as liquid infant formula should be kept as low as possible and that the note could allow for excessive levels of melamine. The Chair of the Committee on Contaminants in Foods indicated that the intention of the ML was to differentiate between adulterated product and those products which could contain melamine through possible migration from packaging materials. It was also indicated that the note took into account this unavoidable migration from packaging material into the product, that these migration levels would be negligible and not pose a risk to human health; and that it would be subject to national legislation. However, due to the continued reservation and concern with the note, the Commission agreed to adopt the ML at Step 5, to advance to Step 6 for comments and discussion in the Committee on Contaminants in Foods.²

3. This matter will be considered under Agenda Item 4.

Approval of new work for the elaboration of new standards and related texts

4. The Commission approved the elaboration of Maximum Levels for Arsenic in Rice as proposed by the Committee.³

Amendments of standards and related texts

5. The Commission amended the Standard for Natural Mineral Waters as proposed by the Committee namely: the removal of footnote 3 regarding the temporary endorsement of sections 3.2.17 (surface active agents), 3.2.18 (pesticides and PCBs), 3.2.19 (mineral oil) and 3.2.20 (polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons) as these were considered quality parameters and did not require endorsement by CCCF.⁴

¹ REP11/CAC, Appendix III-Part 2.

² REP11/CAC, para. 62 and Appendix IV.

³ REP11/CAC, paras. 140-142 and Appendix VI.

⁴ REP11/CAC, para. 127.