



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

Forty-fourth Session

Dresden, Germany

2 - 6 October 2024

**MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION  
AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 46TH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CAC46)  
AND ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (CCEXEC85 and 86)**

***Matters for information***

Standards and Related Texts adopted by the Commission<sup>1</sup>

1. CAC46(2023) adopted the:
  - revised *Standard for follow-up formula* (CXS 156-1987) (renamed as the *Standard for follow-up formula for older infants and product for young children*) at Steps 5/8 and 8, noting that the list of food additives would be replaced by the texts recommended by CCFA53 and adopted by CAC46. Similarly, due to the alignment of food additive provisions in the relevant CCNFSDU commodity standards with those in the *General standard for food additives* (GSFA, CXS 192-1995), revisions were adopted for the sections on food additives in the five other Standards (*Standards for: infant formula and formulas for special medical purposes intended for infants* (CXS 72-1981); *Canned baby foods* (CXS 73-1981); *Processed cereal-based foods for infants and young children* (CXS 74-1981); *Formula foods for use in weight control diets* (CXS 181-1991); and *Formula foods for use in very low energy diets for weight reduction* (CXS 203-1995)) and the *Guidelines for ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF)* (CXG 95-2022).
  - amendments to the *Standard for canned baby foods* (CXS 73-1981);
  - amendments to the *Advisory list of nutrient compounds for use in foods for special dietary uses intended for infants and young children* (CXG 10-1979);
  - General principles for establishing nutrient reference values for persons aged 6 – 36 months, at Step 5;
  - Maximum Level (ML) for lead in ready-to-eat meals for infants and young children for inclusion in *General standard for contaminants and toxins in food and feed* (CXS 193-1995), at Step 8; and
  - the sampling plans for total aflatoxins in certain cereals and cereal-based products including foods for infants and young children for inclusion in CXS 193-1995.

Future of Codex<sup>2</sup>

2. CCEXEC85(2023) agreed to use the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 to guide the future direction of Codex.

<sup>1</sup> REP23/CAC, para 48, 53, 55, 61(vi) (viii), 68(ii) and 92(i)

<sup>2</sup> REP23/EXEC2 paragraph 38 (i); REP24/EXEC1 paragraph 61 (iii), (v)

3. CCEXEC86(2024):
- encouraged more Members to take leadership roles in committee working groups to ensure their sustainability and inclusiveness, while recognizing the challenges these Members may face and further encouraged the Codex Secretariat and experienced working group chairs to proactively seek engagement of other Members and provide guidance and support.
  - reminded Codex committees of the importance of good work management practices and prioritization of work to avoid the establishment of too many EWGs and the related burden on all concerned and ensure that agenda items can be adequately discussed within the available plenary session time.

#### Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031<sup>3</sup>

4. CEXEC85 considered the first draft of the elements to be included in the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031, in particular, the vision; mission; core values; drivers for change; the role of Codex; and a high-level description on Codex ways of working of the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031.
5. CCEXEC86 continued discussions on the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 and agreed:
- i) on the following three strategic goals and one functional goal:

#### Strategic goals

- Respond to Members' needs for protecting the health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade in an evolving global environment by developing science-based standards
- Strengthen relationships with relevant international organisations, promoting an integrated approach to address global challenges
- Maximize the impact of Codex by increasing the visibility and use of standards

#### Functional goal

- Enhance work management systems and practices that support the efficient and effective achievement of all strategic plan goals

- ii) to request the Codex Secretariat to issue a Circular Letter in September 2024 requesting comments on the agreed strategic and functional goals and outcomes which would be elaborated by the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of CAC.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

#### ***Matters for information / action***

#### **33rd Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO33)<sup>4</sup>**

6. CCEURO33(2024) agreed to bring to the attention of CCNFSDU44 the establishment of a CCEURO EWG on dietary guidelines.

#### **53rd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA53)<sup>5</sup>**

7. CCFA53(2023) agreed to request CCNFSDU to consider whether CXS 73-1981 permits the use of the food additives listed in CXG 10-1979 Part D as nutrient carriers; noting that the CCFA EWG could not agree on whether CXS 73-1981 permits the use of the food additives listed in CXG 10-1979 Part D as nutrient carriers or not.

#### **54th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA54)<sup>6</sup>**

8. CCFA54(2024) requested CCNFSDU to appraise the technological need/justification of methacrylate copolymer, basic (BMC) in commodity standards under their purview in GSFA FCs 13.1, 13.2, and 13.3. These commodity standards include *Standards for: Infant formula and formulas for special medical purposes intended for infants* (CXS 72-1981); *Follow-up formula for older infants and product for young children* (CXS 156-1987); *Canned baby foods* (CXS 73-1981); *Processed cereal-based foods for infants and young children* (CXS 74-

<sup>3</sup> REP23/EXEC2 paragraph 54 (i)a; REP24/EXEC1, paragraph 77 and 79 (i) (iv)

<sup>4</sup> REP24/EURO, para 56(iv)

<sup>5</sup> REP23/FA, para 53

<sup>6</sup> REP24/FA, para 100

1981); and *Guidelines for ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF)* (CXG 95-2022).

**43rd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS43)<sup>7</sup>**

9. CCMAS43(2024) agreed to:
- i. forward the document titled “Nitrogen to protein conversion factors” for adoption as an Annex to CXS 234-1999 by CAC47 (Appendix II, Part 3);
  - ii. inform the relevant commodity committees about the "Nitrogen to Protein Conversion Factor" document and remind them that it was their responsibility to identify and report the proposed nitrogen conversion factors to CCMAS to facilitate the endorsement process; and
  - iii. recommend that relevant commodity committees consider revoking Nx values in their commodity standards.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

10. CCNFSDU44 is invited to:
- i. note the information provided above in paragraphs 1 – 6 and 9(i – ii).
  - ii. encourage Members and Observers to actively engage in opportunities to contribute to the discussions on the development of Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 by providing replies to relevant CLs.
  - iii. consider:
    - a. whether CXS 73-1981 permits the use of the food additives listed in CXG 10-1979 Part D as nutrient carriers (para. 7).
    - b. the technological justification for BMC (para. 8) under Agenda item 5.
    - c. whether to retain Nx values in commodity standards under the purview of CCNFSDU (para. 9).

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<sup>7</sup> REP24/MAS para 76