

**CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION****TWENTY-THIRD SESSION, FAO HEADQUARTERS, ROME, 28 JUNE-3 JULY 1999****SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS****THE COMMISSION:**

- expressed its satisfaction with the Programme's budget for 2000/01, while noting the financial constraints of the parent Organizations and expressed its appreciation of the generous voluntary support provided by the Host Governments for Codex Committees (paras. 15-16);
- adopted Resolution 99/1 regarding the funding of the scientific advisory bodies, JECFA and JMPR and *ad hoc* consultations and the strengthening of the independence and the scientific integrity of these bodies (paras. 17-19);
- expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO for the technical assistance provided to developing countries in relation to Codex matters and food control generally, and strongly supported the continuation of such assistance, while recognizing the need to evaluate the impact of these programmes on a regular basis (paras. 20-24);
- adopted the Medium-Term Plan 1998-2002 and agreed that the preparation of the subsequent Medium-Term Plan should be initiated rapidly (paras. 25-34 and Appendix II);
- adopted the following a series of recommendations in relation to consumers' involvement in Codex work (paras. 43);
- requested the Codex Committee on General Principles develop proposals that would allow for a limited number of representatives of the International Non-Governmental Organizations in Observer Status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission to be invited as observers to Sessions of the Executive Committee (paras. 44-46)
- adopted a series of recommendations in relation to the application of risk analysis principles in Codex work, and endorsed others (paras. 56-58);
- amended the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, subject to the confirmation of the Directors-General of FAO and WHO, (paras. 59-66 and Appendix III) specifically –
  - Rule II.4 – Officers governing the appointment of Regional Coordinators
  - Rule III.1 – Executive Committee to provide for the addition of a new Regional Representative (Near East)
  - Rule X.2 – Elaboration of Standards to stress the need for consensus when adopting standards and related texts;
- adopted a series of amendments and new texts for inclusion in the Procedural Manual (paras. 67-73 and Appendix IV), specifically –
  - Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities and Criteria for the Establishment of Subsidiary Bodies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
  - Relations Between Commodity Committees and General Committees: Draft Amendment to the Food Hygiene Provisions
  - Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products
  - Definitions of Risk Analysis Terms Related to Food Safety (Risk Communication - Risk Management)

- Principles Concerning the Participation of International Non-Governmental Organizations in the Work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
- Core Functions of Codex Contact Points
- decided to hold the Maximum Residue Limits for Bovine Somatotropins at Step 8 in accordance with the provisions contained in the introductory paragraphs of the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (paras. 75-80);
- adopted 31 new or revised Codex standards, guidelines and related texts including *Guidelines on the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically-Produced Foods*; amended 5 existing standards; approved conditions for the use in foods of 46 food additives; adopted 358 specifications for the identity and purity of food additives; adopted 374 individual maximum residue limits for agricultural and veterinary chemicals; withdrew 27 standards and 252 maximum residue limits as being either obsolete or superseded by newer recommendations (paras. 75-200 and Appendix IV);
- agreed to undertake new work in the following areas (paras. 201-211):
  - Foods derived from biotechnology
  - Animal feeding (extension of existing draft code)
  - Fruit juices (revision of existing standards);
- made a clear statement to the effect that the direct use of hydrogen peroxide for the preservation of raw milk, in a manner that was inconsistent with the Codex Guidelines for the Use of the Lactoperoxidase System, was unacceptable (paras. 214-216);
- abolished the following subsidiary bodies in accordance with FAO Conference Resolution 97/13 (paras. 219-220)
  - Joint Codex/ECE Group of Experts on the Standardization of Quick Frozen Foods
  - Joint Codex/ECE Group of Experts on the Standardization of Fruit Juices
  - Codex Committee on Processed Meat and Poultry Products
- established the following new subsidiary bodies (paras. 221-230)
  - FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committee for the Near East
  - Ad hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Foods derived from Biotechnology (Host Government - Japan, duration 4 years)
  - Ad hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding (Host Government - Denmark, duration 4 years)
  - Ad hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Fruit Juices (Host Government - Brazil, duration 4 years)
- agreed that, subject to availability of resources, beginning with the biennium 2000/2001, future Sessions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Executive Committee and Regional Coordinating Committees as appropriate, would be held in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish. (paras. 232-234).

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ALINORM 99/37

**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**  
**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE**  
**CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**  
*FAO Headquarters, Rome, 28 June-3 July 1999*

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission held its Twenty-third Session at FAO Headquarters, Rome, from 28 June to 3 July 1999. Professor Dr. Pakdee Pothisiri (Thailand), Chairperson of the Commission presided. The Session was attended by 608 delegates and representatives from 103 Member countries, 1 Observer country and representatives from 63 international governmental and non-governmental organizations including UN agencies. A full list of participants is given in Appendix I to this report.

2. The Session was opened on behalf of the Directors-General of FAO and WHO by Mr. Hartwig de Haen, Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Department, FAO, and Mrs. P. Singh, Executive Director, Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments, WHO respectively.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (AGENDA ITEM 1)<sup>1</sup>**

3. The Commission adopted the Provisional Agenda as its Agenda for the Session. It agreed to discuss the following matters under the relevant Agenda Items:

- *Establishment of a Database on Importing Country Legislation*, under Agenda Item 10 “Consideration of proposals to elaborate new standards and/or related texts”;
- *Sampling for Aflatoxins in Foods*, under Agenda Item 9 “Consideration of draft standards and related texts”;
- *Draft Codex Standard for Honey*, under Agenda Item 9;
- *Elaboration of a General Standard for Foods Derived from Biotechnology*, under Agenda Item 10 “Consideration of proposals to elaborate new standards and/or related texts”;
- *Language Policies of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission*, under Agenda Items 3 Report by the Chairperson on the 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Executive Committee and 13 Other Business; and
- Discussion on *Dioxins*, under Agenda Item 13 “Other Business”.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE COMMISSION AND APPOINTMENT OF REGIONAL COORDINATORS (AGENDA ITEM 2)<sup>2</sup>*****ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE COMMISSION***

4. The Commission elected the following persons to hold office from the end of its present Session to the end of its Twenty-fourth Session:

Chairperson: Mr. Thomas Billy (USA)

Vice-Chairpersons: - Mr. Gonzalo Ríos (Chile)  
- Prof. Stuart Slorach (Sweden)  
- Mr. David Nhari (Zimbabwe)

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<sup>1</sup> ALINORM 99/1

<sup>2</sup> ALINORM 99/2 and CAC/LIM 18

5. The following Members of the Executive Committee were elected on a regional basis: Tanzania (Africa), Philippines (Asia), France (Europe), Brazil (Latin America and the Caribbean), Saudi Arabia (Near East - see also paras. 63-64), Canada (North America) and Australia (South-West Pacific).

#### **APPOINTMENT OF REGIONAL COORDINATORS**

6. The Delegations of Saudi Arabia and Sudan, on behalf of the Codex Member countries from the FAO Near East Region<sup>3</sup>, indicated the willingness of these countries to set up a new Codex Coordinating Committee for the Near East. Therefore, in the light of the amendments to Rule III.1 of the Rules of Procedure and the desire of the Members of the region of the Near East to appoint a Regional Coordinator in accordance with Rule II.4(a), the Commission agreed to appoint a Regional Coordinator for the Near East. On the basis of the recommendation of the majority of the members of this Region and the nominations put forward by the Regional Coordinating Committees, the Commission appointed the following persons as Regional Coordinators:

Africa: Dr. Eve Kasirye-Alemu (Uganda)

Asia: Ms. Kanya Sinsakul (Thailand)

Europe: Mr. Felipe Mittelbrun García (Spain)

Latin America and the Caribbean: Mr. Luis Emilio Feliz Roa (Dominican Republic)

Near East: Prof. Ali A. El-Naggar (Egypt)

North America and South-West Pacific: Mr. Geoff Gorrie (Australia)

7. The Delegation of Morocco expressed its willingness to host the next Session of the Codex Coordinating Committee for Africa. The Commission noted that this issue should be discussed among Member countries of the Region at the next session of the Committee.

#### **REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON ON THE FORTY-FIFTH AND FORTY-SIXTH SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 3)**

8. The reports of the 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Executive Committee were provided in accordance with Rule III.5 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure. The Commission noted that most of the Executive Committee's recommendations had been dealt with by the relevant Codex Committees or were included for discussion under the present Agenda.

9. The Commission noted that the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee had requested the Codex Secretariat to provide a description and an estimate of the support and activities undertaken by FAO and WHO in developing countries on food control in general and that this had been provided for in its Session for discussion under Agenda Item 4 (ALINORM 99/5 – Addendum). It was pointed out that FAO and WHO had convened a Joint Expert Consultation on Risk Assessment of Microbiological Hazards in Foods in March 1999 and that the report of this Consultation would be available within a month.

10. The Commission was informed of the unanimous decision of the 116<sup>th</sup> Session of FAO Council regarding Languages and Document Policies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. In regard to the extension of language services to include Arabic and Chinese, the Commission expressed its support for the proposal of the 46<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee that efforts should be made for the provision of the limited services<sup>4</sup> for Arabic and Chinese by the time of the next (24<sup>th</sup>) Session of the Commission in 2001, resources permitting. It recognized that the provision of additional language services would take a longer time but almost complete services could be envisaged by 2005, resources permitting. It concurred with the

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<sup>3</sup> Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates.

<sup>4</sup> Limited services means interpretation and main working documents in all languages at sessions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Executive Committee and Regional Committees as appropriate; translation of the Commission's final report, Procedural Manual, and information documents.

view that any shift or re-allocation of resources to provide for these services should not be detrimental to the work of the Commission.

11. The Delegation of Saudi Arabia, speaking on behalf of the Near East countries, proposed the establishment of a new Regional Coordinating Committee within the framework of Codex at its current Session based on consensus among the potential members of such a region. Many delegations supported the idea of establishing a new Regional Coordinating Committee for the Near East, while several delegations were of the opinion that more time was needed to evaluate all of the implications of such a new body and that a document should be prepared for discussion at its next Session. The Delegation of Saudi Arabia also proposed an amendment to Rule III.1 of the Commission's Rule of Procedure to provide for the election of a seventh Regional Representative, representing the Near East. (See also Agenda Items 8 and 12.)

12. In response to the recommendation of the 46<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee to establish an *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology, the Delegation of Japan expressed its concurrence with the recommendation and its willingness to host such a Task Force if established by the Commission. The Delegation stressed the importance of establishing such a Task Force as it would provide an open forum for governments to discuss "safety and nutritional aspects" of foods derived from biotechnology in a step-by-step manner within the specific mandate and timeframe given by the 46<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee. The Commission agreed to discuss this matter under Agenda Item 12.

#### **REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME FOR 1998/99 AND 2000/01 (AGENDA ITEM 4)<sup>5</sup>**

13. The Commission noted the Secretariat report on the status of the operating budget for the current biennium and expressed its support for the proposed budget for the biennium 2000/01. It was noted that the presentation of information used for the 2000/01 biennium was different from the preceding biennium and would facilitate comparisons in the future.

14. In reply to a question, the Secretariat indicated that the difference in the documentation costs for 1998/99 and 2000/2001 originated in the increase in the rates of documentation services, especially translation, and the underestimated expenditure reported for the 1998/99 biennium. The Commission also noted that the "FAO only" section included the activities carried out by the FAO Regional Offices with funding from the Programme. The Representative of WHO indicated that corresponding expenditure of WHO to support the Programme was not included in the report, but would be made available in the future.

15. Several delegations stressed the importance for the Programme of the contribution made by host countries, which had increased in the current biennium, especially for the translation and distribution of documents. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the generous voluntary support provided by the Host Governments for Codex Committees.

16. Some delegations called on Member countries to maintain their support to FAO and WHO. The Delegations of the United States and Australia, in supporting the increased level of the Codex budget provided by FAO, expressed the view that equivalent savings should be made in other programme areas of FAO in order to achieve zero nominal growth. The Delegation of France expressed the view that these budget difficulties were due to the stagnation of the FAO and WHO budgets over several years. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the Programme's budget for 2000/01 and the continuous support of FAO and WHO for the Programme, while noting the financial constraints of the parent Organizations.

17. The Commission noted the discussions held at the Executive Committee regarding the funding of the scientific advisory bodies, JECFA and JMPR and *ad hoc* consultations and expressed its concern that inadequate resources would seriously impair the work of the Programme<sup>6</sup>. The Commission expressed the view that the independence and the scientific integrity of these bodies should continue to be strengthened and noted that FAO and WHO were considering issues related to the transparency of the selection process for experts; resolution or avoidance of conflicts of interest; expression of minority opinions by experts; and enlarging the basis of expert advice in the scientific bodies. The Commission considered the resolution

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<sup>5</sup> ALINORM 99/5, CAC/LIM 17

<sup>6</sup> ALINORM 99/4, paras. 5-6

proposed by the Executive Committee (CAC/LIM 17) in order to draw the attention of the parent Organizations to the importance of these issues and agreed to make the following amendments.

18. The Commission agreed with the proposal of the Delegation of the United Kingdom and the Observer from Consumers International to include a reference to the transparency of the opinion given by the expert bodies, in addition to their independence and scientific integrity. The Commission had an exchange of views on the concept of “risk-based” scientific advice and recognized that the advice provided by JECFA and JMPR was risk-based but that scientific advice was required in other areas such as nutrition, where the main objective was not to address risk, and the general reference to “scientific advice” was therefore retained.

19. The Commission adopted Resolution 99/1 as follows:

**The Codex Alimentarius Commission:**

Recognizing the importance of Codex work in providing recommendations to Member countries at the international level on food safety and quality and the need to ensure the scientific basis of Codex standards and related texts;

Recognizing the importance of Codex standards and related texts for food safety and quality in the protection of consumers’ health and for ensuring fair practices in the food trade;

Having regard to the status of Codex standards and related texts as a reference in international trade in the framework of the WTO SPS and TBT Agreements;

Recognizing the essential support provided to the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standard Programme by the ongoing Joint FAO/WHO Expert bodies (JECFA and JMPR) and the expert or technical consultations convened on an *ad hoc* basis to address specific food safety and quality issues and in particular the importance of the advice of these Expert bodies for the protection of consumers’ health and public health in general;

Recognizing the importance of the transparency, independence and scientific integrity of the opinions of these bodies;

- Expresses its concern at possible real reductions in the budget allocated to the operation of the FAO/WHO expert bodies and consultations;
- Draws the attention of its parent organizations, FAO and WHO to the need for continued financial support for the FAO/WHO expert bodies in order to provide regularly updated scientific advice to the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies;
- Welcomes the continuing efforts by the Directors-General of FAO and WHO to maintain and strengthen the transparency, independence and scientific excellence of this advice.

***SUPPORT TO DEVELOPING COUNTRY MEMBERS***<sup>7</sup>

20. The Commission recalled that the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee had requested the Secretariat to provide an estimate of the support provided by FAO and WHO to developing countries and welcomed the report prepared by the Secretariat. In addition to the information included in the document, the Representative of WHO/PAHO/INPPAZ presented an update of the major activities carried out in the Americas Region with emphasis on the Latin American and Caribbean countries in the following areas: integrated food protection programmes; strengthening of analytical capacity through a regional laboratory network, surveillance of foodborne diseases; training in GMP and HACCP; consumer information and participation; street-vended foods, and pointed out the importance of cooperation with FAO/WHO/PAHO in carrying out many of these activities.

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21. Many countries expressed their appreciation to FAO and WHO for the assistance provided in the following areas: strengthening of the National Codex Committees and Codex activities at the national or regional level; risk analysis; application of the HACCP system; updating of food legislation and improvement of food control systems. They stressed the need for continued support from FAO and WHO as well as donor countries to strengthen the infrastructure and technical capacities in these areas, and for improving their participation in Codex work.

22. Some countries pointed out that an evaluation of these technical cooperation activities should be carried out and that there should be a mechanism for assessing the practical results of the assistance and training provided to member countries. The Representative of FAO informed the Commission that the FAO Technical Cooperation Programmes (TCP) on food control had been subjected to an independent systematic evaluation and that the results of this evaluation were contained in the *Programme Evaluation Report* to be presented to the forthcoming FAO Conference<sup>8</sup>. The Representative of WHO indicated that in the area of public health, the reduction of the incidence of foodborne disease was an essential indicator to assess programmes concerning food safety. The Commission also noted that the Regional Coordinating Committees considered on a regular basis the outcome of the technical assistance programmes in the area of food legislation and food control at the national and regional levels, and had an important role in assessing the needs of member countries in each Region. The Commission noted that several countries had become members of the Commission following the workshops held in those countries and supported further development of Codex-related activities to promote and facilitate the involvement of developing country members in Codex work.

23. Some delegations, referring to the *Special Report : Fisheries* included in the document, expressed their appreciation to FAO for the programmes carried out in this area, especially concerning HACCP training, and stressed the need for continued training and assistance in view of the importance of this sector for developing countries. The Commission recalled that requests for support in this sector should be directed to the FAO Fisheries Department and that in general, requests for technical assistance from FAO and WHO should be presented by governments through the usual procedures for such requests.

24. The Commission expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO for the information contained in the document and for the technical assistance provided to developing countries and strongly supported the continuation of such assistance, while recognizing the need to evaluate the impact of these programmes on a regular basis.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT MEDIUM-TERM PLAN 1998/2002 (AGENDA ITEM 5)<sup>9</sup>**

25. The Commission considered the Draft Medium-Term Plan, which had been revised by the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee in the light of the comments received from governments, at the request of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Commission.

26. The Commission noted that the criteria for the establishment of *ad hoc* Task Forces had been submitted for adoption by the current Session and therefore agreed to delete the reference to this work in the Medium-Term Plan (see also para. 67).

27. The Delegation of India, supported by that of China and other delegations, stressed that small and medium-scale enterprises provided the major part of the food supply in developing countries, and that their specific needs should be taken into account, especially when considering risk analysis. The Commission recognized that this should be achieved through technical assistance and should not result in lowering the standards of health protection established at the international level. The Commission recognized the increased need for FAO and WHO support and technical assistance to developing countries in areas such as risk analysis, HACCP and Codex related activities and supported the continuation of such cooperation programmes.

28. The Delegation of India urged a graduated approach for the development and adoption of standards by committees. In the context of the world's food security needs, the Indian Delegation proposed that Codex

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<sup>8</sup> FAO document C 99/4

<sup>9</sup> ALINORM 99/6, CL 1997/14-EXEC, ALINORM 99/3, paras 16-20

should put emphasis on community food production programmes with greater participation of women. Horticultural interventions for raising nutrition standards also needed emphasis.

29. Under *Production and Processing Systems*, the Commission reasserted that high priority should be given to the consideration of foods derived from biotechnology and agreed to discuss further how to proceed in this area under Agenda Item 12. Recognizing that the Medium-Term Plan focused on general objectives and without prejudging the form that these considerations might take, the Commission agreed to refer to “standards, guidelines or other recommendations as appropriate”. The Commission also agreed that this matter should be considered “on the basis of scientific evidence and risk analysis and having regard, where appropriate, to legitimate factors other than science relevant for the health protection of consumers and the promotion of fair trade practices in food trade”, as proposed by the Delegation of the Netherlands .

30. The Commission recognized the importance of proceeding with work in the area of *Equivalence and Mutual Recognition and Quality Assurance of Food Control Systems*, as proposed by the Delegation of Peru and other delegations in order to facilitate import and export control.

31. Under *Nutrition and Consumer Information*, the Commission agreed with the proposal of the Delegation of Norway to refer to “relevant” labelling requirements and to include a reference to “consumer information” in the section on labelling, as it was noted that although some requirements were established on a scientific basis, especially as regards nutrition, the actual decision to require labelling reflected the need for adequate consumer information. The Delegation of China proposed that labelling requirements should focus on issues related to food safety and nutrition and that other labelling issues should be decided by Member countries. The Delegation of the United States, supported by others, stated that “legitimate factors relevant for the health protection of consumers and for the promotion of fair practices in food trade” included “consumer information”.

32. The Delegation of Algeria, supported by other delegations and observers, expressed the view that the participation of national NGOs in the work of Codex and related matters was important, especially in developing countries, and should be supported. The Commission recognized that this question should be addressed at the national level and agreed that member countries should be encouraged to provide support to NGOs while protecting their independence.

33. As regards the areas of *Publication and Administration*, the Commission expressed its appreciation to the Secretariat for the use of electronic means of communication, especially the availability of Codex documents on the Internet and on the Codex-L list, as this facilitated work and improved transparency. The Secretariat indicated that the traditional distribution of documents would be maintained especially for those countries with limited access to email or the Internet, and would be reduced only with the agreement of the countries concerned.

34. The Commission adopted the Medium-Term Plan 1998-2002 with the amendments indicated above, as presented in Appendix II to this report. The Commission agreed with the proposal of the Delegation of Republic of Korea that the preparation of the subsequent Medium-Term Plan should be initiated rapidly and noted that a Circular Letter to this effect would be sent to governments, with a view to considering this matter in the next Session of the Executive Committee.

## **CONSUMERS' INVOLVEMENT IN THE WORK OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION<sup>10</sup> (AGENDA ITEM 6)**

### ***INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND***

35. The Commission recalled that the involvement of consumer and other International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) in the work of Codex had been discussed at the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Sessions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. It welcomed the cooperation between the Secretariat and Consumers International in preparing the working paper and the inputs from FAO and WHO.

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<sup>10</sup> ALINORM 99/8; CAC/LIM 6 (Comments of Consumers International in response to ALINORM 99/8); CAC/LIM 11 (Comments of the International Association of Consumer Food Organizations).

## GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

36. The Observer from Consumers International expressed appreciation for the level of cooperation with the Commission and noted that the clear progress made in enhancing consumers' participation in the Codex work. However, the Observer noted that more work needed to be done to improve the situation in coordination particularly at the national level and in sharing experiences in training, as indicated in the survey of members of Consumers International as reported in CAC/LIM 6. The Observer noted that significant training initiatives on National Codex Committees and Codex Contact Points and risk analysis were taking place<sup>11</sup> and asked, where possible, for Members to consider including consumer groups and representatives in these programmes in the future. The Observer stated that Consumers International had initiated a new regional training programme in addition to its ongoing training on Codex and was eager to cooperate further with the Commission at national and international levels in order to ensure participation of consumer organizations in this high profile area.

37. The Observer from the International Association of Consumer Food Organizations also welcomed the paper presented to the Commission and indicated that the presence of the Association may be considered as one example of the increased openness of the Commission to the participation of consumer organizations in its work.

38. The Commission expressed full support for efforts to enhance the participation of consumer organizations' in the development of food standards and also in relation to Codex at the national level. It agreed that it was highly desirable for consumers and their organizations to participate in training activities designed to establish or strengthen Codex Contact Points or National Codex Committees.

39. The Commission noted the outcome of the FAO/PAHO/CI Regional Workshop on the Integration of Consumer Interests in Food Control and Food Production (Quito, 1996) – outlined in Appendix B of the working paper. Nevertheless, the Commission recognized that several of the recommendations of this Workshop could be interpreted as calling for the participation of consumers in official food control activities. Several delegations stated that whereas consumers, their organizations and other interested parties could be involved in the development of standards, official food control activities to determine compliance with standards and regulations were the responsibility of government authorities and the legal system. The Commission noted that it had already accepted that, *“while respecting legitimate concerns to protect confidentiality, the principles and operations of food inspection and certification should be open to scrutiny by consumers and their organizations and other interested parties”*.<sup>12</sup>

40. Several delegations reported that consumer participation at the different stages of development of food legislation, standard setting and decision making processes was authorized by legislation. However, some delegations expressed the need to arrive at a better understanding of what constituted a legitimate “consumers' organization”, stating that such an understanding was needed if organizations were to be involved in the food standards development and Codex processes at the national level. The Observer from Consumers International noted that CI had prepared and published guidance on this matter.

41. The Commission noted that in some developing countries consumer organizations were not well established, the educational level of consumers was low, scientific or technical expertise was unavailable, and resource constraints and communication problems did not allow consumers to participate effectively in the process. The need for training was especially highlighted.

42. Several delegations expressed concern that some consumer organizations tended to reflect only the views, interests and culture of consumers in industrialised countries and that a wider basis of opinions, especially from consumers in developing countries, would be useful and welcome. The Observer from Consumers International noted that this organization had a world-wide membership and regional offices located in developing countries to encourage the development of the widest possible consensus on issues of concern to consumers.

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<sup>11</sup> See ALINORM 99/5-Addendum.

<sup>12</sup> *Principles for Food Inspection and Certification*, CAC/GL 20-1995.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

43. The Commission considered the recommendations addressed to it in the paper. The Commission:
- Agreed to consider the development of a “checklist” of measurable objectives to assess consumer participation in Codex work at the national and international levels and asked the Committee on General Principles to review the proposal contained in the document;
  - Noted the recommendations of the Quito Workshop without endorsing them (see para. 39, above);
  - Recommended that consideration be given by FAO and WHO, in co-operation with consumer organizations, to the development of guidelines or models for enhancing consumer participation in Codex and food standards work at the national and international levels;
  - Noted that there was little support for the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme and related FAO and WHO programmes to identify funds to support expanded participation of consumer International Non-Governmental Organizations in Codex, stating that any resources available to Codex should be directed first to developing Member countries of the Commission;
  - Recommended that FAO, WHO and national governments work with national and international consumer organizations to improve the dissemination of Codex information to consumers;
  - Recommended that FAO, WHO and national governments invite consumer organizations to participate in national, sub-regional or regional workshops and seminars relevant to Codex matters; and
  - Proposed that Regional Coordinating Committees continue to take the opportunity to provide a forum for the exchange of experiences on the ways and means of developing consumer input into National Codex Committees and Contact Points.
44. The Commission noted the recommendation that the Codex Committee on General Principles develop proposals that would allow for a limited number of representatives of the INGOs in Observer Status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission to be invited as observers to Sessions of the Executive Committee. Several delegations indicated that the Executive Committee was an executive organ of the Commission and that according to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, its composition was strictly limited. It was stated that it would be unfair to Member countries of the Commission to extend “observer status” to INGOs at Sessions of the Executive Committee when Members themselves were not invited to attend as observers. Other delegations favoured the proposals, but noted that there were a number of issues that had to be considered carefully, including the assurance of a fair representation of all of the INGOs contributing to the Codex process; the rights of such organizations as observers; how such organizations would be selected; and how to ensure that the Executive Committee would continue to function as an effective and efficient body under the Commission.
45. It was noted that three broad classes of INGOs had been identified in the working document, namely consumers and other public interest groups; the food industry, trade and marketing organizations; and professional and scientific international non-governmental organizations. It was noted that all of these groups had made valuable contributions to the Codex process and therefore consideration could be given to enhancing the transparency and credibility of Codex decisions by also involving these groups in the work of the Executive Committee. Without prejudice to any decision that might be taken at a later stage, the Commission **agreed** to ask the Committee on General Principles to develop proposals for its consideration on this matter.
46. Some delegations expressed the opinion that the composition of the Executive Committee as set out in Rule III.1 of the Rules of Procedure required reconsideration, as the basic Rule had been in place since the First Session of the Commission in 1963. The Delegation of Japan pointed out that clarification was needed regarding the participation, as observers, of Member countries. Proposals included the enlargement of the Executive Committee with the possibility of electing several Members from the different Regions as was the case with FAO Council and other bodies. The Secretariat was requested to consult the Legal Counsels and Offices of the Directors-General of FAO and WHO on these matters, taking into account the status of the

Executive Committee as described in the Commission's Statutes, and to report to the Committee on General Principles.

### **PRINCIPLES OF RISK ANALYSIS (AGENDA ITEM 7)<sup>13</sup>**

47. The Representative of WHO introduced the document, which presented a progress report on the work undertaken so far to implement the Action Plan approved by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Commission. The Commission expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO for the organization of expert consultations and noted that most of the recommendations included in the document had been developed by these expert consultations. The Commission noted that the recommendations in Annex 2 and 3 of the discussion paper had formed the basis of the recommendations considered and revised by the Executive Committee. The Commission considered the recommendations in the working paper as amended by the Executive Committee.

48. The Commission recalled that the proposal for possible attendance of observers at the Executive Committee had been considered under Agenda Item 6 - *Consumer's Involvement* and the Commission agreed to delete this proposal from the recommendations for adoption on risk analysis (see also para. 44-45).

49. The Commission had an extensive exchange of views on the recommendation calling on governments to incorporate risk analysis in their legislation. Some delegations opposed this proposal since risk analysis was a relatively new discipline and enough time should be allowed for developing countries to integrate these principles in their legislation in view of difficulties, such as lack of resources and trained personnel. Other delegations, while recognizing the need to allow for flexibility, supported the general recommendation included in the document, especially in view of the provisions of the WTO SPS Agreement concerning risk assessment. The Commission agreed that governments should be encouraged to integrate risk analysis in their legislation, and noted that the difficulties of developing countries were addressed in other recommendations.

50. Several delegations expressed the view that many useful training programmes had been developed, especially as regards the application of HACCP, but that the differences between such programmes might create confusion, and they stressed the importance of harmonizing the training programmes on risk analysis. The Commission agreed to amend the relevant recommendation accordingly. The Representative of FAO indicated that a Training Manual on HACCP had been published and was currently used as the basis for FAO training in several regions, and that a training manual on risk analysis was under development in cooperation with WHO and ILSI.

51. As regards the report on FAO and WHO training initiatives, technical assistance and support, many delegations expressed their appreciation for the technical training and assistance provided by the parent organizations and stressed the need for continued assistance with specific focus on the risk analysis needs of developing countries. The Commission agreed to include additional recommendations to this effect.

52. The Commission agreed with the proposal of the Delegation of the Netherlands to emphasize the need for increased interaction and communication between expert bodies, such as JECFA and JMPR, and Codex Committees along the principles of risk analysis and a recommendation to this effect was introduced. The Observer from Consumers International stated that it was necessary to provide risk assessment clear and unequivocal policy to JECFA and JMPR.

53. The Observer from the Global Crop Protection Federation noted the recommendation from the FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on the Application of Risk Communication to 'identify and involve experts with a wider range of scientific perspectives in the work of international advisory bodies (such as JECFA and JMPR) and expert consultations.' The Observer expressed concern about considering the presence of observers during the meetings of the JMPR, due to the proprietary nature of the data being discussed.

54. The Delegation of India, referring to its comments made during the Committee on General Principles, and reproduced in the document, stressed the importance of taking into account the situation

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<sup>13</sup> ALINORM 99/9, ALINORM 99/4, paras. 9-16, CAC/LIM 2 (Comments of Consumers International), CAC/LIM 9 (comments of India)

prevailing in developing countries since primary production was largely through small and medium-scale enterprises, and to include data from those countries in the risk assessment process. The Delegation also proposed that the economic consequences and feasibility of risk management options should be considered in the risk management process. This position was supported by several delegations and the Commission, recognizing the need to take into account the specific situation of developing countries, introduced new recommendations to address these concerns.

55. The Delegations of Denmark and Sweden, supported by other delegations, proposed to reiterate the request of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Commission for the establishment of an FAO/WHO expert committee on microbiological hazards, as risk assessment and scientific advice were an essential basis for the work of the Committee on Food Hygiene. The Commission agreed to add a recommendation to this effect.

56. The Commission then adopted the following recommendations to be applied in the framework of Codex:

- a) Programmes that contribute to risk analysis should have high priority;
- b) Relevant Codex Committees should continue to develop and to apply risk analysis principles and methodologies appropriate to their specific mandates within the framework of the Action Plan and report their progress to the Commission on a regular basis;
- c) Proposals for new or amended definitions for use within the framework of risk analysis, as appropriate, should be considered by the Codex Committee on General Principles;
- d) To overcome confusion about the usage of the terms “risk analysis” and “hazard analysis”, the Commission should reiterate its definitions for these concepts and explain how they apply in practice;
- e) The Commission should continue and expand its efforts to increase the participation of those national governments and NGOs that are members or observers but that are not presently active participants in Codex matters;
- f) Relevant Codex committees should appoint a co-author from a developing country for position papers, where the main author(s) is from a developed country;
- g) Relevant Codex committees should consider developing quality criteria for data used for risk assessment. To the extent possible such criteria should be consistent with one another, taking into account the technical differences in the disciplines covered;
- h) Relevant Codex committees should consider the acute aspects of dietary exposure to chemicals in food;
- i) Recognizing that primary production in developing countries is largely through small and medium enterprises, risk assessment should be based on global data, including that from developing countries. This data should particularly include epidemiological surveillance data and exposure studies;
- j) Risk management should take into account the economic consequences and the feasibility of risk management options in developing countries. Risk Management should also recognize the need for flexibility in the establishment of standards, guidelines and other recommendations, consistent with the protection of consumers’ health.

57. The Commission also endorsed the following recommendations addressed to governments:

- a) Member governments should participate actively in Codex work. Governments should also consider, to the extent possible, the views of all interested parties when formulating the national position on a Codex matter. Further, governments are encouraged to communicate and explain the basis of the decisions of Codex to those same interested parties and to the public at large;

- b) Governments should adopt organizational structures and procedures that assure transparency and that allow National Codex Committees to consider consumer and private sector opinions. Cooperation should be developed with the consumer and private sectors in risk communication - especially in developing simple messages concerning food quality and safety;
  - c) Governments are encouraged to incorporate principles of risk analysis when establishing or updating national legislation on food safety matters;
58. The Commission endorsed the following recommendations addressed to FAO and WHO:
- a) FAO and WHO should develop harmonized training or other programmes designed to increase the understanding of the risk analysis process and the role of risk communication, both for member countries and for international organizations active in Codex work;
  - b) FAO and WHO should continue to assist, on a priority basis, developing countries by providing training at regional, sub-regional or national levels in introducing and applying different aspects of risk analysis, HACCP and good manufacturing, agricultural and hygienic practices and development of ways to apply risk-based good practices in small businesses;
  - c) FAO and WHO should take greater steps to strengthen their work in assisting developing countries to undertake dietary/nutrition studies, monitoring programmes and intake/exposure assessment;
  - d) FAO and WHO should strengthen transparency in scientific risk assessment. This includes transparency in the choice of experts and the advice being given including how uncertainties are addressed;
  - e) FAO and WHO, as parent organizations, should emphasize the need for increased interaction and communication between expert bodies, such as JECFA and JMPR, and the Codex Committees, such as CCFAC, CCRVDF and CCPR, and should request the expert advisory bodies and the subsidiary committees to cooperate along the principles of risk analysis;
  - f) The Commission reiterated its request to FAO and WHO to convene an international expert advisory body similar to JECFA and JMPR on the microbiological aspects of food safety to address particularly microbiological risk assessment.

## **CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (AGENDA ITEM 8)<sup>14</sup>**

### ***PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE***

59. The Commission determined that the quorum specified in Rule IV.6 for the amendment of the Rules of Procedure had been constituted.

60. The Commission agreed to amend Rule II - Officers and Rule IX.7 and IX. 10 on the appointment of Regional Coordinators as proposed by the Committee on General Principles.

61. The Commission considered the proposal to amend Rule X - Elaboration of Standards to stress that every effort should be made to reach consensus. The Delegation of India, supported by China, Malaysia and other delegations expressed the view that, when decisions could not be reached by consensus and voting was required, a two-third majority should be introduced, in view of the importance of Codex texts as a reference in international trade. The Chairperson recalled that the question of majority was not under discussion at the present session and that only the proposal concerning the importance on consensus had been submitted to the Commission. The Commission noted that this question was currently under consideration in the Committee on General Principles, where no conclusion had been reached so far, and agreed that the Committee should proceed with its work on this issue as a matter of priority.

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<sup>14</sup> ALINORM 99/10 Part I and II ; CAC/LIM 16

62. The Commission noted the proposal from the Delegation of Australia to refer to “all reasonable efforts” rather than every effort to take into account the practical aspects of the decision process. The Commission however recalled that the amendment had been discussed thoroughly in the Committee on General Principles and adopted the amendment to Rule X as proposed.

63. The Commission also considered the proposed amendment to Rule III.1 which provided for an additional member of the Executive Committee, representing the Near East Region, and which had been submitted at the current session in accordance with Rule XIII (see para. 6). Following questions from some delegations on the membership of the Region, the Commission noted that questions relating to the establishment of the new Coordinating Committee would be considered under Agenda Item 12 - Designation of Host Governments.

64. The Commission adopted the proposed amendment to Rule III.1 concerning the membership of the Near East in the Executive Committee. The Delegations of Saudi Arabia and Egypt expressed their appreciation to the Commission, as the establishment of the new Region and Regional Committee would offer an opportunity for the countries of the Near East to develop their involvement in the work of Codex.

65. The Commission was informed that the amended Rules would be submitted to the Directors-General of FAO and WHO for approval as required by Rule XII.1 of the Rules of Procedure. The FAO Legal Counsel informed the Commission that, following the adoption of the amendment to Rule III.1, it was possible to proceed with the election of the Representative for the Near East Region, with the understanding that the result of the election would be confirmed when the amended Rule entered into force.

66. The Commission noted the proposal of the Delegation of Republic of Korea to increase the membership of the Executive Committee and recalled that all relevant aspects pertaining to the composition and role of that Committee would be considered by the Committee on General Principles, as agreed earlier.

#### ***CRITERIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WORK PRIORITIES AND CRITERIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION***

67. The Commission adopted the amendments separating the criteria for work priorities from the criteria for establishing subsidiary bodies, which include provisions for the establishment of *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Forces operating for a limited period of time under closely defined terms of reference, but functioning in the same manner as established Codex Committees.

#### ***RELATIONS BETWEEN COMMODITY COMMITTEES AND GENERAL COMMITTEES: DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE FOOD HYGIENE PROVISIONS***

68. The Commission adopted the amendment concerning the food hygiene provisions to be used in the commodity standards as proposed.

#### ***TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS***

69. The Commission adopted the Terms of Reference as proposed.

#### ***DEFINITIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CODEX: DEFINITIONS OF RISK ANALYSIS TERMS RELATED TO FOOD SAFETY (RISK COMMUNICATION - RISK MANAGEMENT)***

70. The Commission agreed to amend the definition of *Risk Communication* as suggested by the Delegation of Canada, deleting the reference to “hazard” in order to avoid any confusion between risk and hazard. The Commission adopted the revised definitions of *Risk Communication* and *Risk Management* as proposed.

#### ***DRAFT PRINCIPLES CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WORK OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION***

71. The Commission adopted the Draft Principles as proposed.

#### ***CORE FUNCTIONS OF CODEX CONTACT POINTS***

72. The Commission adopted the Proposed Core Functions, and noted that the structure and operation of Codex Contact Points was the responsibility of governments, as reflected in the introductory paragraph.



73. The amendments and additions to the Rules and other amendments to the Procedural Manual are presented in Appendix III and IV to this report, respectively.

## CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS (AGENDA ITEM 9)

### GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

74. The Commission considered a number of draft standards and related texts that had been developed by its subsidiary bodies. It considered standards and related texts submitted at Step 8 of the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts and texts submitted at Step 5 where, in certain cases, the subsidiary body had recommended the omission of Steps 6 and 7. It also considered texts submitted at Step 5 of the Accelerated Procedure. The results of the Commission's consideration of these standards and related texts are presented in tabular form in Appendix VII of the present report. The following paragraphs of this report provide additional information concerning the discussions that took place on certain items or contain additional decisions taken by Commission in regard to the adoption of certain texts.

### MATTERS PENDING FROM THE TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

#### *Consideration of Draft Maximum Residue Limits for Bovine Somatotropins (BST)<sup>15</sup>*

75. The Commission recalled that it had decided at its 22<sup>nd</sup> Session to suspend the consideration of the adoption of the MRLs for Bovine Somatotropins (BST) pending the re-evaluation of scientific data by JECFA and the Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods and the examination of the application of the "other legitimate factors" in relation to BST by the Committee on General Principles. The Chairperson of the Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods reported that the Fiftieth Meeting of JECFA had re-evaluated BST and that the previous MRLs "not specified" for BST were confirmed when the substance was used in accordance with good veterinary practice. The Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods, however, had been unable to reach a consensus on the adoption of the MRLs and the Chairperson had advanced them to Step 8 in order to submit them to the Commission for consideration. The Chairperson of the Committee on General Principles noted that the application of "other legitimate factors" in the case of BST had been considered twice by the Committee, and also that this Committee had been unable to reach a consensus on the issues at hand.

76. The Delegation of the United States stated that in its opinion, the scientific evaluation should be the only determining factor for the adoption of the MRLs, and that on the basis of these evaluations the MRLs should be adopted. Nevertheless, the Delegation noted the lack of consensus on this issue and proposed that the MRLs be held at Step 8 with a view to resuming their consideration in the future at such a time as it appeared that it might be possible to arrive at a consensus.

77. The Delegation of Germany, speaking on behalf of the Members of the European Union present at the Session, referred to the written comments submitted to the Commission (ALINORM 99/21, Part I, Addendum 3 and re-stated that the adoption of the MRLs would not be appropriate. The Delegation supported the proposal to retain the MRLs at Step 8.

78. No other views being presented by Members, the Commission therefore **decided** to hold the MRLs at Step 8 in accordance with the provisions contained in the introductory paragraphs of the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts.

79. The Representative of COMISA expressed the disappointment of that Organization at the Commission's decision, and expressed the hope that a consensus on these matters would emerge at a future session.

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<sup>15</sup> ALINORM 99/37, paras. 68-69; ALINORM 99/21 - Part I, Addendum 2; ALINORM 99/31, paras. 65-70 and Appendix II; ALINORM 99/33, paras. 59-64; ALINORM 99/33A, paras. 77-85. See also comments in ALINORM 99/21 - Part I, Addendum 3 (France, Germany/EC, South Africa, United States of America, Consumers International).

80. The Commission noted the views of the Delegation of Indonesia that as long as the question of defining the scope of the expression “other legitimate factors” remained unresolved, these factors could act as disguised restrictions to trade.

***DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS AT STEP 8 OR STEPS 5/8 OF NORMAL PROCEDURE, OR AT STEP 5 OF ACCELERATED PROCEDURE***

***MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS***

***Draft General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms<sup>16</sup>***

81. The Commission noted that in the course of the revision of the Code of Principles Concerning Milk and Milk Products, the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products had redrafted the Draft Revised Code in the format of a Codex Standard following the recommendations of the Commission made at its 22<sup>nd</sup> Session.

82. The text had been thoroughly discussed by the Committee as well as the Codex Committee on Food Labelling. The latter Committee had endorsed the labelling provisions of the Draft General Standard with the amendments to the following sections<sup>17</sup>:

- Sections 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 (for clarification of section titles and objectives of these sections);
- Section 4.2.3 (for mandatory declaration of protein standardization); and
- Section 4.6.3 (for addition of a footnote for clarification).

83. The Delegation of Malaysia strongly expressed its reservation to the adoption of the standard and proposed to amend Section 4.6.2 concerning the use of dairy terms for other foods, in order to allow the marketing and trade of recombined products, such as filled milk, in which the milk components had been substituted wholly or partially with non-milk components as well as deletion of Section 4.6.4. The Delegation stated that these products had a long history of use in developing countries and were necessary to allow technological innovation, to address specific consumer problems, such as allergies, and to provide greater choice to consumers thus offering greater market opportunities for milk components. This proposal was supported by a number of delegations from Southeast Asia and Egypt. The Delegation of the Philippines also stated that the prohibition of the use of dairy terms for these products might lead to restrictions in international trade. These Delegations also suggested that the draft be returned to the Committee on Milk and Milk Products for further deliberation.

84. The Chairperson of the Committee on Milk and Milk Products stated that such changes would significantly alter the nature of the standard and the Commission was informed that Section 4.6.2 of the Draft General Standard as currently drafted allowed the use of dairy terms for traditional products, such as coconut milk.

85. The Commission **adopted** the Draft General Standard as amended by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling to replace the existing Code of Principles Concerning Milk and Milk Products. It **agreed** to request the Committee on Milk and Milk Products to consider, as a matter of urgency, the necessity to elaborate a standard for recombined products such as filled milk and derived products where the milk components had been substituted wholly or partially by non-milk components. Since these type of products appeared to be wide-spread in Asia, it also requested the Coordinating Committee for Asia to consider this issue in parallel to the Committee on Milk and Milk Products.

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<sup>16</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix II; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Malaysia, Norway, Spain & United Kingdom); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 10 (comments from Thailand); LIM 16 (comments from China).

<sup>17</sup> ALINORM 99/22A, paras 7-13.

***Draft Revised Standard for Butter<sup>18</sup>***

86. In relation to the maximum level for lead, the Commission noted that this level had been endorsed by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants and that the Committee had been considering general maximum levels of lead in foods. It was **agreed** that when these general maximum levels were finally agreed by the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants, it might be necessary for the Committee on Milk and Milk Products to revisit the maximum lead level in butter.

87. The Commission **agreed** to amend Section 7.2 Declaration of Milkfat Content as proposed by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling. This decision is applicable to all other Draft Standards for milk products except for that for milkfat products. It also **agreed** to delete the term “or volume” from the same Section as it was not possible to express milkfat content as percentage by volume for non-liquid products. This decision is also applicable to other Draft Standards covering non-liquid milk products. The Commission **adopted** the Draft Revised Standard with the above amendments to replace the existing Standard for Butter and Whey Butter.

***Draft Revised Standard for Milkfat Products<sup>19</sup>***

88. The Commission **adopted** the Draft Revised Standard to replace the existing Standard for Butteroil and Anhydrous Butteroil and Anhydrous Milkfat. It was pointed out that the use of local names for ghee was allowed by the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods.

***Draft Revised Standard for Evaporated Milks<sup>20</sup>******Draft Revised Standard for Sweetened Condensed Milks<sup>21</sup>***

89. The Commission **adopted** the Draft Revised Standards with the amendment in Section 7.2 Declaration of Milkfat Content (see para. 87) to replace the respective existing Standards.

***Draft Revised Standard for Milk Powders and Cream Powders<sup>22</sup>***

90. The Commission **adopted** the Draft Revised Standard to replace the existing Standard for Whole Milk Powder, Partly Skimmed Milk Powder and Skimmed Milk Powder and the Standard for Cream Powder, Half Cream Powder and High Fat Milk Powder with the following amendments:

- Replacement of the term “Cream Powders” with “Cream Powder” in the Title, Scope and Description;

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<sup>18</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix IV; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Czech Republic, Egypt, Poland & Spain); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 10 (comments from Thailand); LIM 11 (comments from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations); LIM 12 (comments from India); LIM 16 (comments from China).

<sup>19</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix V; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Egypt & Spain); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 10 (comments from Thailand); LIM 11 (comments from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations); LIM 12 (comments from India).

<sup>20</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix VI; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Czech Republic, Egypt & Poland); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 10 (comments from Thailand); LIM 11 (comments from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations).

<sup>21</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix VII; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Czech Republic, Egypt & Poland); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 10 (comments from Thailand); LIM 11 (comments from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations).

<sup>22</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix VIII; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Czech Republic, Egypt & Poland); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 10 (comments from Thailand); LIM 11 (comments from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations).

- Deletion of polydimethylsiloxane and potassium aluminium silicate from the list of permitted food additives as they had not been endorsed by the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants; and
- Amendments to Section 7.2 Declaration of Milkfat Content (see para. 87).

### ***Draft Revised Standard for Cheese***<sup>23</sup>

91. The Delegation of Japan, while not opposing the adoption of the Draft Revised Standard, proposed that the Commission request the Committee on Milk and Milk Products to consider the inclusion of a minimum level of protein in the Standard to provide for better guidance on product classification/identification, and to ensure that the coagulation was the key factor in the production of cheese. Many delegations supported this proposal. The Delegation of Australia expressed the view that the inclusion of a minimum protein level as a definitional criterion was unnecessary.

92. The Delegation of Norway, also not opposed to the adoption of the Draft Standard, proposed to reconsider Section 3.1 Raw Materials because the change made at the 3<sup>d</sup> Session of the Committee as a consequential amendment was, in effect, a substantial one and would require further consideration.

93. Some delegations expressed concerns about chlorophylls and titanium dioxide permitted for use in cheese when they were used as decolorants. The Commission noted that these uses had been endorsed by the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants. The Delegation of Switzerland pointed out that the use of pimaricin in sliced, cut, shredded or grated cheese was still a matter pending and required further discussion by the Committee on Milk and Milk Products.

94. The Committee **adopted** the Draft Revised Standard with the following amendments to replace the existing Standard for Cheese:

- Insertion of the term “Codex” before term “Standard” in the preamble part of Section 4 for clarification;
- Deletion of four food additives not endorsed by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants; and
- Amendment to Section 7.2 Declaration of Milkfat Content (see para. 87)

95. The Commission **requested** the Committee on Milk and Milk Product to consider: (1) inclusion of a minimum level for protein; and (2) raw materials. It also **requested** that Committee to give priority in the revision of individual cheese Standards.

### ***Draft Revised Standard for Whey Cheese***<sup>24</sup>

96. The Commission **adopted** the Draft Standard with amendment in Section 7.2 Declaration of Milkfat Content (see para.. 87) to replace the existing Standard for Whey Cheese.

<sup>23</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix IX; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Czech Republic, Egypt, Japan, Norway, Poland & Spain); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 5 (comments from Australia; corrigendum); LIM 9 (comment from International Dairy Federation); LIM 10 (comments from Bangladesh, Japan and Thailand); LIM 11 (comments from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations); LIM 12 (comments from India).

<sup>24</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix X; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Czech Republic, Egypt, Poland & Spain); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 9 (comment from International Dairy Federation); LIM 10 (comments from Thailand); LIM 11 (comments from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations).

***Draft Group Standard for Cheeses in Brine***<sup>25</sup>

97. The Delegation of Cyprus proposed to delete the second paragraph in Section 4 Food Additives. It was recognized that this paragraph had been included to allow for the development of new possibilities to draw up new individual standards for varieties of cheeses in brine. As there had been no such Standard yet, the Commission **agreed** to delete the paragraph with the understanding that if the Committee on Milk and Milk Products developed an individual Standard(s) to cover varieties of cheeses in brine it would consider the need for additional food additives for these varieties and reinstatement of this paragraph in this Standard.

98. The Commission **adopted** the Draft Standard with the following amendments in addition to the above:

- Insertion of the term “Codex” before the term “standards for individual varieties” in the Scope; and
- Amendment to Section 7.2 Declaration of Milkfat Content (para. 87).

99. The Commission requested that for the final publication of these Standards, the Spanish and French versions should be corrected taking into consideration editorial comments provided by Spain and Argentina, and France, respectively.

***FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS******Draft Maximum Level and Sampling Plans for Total Aflatoxins in Peanuts Intended for Further Processing***<sup>26</sup>

100. The Observer of the European Community and other delegations suggested an alternative sampling plan to more thoroughly address sample selection, sample preparation and analytical methods for the detection of aflatoxins. These delegations suggested that the proposed sampling plan should either be held in abeyance or adopted on an interim basis so that the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants could consider alternative sampling proposals in collaboration with the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling.

101. Other delegations supported the adoption of the draft level and sampling plan as proposed because the Committee had discussed the issue over many years, and the importance of linking the maximum level with the applied sampling plan was consistently recognized. It was noted that the maximum level and sampling plans were developed on the basis of expert advice arising from an FAO Consultation<sup>27</sup> and an extensive risk assessment was recently conducted by the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives<sup>28</sup>. It was also stated that further processing significantly reduced the level of contamination and that in any case, a further reduction in the draft maximum level or significant modification in the sampling plan could create severe negative impacts on trade with no significant increase in health protection for consumers.

102. The Commission adopted the maximum level of 15 µg/kg for total aflatoxins in peanuts intended for further processing. The Commission also adopted the draft sampling plan on an interim basis, with the understanding that the issue would be further considered by the Committee and the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling on the basis of proposals to be developed by an electronic working group prior to their next Sessions.

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<sup>25</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix XI; ALINORM 99/21, Part I; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from Czech Republic, Norway, & Spain); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 9 (comment from International Dairy Federation); LIM 10 (comments from Thailand); LIM 11 (comments from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations).

<sup>26</sup> ALINORM 99/12, Appendix X and comments from South Africa, Uruguay and the European Community (ALINORM 99/21, Part 1 – Add. 3).

<sup>27</sup> FAO Consultation on Sampling Plans for Aflatoxin Analysis in Peanuts and Corn (FAO Food and Nutrition Paper 55, 1993).

<sup>28</sup> 49<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives, Rome, 17-26 June 1997, WHO Technical Reports Series, No. 884, 1999.

***Draft Maximum Level for Aflatoxin M<sub>1</sub> in Milk***<sup>29</sup>

103. Many delegations expressed opposition to the adoption of the draft level of 0.05 µg/kg for various reasons. These delegations noted that the availability, application and costs associated with methods of analysis for the determination of aflatoxins at the lower level were significant. They noted that adoption of the lower level would result in severe disruptions to trade in feeding stuffs and that liquid milk for direct consumption was not widely traded internationally. The Commission noted that the risk assessment conducted by the 49<sup>th</sup> JECFA had shown that the potential carcinogenicity of Aflatoxin M<sub>1</sub> was approximately ten times less than that of Aflatoxin B<sub>1</sub>.<sup>30</sup>

104. Many other delegations supported the level of 0.05 µg/kg as proposed. These delegations noted that the lower level was needed to protect high intake milk-drinkers and vulnerable populations such as infants and young children, and that the level was set as low as reasonably achievable. They pointed out that this low level could be easily detected analytically.

105. As the Commission could not reach a consensus, it agreed to return the Draft Maximum Level for Aflatoxin M<sub>1</sub> in Milk to Step 6 for additional comments and further consideration by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants. This decision was taken with the understanding that information should be provided on the public health and the potential economic implications of a higher level or a lower level as proposed, and the levels of aflatoxin contamination found in milk.

***Draft Amendments to the Food Additive Provisions in the Codex Standard for Food Grade Salt***<sup>31</sup>

106. The Commission agreed with the endorsements<sup>32</sup> of the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants, including the removal of specific provisions for the use of Salts of Myristic, Palmitic or Stearic Acids (aluminium, magnesium) from the Standard. The Commission confirmed that the maximum level for tricalcium orthophosphate should be 20 g/kg. The Delegation of Italy pointed out that a number of editorial amendments to the text were required as indicated in CAC/LIM 9.

***Codex General Standard for Food Additives: Draft Provisions for Additives Permitted for Use Under Specified Conditions in Certain Food Categories or Individual Food Items (Table One)***<sup>33</sup>

107. The Commission agreed to the adoption of the Committee's recommendation to add a footnote to Section 1.1 (Permitted Food Additives) of the Preamble to the General Standard for Food Additives to clarify that the Standard was being developed gradually.<sup>34</sup> In view of the Committee's previous agreement to collaborate with the Office International de la Vigne et du Vin (OIV)<sup>35</sup>, especially on the matter of harmonization of provisions for additives, the Commission removed those provisions for the use of alpha-amylase, dimethyl dicarbonate, polydimethylsiloxane and polyvinylpyrrolidone in wines.

108. The Commission noted that the Committee had previously agreed that numerical levels would be retained in preference to levels for additives based on good manufacturing practice for additives with numerical Acceptable Daily Intakes.<sup>36</sup> In view of this decision, the Commission decided that the draft maximum use levels of "good manufacturing practice" for additives with a numerical Acceptable Daily Intake should include a note indicating that the elaboration of specific use levels was subject to future consideration.

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<sup>29</sup> ALINORM 99/12, Appendix X and comments from the United Kingdom and Uruguay (ALINORM 99/21, Part 1 – Add. 3).

<sup>30</sup> Safety Evaluation of Certain Food Additives and Contaminants, Food Additives Series No. 40, pp. 359-468, WHO, Geneva, 1998.

<sup>31</sup> Codex Standard for Food Grade Salt (CODEX STAN 150-1985).

<sup>32</sup> ALINORM 99/12, Appendix VII.

<sup>33</sup> ALINORM 99/12A, Appendix II and comments from Brazil (ALINORM 99/21, Part I – Add. 3).

<sup>34</sup> ALINORM 99/12A, Appendix V and CL 1999/4-FAC.

<sup>35</sup> ALINORM 99/12, para. 37; ALINORM 99/24A, para. 51; CAC/LIM 10.

<sup>36</sup> ALINORM 99/12, para. 28.

109. The Commission confirmed that, prior to its publication, the General Standard should take into account the endorsed food additives provisions contained in Codex Commodity Standards.

110. The Commission adopted the draft provisions for the additives proposed with the deletions mentioned in para. 107, above, and agreed that these provisions should be updated on a regular basis.

***Codex General Standard for Food Additives: Additives Permitted for Use in Food in General, Unless Otherwise Specified, in Accordance with Good Manufacturing Practice (Table 3) and Food Categories or Individual Food Items Excluded from the General Conditions of Table 3 (Annex to Table 3)***<sup>37</sup>

111. The Commission agreed to the suggestion of the Observer of the European Community, supported by other delegations, to include specific food categories for Concentrates (liquid and solid) for fruit juices (14.1.2.3), Canned or bottled (pasteurized) fruit nectar (14.1.3.1) and Concentrates (liquid and solid) for fruit nectar (14.1.3.3) to the Annex to Table 3.

112. The Delegation of the United States noted that the Preamble to the General Standard made clear that food categories were not necessarily synonymous with Codex Standards, nor were they intended for labelling purposes. As the delegation felt that this issue could best be resolved directly by the Committee, the United States reserved its position concerning the Commission's decision.

***COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE***

***Draft Code of Hygienic Practice for Refrigerated Packaged Food with Extended Shelf-Life***<sup>38</sup>

113. The Commission adopted the Draft Code at Step 8.

***Draft Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Assessment***<sup>39</sup>

114. The Commission adopted the Draft Principles and Guidelines at Step 8.

***Draft Amendment to the Recommended International Code of Practice: General Principles of Food Hygiene (Cleaning Procedures and Methods)***<sup>40</sup>

115. The Commission adopted the Draft Amendment at Step 5 of the Accelerated Procedure.

***FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS***<sup>41</sup>

***Draft Guidelines for the Sensory Evaluation of Fish and Shellfish in Laboratories***

116. The Commission noted the comments from the Delegations of Peru and Egypt on the nature of histamine and the factors affecting its levels in fish. The Commission adopted the Draft Guidelines at Step 8, with the understanding that editorial comments would be taken into account when publishing the final text.

***Draft Amendment to the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products***

117. The Chairman of the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products recalled that the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Commission had requested that the Accelerated Procedure should be generally used for the inclusion of additional fish species to the Standards, with a view to facilitating trade, and especially the exports from developing countries. The procedure specific to the Committee, whereby three independent laboratories examine samples provided by interested countries, was applied to *Clupea bentincki* (proposed by Chile) and as the results indicated that this species could be added to the list of sardine-type product covered by the Standard, the Committee had reached consensus on this amendment.

<sup>37</sup> ALINORM 99/12A, Appendix III and comments from Brazil (ALINORM 99/21, Part I – Add. 3) and the European Community (LIM 9).

<sup>38</sup> ALINORM 99/13, Appendix III

<sup>39</sup> ALINORM 99/13A, Appendix II.

<sup>40</sup> ALINORM 99/13A, Appendix III.

<sup>41</sup> ALINORM 99/18, ALINORM 99/21 Part 1-Add.3 (comments of Canada, France, Norway), CAC/LIM 5 (Morocco)

118. The Delegation of Morocco expressed its opposition to the adoption of the amendment and pointed out that as a major exporter of sardines (*Sardina pilchardis*), especially to the European market, the competition from sardine-type products seriously affected its economic interests. The Delegation recalled that it had not been involved in the procedure carried out by the Committee and was unable to provide and evaluate such samples, and proposed that the Committee should consider this matter further before reaching a decision. This position was supported by several delegations.

119. The Delegations of Chile and Peru supported the adoption of the amendments proposed by the Committee and referred to the scientific data provided by their technical institutes concerning the characteristics of *Clupea bentincki*.

120. The Commission recognized that there was no consensus on the inclusion of the new species and agreed to return the Proposed Draft Amendment to Step 3 of the Procedure for further consideration by the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products.

#### **REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA<sup>42</sup>**

##### ***Draft Asian Regional Guidelines for Codex Contact Points and National Codex Committees***

121. The Commission was informed that the Coordinating Committee for Asia at its 11<sup>th</sup> Session had decided to advance the Draft Guidelines to Step 8 for adoption as Asian Regional Guidelines to serve as reference examples and had proposed core functions of Codex Contact Points for further development by the Committee for General Principles (see also para. 72). It was also informed that due to different governmental systems, the Guidelines may not be applicable in other regions.

122. The Delegations of the Republic of Korea was opposed to the adoption of the Draft Guidelines on the basis that the structure described in the Guidelines was too rigid and that the Core Functions of Codex Contact Points<sup>43</sup> as adopted by the Commission provided better and more general guidance. The Commission decided to incorporate the Preamble from the Core Functions of Codex Contact Points into the Draft Guidelines to cover these concerns.

123. The Commission **adopted** the Draft Asian Regional Guidelines at Step 8 and agreed to distribute them to the Member countries in the Asian Region for information when establishing Codex Contact Points and/or National Codex Committees.

#### **FOOD LABELLING<sup>44</sup>**

##### ***Draft Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods***

124. The Commission noted the proposals from the Delegations of Malaysia and Chile to include additional products in the list of *Permitted Substances for the Production of Organic Foods* and recalled that the lists were not all inclusive nor exclusive but rather provided advice to governments on internationally agreed inputs, and that Criteria for the Development of Lists of Substances by Countries were included in Section 5.1, proposed for adoption as part of the Draft Guidelines.

125. The Observer from the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) recalled its participation in the development of the Guidelines and informed the Committee that the IFOAM standards also covered animal production and aquaculture. The Observer from Rural Advancement Foundation International stressed the importance of organic production and expressed its appreciation to the Committee on Food Labelling for its considerable work on difficult issues and its constructive approach due

<sup>42</sup> ALINORM 99/11, Appendix II; ALINORM 99/21, Part I, Table 1.

<sup>43</sup> Annex 4 of ALINORM 99/10, Part II.

<sup>44</sup> ALINORM 99/22 and 99/22A, ALINORM 99/21 Part 1-Add.3 (comments of Brazil, Denmark, United Kingdom, International Peanut Forum, International Federation of Margarine Associations-IFMA, European Dairy Association-EDA) CAC/LIM 5 (Spain, Association des Amidonneries de Céréales de l'UE-AAC, Seed Crushers and Oils Producers' Association- FEDIOL), CAC/LIM 10 (Malaysia), CAC/LIM 11 (International Association of Food Consumers' Associations- IACFO) CAC/LIM 14 (Italy).



to the participation of all stakeholders in the decision process. The Observer expressed the view that the Guidelines would need to be reviewed regularly, especially to achieve greater involvement of developing and Eastern European countries.

126. The Commission adopted the Draft Guidelines at Step 8, including Section 5.1 Criteria for the Development of Lists of Substances by Countries. It noted that the Committee would review from time-to-time, proposals to include or delete substances in or from the Permitted List. It also noted that provisions for livestock and livestock products were still under development by the Committee.

***Draft Amendment to the Standard for Quick Frozen Fish Sticks (Fish Fingers), Fish Portions and Fish Fillets, Breaded and in Batter (Declaration Of Fish Core)***

127. The Commission recalled that the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products had asked the advice of the Committee on Food Labelling concerning the requirement to declare the proportion of fish core, and that the Committee had proposed to introduce a requirement for such a declaration in order to provide clear information to the consumer on the quality of the product.

128. The Delegation of Canada expressed its objection to the adoption of the draft amendment at this time, recalling that since the initial proposal had been made, additional issues had been put forward in the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products, especially the definition of fish core and fish content and the methodology for the determination of fish flesh. This position was supported by some countries. The Delegation of France supported the adoption of the amendment as it would provide information on the proportion of fish as compared with batter, and therefore allow the consumer to make an informed choice.

129. There was no consensus on this issue and the Commission agreed to return the Draft Amendment to Step 6 for further consideration by the Committee on Food Labelling to determine the need for labelling requirements and by the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products as regards the technical aspects such as the definition of fish core/fish content and the methodology.

***Draft Recommendations for the Labelling of Foods that can Cause Hypersensitivity (Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods)***

***Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (Composite Ingredients)***

130. The Chairperson of the Committee recalled that work on these recommendations had been initiated to address an important public health issue and expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO for the consideration given to hypersensitivity in the framework of JECFA, which had considered the criteria for the inclusion of foods and food ingredients in the list at its 53<sup>rd</sup> Meeting. The Commission noted that these two amendments were presented separately but should be read in conjunction as an amendment to Section 4 of the General Standard.

131. The WHO Joint Secretary of JECFA informed the Commission that the 53<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of JECFA had considered the criteria for the addition or exclusion of foods from the list and that there was not enough scientific information to reach a conclusion at this stage on the potential allergenicity of highly refined peanut and soybean oils. However, JECFA did not detect any health problems associated with these oils.

132. The Delegation of Argentina, supported by Brazil and other delegations, expressed its objection to the inclusion of highly refined peanut and soybean oils as the allergenic protein fraction was not present in those oils after processing and there was no scientific evidence that they caused allergic reactions. Other delegations and observers pointed out that the categories of foods in the list were too broad and proposed to exclude specific processed products which did not cause hypersensitivity (especially refined oils, starch hydrolysates and milk fat).

133. The Observer from the International Dairy Federation pointed out that there was a special situation in regard to lactose, since lactose could trigger intolerance reactions above a certain level, but it was not an allergenic substance. The Observer requested that this should also be considered.

134. The Delegations of Canada and Norway, supported by other delegations, stressed the importance of this amendment to ensure adequate information to consumers affected with hypersensitivity, while

recognizing the dynamic nature of the list which would be reviewed in the light of the scientific advice provided by JECFA. The Commission noted the proposal from the Delegation of Australia to add sesame seeds to the list.

135. The Commission agreed to include an amendment proposed by the Secretariat, to the effect that the foods and ingredients concerned “shall always be declared”, without specifying “declared as such”, as this would make it clear that these ingredients should be declared by their names but without any reference to allergenicity.

136. The Delegation of France proposed to include a footnote to specify that the foods which corresponded to the criteria for exclusion defined by JECFA could be excluded from the list; after an exchange of views and taking into account additional wording proposed by the Delegation of Canada and the Observer from Association of European Coeliac Societies, the Commission agreed to append the following footnote to the list:

*“Future additions to and/or deletions from the list will be considered by the Committee on Food Labelling taking into account advice received from JECFA”*

137. The Commission encouraged governments and other interested parties to submit to JECFA data related to the inclusion or exclusion of items on this list and asked that JECFA give high priority to the consideration of such submissions. It requested JECFA to proceed on a priority basis with the evaluation of the potential of allergic reactions from highly refined peanut and soybean oil so that the Committee on Food Labelling could consider this at the earliest opportunity.

138. As regards the amendment to the General Standard on Composite Ingredients (25% Rule), several delegations expressed their support to the reduction of the percentage to 5% as it would represent a significant improvement for affected consumers, especially for allergens not included in the list of ingredients that should always be declared, although it would not solve all problems. The Delegation of Italy expressed its objection to the amendment since it had no scientific justification and would not actually benefit consumers. Some delegations expressed the view that no percentage should be specified and the Commission noted that this question would be further considered in the Committee on Food Labelling.

139. The Delegation of Singapore pointed out that allergenic food ingredients at levels below 5% still constituted a serious health hazard to hypersensitive individuals and suggested that Section 4.2.1.3 of the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods be amended to require the labelling of all food ingredients known to cause allergic reactions. The Delegation of Norway noted that the proposal to include a reference to the list in the first part of Section 4.2.1.3 had been omitted as a result of these two amendments being discussed as separate issues.

140. The Commission adopted the Draft Amendments to the General Standard at Step 8 as follows: the Draft Recommendations (List of Food and Ingredients) with the addition of the footnote, and the Draft Amendment on Composite Ingredients (25% Rule amended to 5%) as proposed by the Committee on Food Labelling.

## **PESTICIDE RESIDUES**

### ***Draft Maximum Residue Limits at Step 8<sup>45</sup> and Proposed Draft Maximum Residue Limits at Step 5/8<sup>46</sup>***

141. The Commission noted that the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues had been using chronic dietary exposure estimation in its decision making on MRLs since 1989 following the methodology contained in the Guidelines for Predicting Dietary Intake of Pesticide Residues<sup>47</sup>, which were revised in

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<sup>45</sup> ALINORM 99/24, Appendix II; ALINORM 99/24A, Appendix II; ALINORM 99/21, Part I, Table 1; ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 1, Table 1; LIM 9 (comments from Consumers International); LIM 13 (comments from European Community).

<sup>46</sup> ALINORM 99/24, Appendix IV; ALINORM 99/24A, Appendix IV; ALINORM 99/21, Part I, Table 2; ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 1, Table 2; LIM 9 (comments from Consumers International); LIM 13 (comments the European Community).

<sup>47</sup> Guidelines for Predicting Dietary Intake of Pesticide Residues, WHO, Geneva (1989).

1997<sup>48</sup>. It also noted that there had been close and effective cooperation and interaction between the Committee and JMPR.

#### Organophosphorus Pesticides

142. The Observer from the European Community, in commenting on the Draft MRLs for acephate, methamidophos, methidathion and phorate, expressed the view that until acute dietary intake assessments demonstrated that risks were acceptable, these MRLs should not be adopted. Several delegations requested that acute reference doses be established by JMPR for all organophosphates as well as for carbamates.

143. The Observer from Consumers International referring to vulnerable populations, such as infants and children, and issues related to common mechanisms of toxicity, stated that until such time as a methodology for short-term exposure assessment was developed, MRLs for organophosphates should not be adopted, and expressed particular concern regarding chlorpyrifos in citrus and methidathion in grapes and pears.

144. The Commission was informed that the Committee on Pesticide Residues had already been aware of the concerns about potential acute risks of these compounds and about potential adverse effects on infants and children, and taken notice of national and regional initiatives in these areas. The Committee had agreed in 1998 that since there was no internationally agreed methodology for acute dietary exposure assessment, its decisions should be based on chronic dietary exposure assessment. It would consider methodologies for assessing acute risk at its next Session.

145. The Commission noted that JMPR was elaborating guidelines for establishing acute reference doses and had recommended acute reference doses for certain pesticides. JMPR would also consider acute risk assessment methodologies this year.

#### Dithiocarbamates

146. The Delegation of Singapore was opposed to the adoption of the Draft MRLs for dithiocarbamates as, in its view, the Draft MRLs were too widely varied and did not properly reflect public health concerns. The Commission noted that Codex MRLs for pesticides were based on trial data following good agricultural practices authorized by national governments but not initially on public concerns; however, proposed MRLs were evaluated for potential exposure and compared against the Acceptable Daily Intake to ensure that they were suitable for the protection of the health of consumers.

147. The Observer from the European Community expressed the view that these MRLs should not be adopted since there was no appropriate method of analysis for ziram to enable effective monitoring and establishment of separate MRLs for two groups of compounds, that were of different toxicological characteristics but currently included in the combined list of dithiocarbamates. The Commission was informed that dithiocarbamates had been fully reviewed by JMPR in a step-wise manner since 1992, and the consensus had been reached on these MRLs at the Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues in 1999 after three years of extensive discussions. The Committee and JMPR would continue to review dithiocarbamates as new data became available including specific methods of analysis.

#### Thiabendazole

148. The Observer from the European Community expressed the view that until the residue definition for animal products were reconsidered, the MRL for poultry meat should not be adopted.

#### Diquat

149. The Observer from the European Community was of the opinion that as the residue data and their review had not been satisfactorily reported in the JMPR publications and as intake concerns in particular on cereals had not properly been addressed, the MRLs for diquat should not be adopted.

150. The Commission **adopted** the MRLs at Step 8, omitting Steps 6 and 7 where necessary, and noting reservations of Singapore on the MRLs for dithiocarbamates.

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<sup>48</sup>

Guidelines for Predicting Dietary Intake of Pesticide Residues, WHO, Geneva (1997).

***Draft Revised Recommended Methods of Sampling for Pesticide Residues for Determination of Compliance with MRLs***<sup>49</sup>

151. The Commission **adopted** the Draft Revised Recommended Methods of Sampling at Step 8 to replace the existing Methods of Sampling.

***COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES***

***Guidelines for the Use of Nutrient Claims: Draft Table of Conditions for Nutrient Contents (part B)***<sup>50</sup>

152. Several delegations expressed reservations on the expression of nutrient content as a percentage of the Nutrient Reference Value (NRV) and in relation to the use of “serving sizes”. It was also pointed out that there had been no evident consensus on the expressions “source” or “high source” of nutrients at the level of the Committee. The Commission noted, however, that Nutrient Reference Values were defined in the adopted Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling (CAC/GL 2-1985, Rev.1-1993).

153. The Commission agreed to return Part B of the Draft Table of Conditions for Nutrient Contents of the Guidelines for the Use of Nutrient Claims to Step 6 for further comments and consideration by the Committee.

***REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA***

***Draft Revised Guidelines for the Design of Control Measures for Street-Vended Foods in Africa***<sup>51</sup>

154. The Commission adopted the Draft Revised Guidelines at Step 8 as proposed.

***RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS***

***Draft Maximum Residue Limits at Step 8, and Proposed Draft Maximum Residue Limits at Step 5/8***<sup>52, 53</sup>

155. The Commission noted that in response to the request of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods made at its 11<sup>th</sup> Session, a meeting between experts of the JECFA and JMPR had been convened in February 1999 to resolve differences in residue definitions, commodity definitions and related matters, including cypermethrin/ $\alpha$ -cypermethrin MRLs, to ensure harmonization and consistency between the JECFA and JMPR when considering chemicals that were used both as veterinary drugs and pesticides. Based on the outcome of that meeting, the Chair of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods proposed not to consider the Draft MRLs at Step 8 for cypermethrin and  $\alpha$ -cypermethrin at this Session. The Commission also noted the need for a uniform approach to the treatment of chemicals that were isomers or mixtures of isomers.

156. The Commission **adopted** the Draft MRLs at Step 8 except those for cypermethrin and  $\alpha$ -cypermethrin, and the Proposed Draft MRLs at both Steps 5 and 8 with omission of Steps 6 and 7. The Commission **agreed** not to consider the MRLs for cypermethrin and  $\alpha$ -cypermethrin pending their review by JECFA in February 2000. It noted that the full MRLs for moxidectin in deer tissues replaced their respective temporary MRLs adopted at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Commission.

157. The Commission **requested** the JECFA and JMPR to give further consideration on discrepancies between their recommendations on MRLs, residue definitions, and related matters as these problems were rather of a generic nature.

<sup>49</sup> ALINORM 99/24A, Appendix III; ALINORM 99/21, Part I, Table 1; LIM 16 (comments from China).

<sup>50</sup> ALINORM 99/26, Appendix II; ALINORM 99/21 Part 1-Add.3 (Comments of Japan, Republic of Korea, Spain).

<sup>51</sup> ALINORM 99/28, Appendix II; ALINORM 99/21 Part 1-Add.3 (comments of Egypt).

<sup>52</sup> ALINORM 99/31, Appendices II & III; ALINORM 99/21, Part I, Tables 1 & 2; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from South Africa and Spain); LIM 5 (comments from Australia); LIM 13 (comments from European Community).

<sup>53</sup> Except the MRLs for bovine somatotropins (see paras. 75-80).

**FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES<sup>54</sup>****Draft Standard for Guavas****Draft Standard for Chayotes****Draft Standard for Longans**

158. The Commission adopted the Draft Codex Standards at Step 8 as proposed.

**Draft Standard for Limes****Draft Standard for Pummelos (*Citrus grandis*)****Draft Standard for Grapefruits (*Citrus paradisi*)**

159. The Commission adopted the Draft Codex Standards for Limes, Pummelos (*Citrus grandis*) and Grapefruits at Step 8, with the understanding that the sections into square brackets (Section 2.1.2 – Minimum Juice Content and Section 3 – Provisions concerning Sizing for Limes and Section 3 – Provisions concerning Sizing for Pummelos (*Citrus grandis*) and Grapefruits (*Citrus paradisi*)) would be returned to Step 6 for further consideration and finalization at the next Committee's Session. With regard to the Draft Codex Standard for Pummelos, the Commission had an exchange of views on the divergences related to the common name of this produce in different regions of the world and that an acceptable compromise for all countries concerned should be reached in order to allow them to market this produce while preventing confusion in international trade. The Delegation of Spain noted that the *Codex Standard for Canned Grapefruits* (CODEX STAN 15-1981), ISO Standard 1990-1:1982 *Fruits - Nomenclature, First List, Trilingual Edition* and the UN/ECE Standard FFV-14 *Citrus Fruit* all provided guidance in the scientific nomenclature of these products.<sup>55</sup> In view of this, the Commission agreed to make reference to the scientific name of the fruit *Citrus grandis* in the title of the Standard.

**Draft Standard for Pineapples**

160. The Delegation of Malaysia, supported by a number of delegations, proposed to reduce the current level of total soluble solids from 12° Brix to 10°, as this corresponded to certain varieties marketed in international trade as well as satisfying consumer's preferences. However, several delegations stressed that a value of 12° Brix was a minimum to ensure the maturity of the fruit.<sup>56</sup> The Delegation of the Philippines proposed that a footnote be inserted to indicate that 10° Brix was acceptable for certain varieties. The Commission agreed to retain the value of 12° Brix and therefore, it adopted the Draft Codex Standard for Pineapples at Step 8 as proposed, on the understanding that the Brix level would be further discussed at the next Session of the Committee.

**Proposed Draft Standard for Mexican Limes****Proposed Draft Standard for Ginger**

161. The Commission agreed to adopt the Proposed Draft Codex Standards for Mexican Limes and Ginger at Step 8, with the omission of Steps 6 and 7.

**Proposed Draft Standards for Tiquisque (White and Lilac), Yellow Pitahayas and Papaya**

162. The Commission decided not to omit Steps 6 and 7 in the case of the Proposed Draft Codex Standards for Tiquisque (White and Lilac), Yellow Pitahayas and Papaya and adopted these texts at Step 5 only, advancing them to Step 6. It was noted that these produce were relatively new in countries of temperate zones and time was needed to consider all the aspects of the Standards and therefore, it was preferable to follow all the steps of the Procedure and to consider them further at the next Session of the

<sup>54</sup> ALINORM 99/21-Part I, ALINORM 99/21 Part I-Corrigendum, ALINORM 99/21 Part 1-Add.4, ALINORM 99/21-Add.3 (Comments from Cameroon, Germany, Guinea and Spain), CAC/LIM 5 (Comments from Spain), CAC/LIM 10 (Comments from Thailand and Malaysia)

<sup>55</sup> Secretariat note: The Codex, ISO and UN/ECE Standards define Grapefruits (Pomelos in Spanish) as *Citrus paradisi* Macfarlane.

<sup>56</sup> Letter from the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

Committee since there was no particular urgency to finalize them. The Delegation of Mexico pointed out that the Proposed Draft Standard for Papaya was a revision of an existing text.

### **FATS AND OILS<sup>57</sup>**

#### ***Draft Standard for Named Vegetable Oils***

163. The Delegation of the Philippines expressed the view that certain values in Table 3 of the Draft Standard (Levels of Desmethylsterols) should be revised, as recent data obtained in the Philippines showed lower levels of cholesterol. The delegation also referred to the point raised by the Delegation of Malaysia during the last session of the Committee concerning the inconsistencies in the expression of desmethylsterols as compared with tocopherols and tocotrienols<sup>58</sup>. The Chairman of the Committee on Fats and Oils indicated that these questions could be discussed further in the Committee as part of the regular updating of the Standard. The Commission adopted the Draft Standard at Step 8.

#### ***Draft Standard for Named Animal Fats***

#### ***Draft Revised Standard for Fats and Oils not covered by Individual Standards***

164. The Committee adopted the Draft Standards as proposed by the Committee on Fats and Oils.

#### ***Draft Revised Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk***

165. The Commission adopted the Draft Code at Step 8.

166. The Chairman of the Committee on Fats and Oils expressed his appreciation to the Committee for its considerable work and constructive approach, which had allowed the Committee to achieve consensus in the updating of the Standards and the Code of Practice.

### **SUGARS**

#### ***Draft Revised Standard for Sugars<sup>59</sup>***

167. The Commission noted that the Draft Revised Standard had been elaborated through correspondence. Since the maximum levels for arsenic and lead had not been endorsed by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants on the basis that this Committee had not finalized its work on developing general maximum levels for these elements, the Chair of the Committee on Sugars proposed to delete the values of maximum levels for arsenic and lead pending the completion of this work. He also proposed to add the term “on a dry basis” in the description of lactose for clarification. These proposals were agreed to by the Commission.

168. The Delegation of Mauritius, while supporting the adoption of the Draft Standard, proposed amendments to the descriptions of raw cane sugar and soft sugars to increase clarity of these descriptions. A number of countries supported these proposals. However, since these amendments were substantial and would require further and thorough consideration, the Commission agreed to circulate them to Member countries for comments.

169. Other issues raised include: inclusion of new methods for arsenic, colour, sulphur dioxide and inverted sugars; reduction of the maximum levels of sulphur dioxide in white sugar, powdered sugar, dextrose anhydrous, dextrose monohydrate, powdered dextrose and fructose from 15 mg/kg to 10 mg/kg; lack of a method of analysis for determining polarization of powdered sugar to which starch had been added;

<sup>57</sup> ALINORM 99/17, ALINORM 99/21 Part 1-Add.3 (comments of UNEGA), CAC/LIM 5 (Spain), CAC/LIM 15 (Philippines)

<sup>58</sup> ALINORM 99/17, para. 60

<sup>59</sup> ALINORM 99/25; ALINORM 99/21, Part I, Table 1; ALINORM 99/21, Part I-Add.3 (comments from France, India, Mauritius, New Zealand, South Africa, Spain, Association des amidonneries de cereales de l'UE, Comité européen des fabricants de sucre, International Dairy Federation, International Federation of Glucose Industries, and World Sugar Research Organization); ALINORM 99/21, Part I Addendum 4 (Status of Endorsement); LIM 5 (comments from Brazil, Ireland, Jamaica); LIM 10 (comments from European Community).

and discrepancies in Table 1. Those countries proposing new methods for inclusion in this Standard were invited to send them directly to the Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling for consideration for endorsement.

170. Noting that the existing Standards for sugars were rather obsolete and did not address those concerns expressed at this Session, the Commission **adopted** the Draft Revised Standard with the following amendments:

- Insertion of the term “on a dry basis” after the term “99.0%” in the description of lactose;
- Deletion of the values for maximum levels for arsenic and lead;
- Insertion of the term “or to powdered sugar (icing sugar) to which starch has been added” at the end of footnote “a” in Table 1.

This Standard would replace the existing Standards for White Sugar, Powdered Sugar (Icing Sugar), Soft Sugars, Dextrose Anhydrous, Dextrose Monohydrate, Powdered Dextrose (Icing Dextrose), Glucose Syrup, Dried Glucose Syrup, Lactose, and Fructose. It was noted that maximum levels for arsenic and lead would be considered by the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants as a matter of priority.

171. The Commission **agreed** that the proposed amendments of Mauritius and other relevant comments be circulated for comments and consideration for amendments to the adopted Standard.

#### ***FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS***

##### ***Draft Guidelines for the Development of Equivalence Agreements regarding Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems<sup>60</sup>***

172. The Commission noted that the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Commission (1995) had approved the elaboration of the Guidelines and that there had been a consensus at the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems to advance the Guidelines to Step 8.

173. The Commission noted problems in the Spanish version of the text raised by the Delegations of Chile and Spain and the Delegations of China, Indonesia and the Republic of Korea expressed their concern that lack of infrastructure in developing countries should be taken into account in developing equivalence agreements.

174. The Observer from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations (IACFO) was of the opinion that the text regarding “an opportunity to comment at an appropriate time” as described in paragraph 37 of the draft text could be misinterpreted to prevent the public from having sufficient time to comment.

175. The Commission adopted the draft Guidelines at Step 8.

#### ***PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS AT STEP 5***

176. The Commission considered a number of Proposed Draft Standards and related texts that had been developed by its subsidiary bodies at Step 5 of the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts. The results of the Commission’s consideration of these Proposed Draft Standards and related texts are presented in tabular form in Appendix VII – Part II of the present report. The following paragraphs of this report provide additional information concerning the discussions that took place on certain items or contain additional decisions taken by the Commission in regard to the adoption of certain texts at Step 5.

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<sup>60</sup> ALINORM 99/30A, Appendix II and Comments from Malaysia, USA, Chile, (ALINORM 99/12, Part I – Add.3) IACFO (CAC/LIM 11)

**PESTICIDE RESIDUES*****Proposed Draft Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides***<sup>61</sup>

177. The Delegation of France stated that the Proposed Extraneous Maximum Residue Limit for DDT in meat was not acceptable. The Observer from European Community supported this view and also requested that an acute risk assessment for chlormequat be performed and that the residue definition for thiobendazole be revised.

178. The Commission adopted the Proposed Draft Extraneous Maximum Residue Limits at Step 5.

**NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES*****Proposed Draft Revised Standard for Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children***<sup>62</sup>

179. The Delegations of Bolivia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, and Tanzania supported by many other delegations, expressed their concern at the introduction of “starchy roots and stems” in the composition of cereal-based foods for infants and young children and also about the age of introduction of these foods as “four to six months”. They desired deletion of “starchy roots and stems” and wanted the age of introduction to be “about six months” so that the interests of infants and young children in the developing world could be protected. The Delegation of Ghana stated that the inclusion of the words “about six months” would support the efforts of developing countries to promote exclusive breast-feeding. The Indian Delegation drew attention to the World Health Assembly Resolution of 1994 and the recent WHO publication “*Complementary Feeding of Young Children in Developing Countries: a review of current scientific knowledge*” (WHO/NUT/98.1) where the age was recommended to be “about six months”.

180. The Representatives from WHO stated that the issue of appropriate duration of exclusive breast feeding and the introduction of complementary feeding was of critical importance for the health and nutritional well-being of infants and children. There had been some misunderstanding about the WHO recommendation in this regard. The current WHO recommendation was that complementary feeding should start at between four and six months of age for most infants. The WHO Representatives stated therefore, that the references to the age range of four to six months in the proposed Draft Revised Standard for Processed Cereal-based Foods for Infants and Young Children (ALINORM 99/26, Appendix IV) were consistent with the current WHO recommendation. The statement of WHO on the recommended age for the introduction of complementary feeding is attached to this report in Appendix V.

181. The Commission decided to return the Proposed Draft Revised Standard to Step 3 for further discussion in the Committee.

182. The following Delegations expressed their opposition to returning the text to Step 3: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States.

**RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS*****Proposed Draft Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs***<sup>63</sup>

183. The Commission noted that the Committee on Pesticide Residues had supported the Maximum Residue Limit for cyfluthrin in milk as recommended by the Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in order to promote harmonization.

184. The Commission adopted the Proposed Draft Maximum Residue Limits as proposed at Step 5.

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<sup>61</sup> ALINORM 99/24, Appendix V

<sup>62</sup> ALINORM 99/26, Appendix IV

<sup>63</sup> ALINORM 99/31, Appendix V



**FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS*****Proposed Draft Maximum Level for Tin***<sup>64</sup>

185. The Commission noted that there had been diverse opinions at the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants and that JECFA had been requested to re-evaluate the acute toxicity of tin. Noting that Codex Standards should be based on available scientific evidence, the Commission decided to hold the Proposed Draft Maximum Level for Tin at Step 5 pending JECFA recommendations.

186. The Delegation of India was of the opinion that there was inconsistency in the decisions on the Proposed Draft Maximum Level for Tin where the draft was held at Step 5 pending the JECFA re-evaluation, and the adoption of a limit for lead in the Standard for Butter (see para. 86) where the JECFA re-evaluation of lead was also pending.

**FOOD LABELLING*****Proposed Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods : Class Names***<sup>65</sup>

187. The Delegation of Spain suggested to utilize a single category for all dairy products in the labelling of prepackaged foods considering current commercial practices and to provide easier understanding for consumers.

188. The Commission adopted the Proposed Draft Amendment at Step 5.

***Proposed Draft Amendment to the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling***<sup>66</sup>

189. Several delegations expressed the view that there had been significant difference of opinion at the Committee level and it would be difficult to implement the Guidelines in their jurisdiction especially with regard to mandatory labelling requirements.

190. The Observer from International Association of Consumer Food Organizations (IACFO) was of the view that nutritional labelling should be mandatory and the decision of the application of such a guideline should be determined by the national authorities, considering regional differences in eating habits and dietary patterns.

191. The Commission agreed to return the Proposed Draft Amendment back to Step 3 for further consideration.

**FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES*****Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Oranges including Guide for Use in Scoring Freezing Injuries***<sup>67</sup>

192. The Delegation of Spain expressed its concern that two type of oranges were in the market based on different marketing systems rather than different climates, as the conditions in some areas of the Mediterranean and other zones were similar to those in the tropics, with no significant variations of the temperature. It was stated that green oranges were not marketed for direct human consumption and any change in the current requirements would cause serious trade problems in different regions. This view was supported by Greece, but the Commission noted that there was production and trade of mature green oranges in other regions.

193. The Commission noted that the matter had been discussed at the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and decided to adopt the Proposed Draft Codex Standard at Step 5 with the square brackets on the provisions concerning colour and sizing.

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<sup>64</sup> ALINORM 99/12A, para. 138

<sup>65</sup> ALINORM 99/22A, Appendix V

<sup>66</sup> ALINORM 99/22A, Appendix VI

<sup>67</sup> ALINORM 99/35A, Appendix X

**REVOCAION OF EXISTING STANDARDS<sup>68</sup>****Revocation of Individual Cheese Standards<sup>69</sup>**

194. The Commission, following the recommendation of the Committee on Milk and Milk Products, revoked the following individual cheese standards:

- Individual Cheese Standard for Cheshire (C-8)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Limburger (C-12)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Svecia (C-14)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Butterkäse (C-17)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Harzer Käse (C-20)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Herrgärdsost (C-21)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Hushällsost (C-22)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Maribo (C-24)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Fynbo (C-25)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Romadur (C-27)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Amsterdam (C-28)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Leidse (C-29)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Friese (C-30)
- Individual Cheese Standard for Edelpilzkäse (C-32)

**Revocation of Certain Obsolete Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides<sup>70</sup>**

195. The Commission revoked certain obsolete MRLs as proposed by the Committee on Pesticide Residues following its regular review of MRLs.

**Revocation of Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs in Foods<sup>71</sup>**

196. The Commission revoked the Codex Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for benzylpenicillin, noting that they would be replaced by the MRLs for benzylpenicillin/procaine benzylpenicillin, and confirmed the decision of the Executive Committee at its 45<sup>th</sup> Session to revoke the MRLs for oxytetracycline in fat of cattle, sheep, pig, chicken and turkey.

**CONSIDERATION OF ENDORSEMENTS TO ADOPTED STANDARDS<sup>72</sup>****Codex Standard for Natural Mineral Waters: Limits for Health Related Substances**

197. The Commission recalled that the levels for health-related substances in the Standard for Natural Mineral Waters had been sent for endorsement to the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants after the adoption of the Standard and that the Committee had decided at its 31<sup>st</sup> Session that these levels should be aligned with the levels in the WHO *Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality*.<sup>73</sup>

<sup>68</sup> ALINORM 99/21, Table 4

<sup>69</sup> ALINORM 99/11, para. 81

<sup>70</sup> ALINORM 99/24, Appendix VI, ALINORM 99/24A, Appendix VI

<sup>71</sup> ALINORM 97/31, para. 28, ALINORM 99/31, para. 32

<sup>72</sup> ALINORM 99/12A, paras. 89-92 and Appendix VI, CAC/LIM 5 (comments of Groupement d'Intérêt des Sources d'Eaux Minérales - UNESEM/GISEM), CAC/LIM 9 (Germany), CAC/LIM 11 (International Association of Food Consumers Associations - IACFO)

<sup>73</sup> *Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality*, Volume 1, Recommendations, WHO, Geneva, 1993

198. The Observer from the European Community expressed the view that the levels for arsenic, barium, manganese and selenium included in the current Standard should be returned to the Committee on Natural Mineral Waters, which should have the opportunity to consider the matter further and provide all relevant scientific data to the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants in order to justify the specific levels for mineral waters. This position was supported by several delegations.

199. The Delegation of the United States, supported by the Delegations of Canada and Malaysia, supported the alignment of the levels with the WHO Guidelines in order to ensure the protection of consumers' health, and stressed that consumers would expect mineral waters to provide at least the level of protection of tap water, especially for substances which pose serious hazards to health such as arsenic. These delegations proposed that in the meantime the WHO levels of contaminants should apply.

200. The Commission recognized that there was no consensus on the endorsement of levels for arsenic, barium, manganese and selenium and agreed that they should be returned for further consideration to the Committee on Natural Mineral Waters as a matter of priority, following which they would be submitted to the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants for endorsement. Except those for arsenic, barium, manganese and selenium, the Commission adopted the limits for health related substances. The Commission noted that WHO was currently preparing a monograph on arsenic and encouraged governments to submit relevant scientific data on these substances. The Commission noted that the published Standard for Natural Mineral Waters would specify that the levels for the above-mentioned elements had not been endorsed by the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS TO ELABORATE NEW STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS (AGENDA ITEM 10)**

##### ***ELABORATION OF NEW STANDARDS<sup>74</sup>***

##### ***Establishment of a data base on importing country legislation<sup>75</sup>***

201. The Delegation of India asked the Commission about the feasibility of the work currently undertaken by the Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems on the establishment of a data base on importing country legislation. The opinion of Legal Council was that the proposed activity did not fall within the mandate of the Commission as expressed in its Statutes and, consequently, was excluded from the Terms of Reference of the said Committee. It was noted that such an activity would fall within the mandates of the parent organizations or WTO.

##### ***Standard on Quantitative Ingredient Declaration<sup>76</sup>***

202. The Commission noted the recommendation of the International Association of Consumer Food Organizations (IACFO) that the Committee on Food Labelling undertake to revise section 5.1 of the Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Food, concerning Quantitative Ingredient Declaration. The Commission agreed that the recommendation be examined by the Committee.

##### ***Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Judgement of Equivalence of Sanitary Measures Associated with Food Inspection and Certification Systems<sup>77</sup>***

203. The Commission noted the observation made by the Delegation of Germany and other countries that it was still premature to bring the work on these Guidelines under the formal Codex Step Procedures and agreed that the Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems should continue to study this item as a discussion paper. As concepts in this area fell within the mandates of other Committees, the discussion paper would need to be circulated to these Committees for their comments.

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<sup>74</sup> Proposals were summarised in Table 1 of ALINORM 99/21, Part II

<sup>75</sup> ALINORM 99/30A, paras 94-99

<sup>76</sup> CAC/LIM 11, pages 5-7

<sup>77</sup> ALINORM 99/30A, para. 81

204. The Delegation of Australia, supported by that of New Zealand, was of the view that having regard to the work priorities of the Commission, work on developing the Guidelines should be started in the Step Procedure and stated that the Step Procedure allowed for adequate consultation.

***Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Utilisation and Promotion of Quality Assurance Systems***<sup>78</sup>

205. The Commission noted the general support for the elaboration of the Guidelines and agreed for a substantive working paper to be presented to the Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems for further examination, noting the comments of several delegations concerning the inadequacy of the paper that was presented at the Committee's last session and concerns regarding the implications of its implementation. The Delegation of Chile expressed concern that such Guidelines could present technical barriers to trade.

***Codex Standards for Apples, Table Grapes and Tomatoes***<sup>79</sup>

206. The Commission, approving the new work for the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables to elaborate Codex Standards for Apples, Table Grapes and Tomatoes, encouraged the Committee, to perform this task in close collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) which had elaborated their own Standards on these products. While avoiding any unnecessary duplication of work, the collaboration would also benefit UNECE by giving international recognition to its Standards.

207. In regard to the work on apples, the Delegation of Switzerland proposed that the Committee should await the revision of the UNECE Standard for Apples to avoid confusion and prevent duplication of work. The Commission felt it appropriate to initiate this work in cooperation with the UNECE during the revision of the UNECE standard.

***Codex Standard for Dried Figs***<sup>80</sup>

208. The Committee noted that the work on the Codex Standard for Dried Figs would be handled by the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables.

***Codex Standard for Instant Noodles***

209. The Delegation of Japan, supported by that of Indonesia, asked about the possibility of reopening the Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes that had been adjourned *sine die*, to develop a Codex Standard for Instant Noodles. The Commission agreed that the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia should first examine the feasibility of such a Standard and elaborate a formal proposal to the Commission.

210. The list of approved new work is contained in Appendix VIII of this report.

***Standard for Honey***

211. The Delegation of the United Kingdom, Host Government of the Codex Committee on Sugars stated that a meeting would be convened either at the end of 1999 or at the beginning of 2000, to discuss the completion of the Draft Revised Standard for Honey.

***DISCONTINUATION OF NEW WORK ITEMS***<sup>81</sup>

212. The Commission decided to discontinue the new work items listed below:

- Broader Issues on the Application of Microbiological Risk Evaluation in International Food and Feed Trade<sup>82</sup>;
- Application of Quality Tolerance at Import<sup>83</sup>;

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<sup>78</sup> ALINORM 99/30A, para. 93

<sup>79</sup> ALINORM 99/35A, para. 186

<sup>80</sup> ALINORM 99/28, para. 77

<sup>81</sup> Proposals were summarised in Table 2 of ALINORM 99/21, Part II

<sup>82</sup> ALINORM 99/13A, para. 95

- Use of Objective Indices of Maturity in Commercial Transaction of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables<sup>84</sup>.

213. The Commission noted the observation of the Delegation of Norway that although the work item of Broader Issues on the Application of Microbiological Risk Evaluation in International Food and Feed Trade would be discontinued, the individual work involved therein would be continued in other work items.

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORTS OF CODEX COMMITTEES (AGENDA ITEM 11)<sup>85</sup>**

### ***CODEX COMMITTEE ON MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS***

#### ***Use of Hydrogen Peroxide for the Preservation of Raw Milk<sup>86</sup>***

214. The Commission noted that the direct addition of hydrogen peroxide for preserving raw milk was included in List C of CAC/FAL 5-1979, which contains those substances the use thereof should be restricted to certain specified uses, and this had caused confusion in the international trade of milk. It further noted that the Commission had adopted at the 19<sup>th</sup> Session in 1991 the Guidelines for the Preservation of Raw Milk by Use of the Lactoperoxidase System<sup>87</sup> which includes a substance that generates hydrogen peroxide at a much lower level than in the case of direct addition. At the time of the adoption at the 19<sup>th</sup> Session, the Commission had emphasized that the lactoperoxidase system should not be used for products intended for international trade and should only be used when refrigeration was not available<sup>88</sup>.

215. The Commission **agreed** that the direct use of hydrogen peroxide was inconsistent with the above Guidelines and was no longer acceptable.

216. The Commission **confirmed**: (a) that the most preferred method of the preservation of raw milk was refrigeration; (b) its approval of the use of the enzymatic activators of the lactoperoxidase system in accordance with the Guidelines for the Preservation of Raw Milk by Use of the Lactoperoxidase System and based on the advice of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives, where refrigeration was not possible; and (c) that the lactoperoxidase system should not be used for products intended for international trade.

### ***CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS***

#### ***Judgement of Equivalence<sup>89</sup>***

217. The Commission agreed with the recommendation of the Executive Committee that the Committee should proceed to develop guidance on the judgement of equivalence of systems for inspections and certification in relation to technical regulations other than sanitary measures in parallel with food safety issues.

### ***OTHER MATTERS***

218. The Commission could not discuss other matters arising from Codex Committees due to time constraints. However, it **agreed** to endorse the recommendations and decisions of the Executive Committee made at its 46<sup>th</sup> Session on these matters as contained in ALINORM 99/4.

<sup>83</sup> ALINORM 99/35, para. 79

<sup>84</sup> ALINORM 99/35, para. 82

<sup>85</sup> ALINORM 99/21, Part III; ALINORM 99/21, Part III Addendum 1; and ALINORM 99/4, paras 17-27.

<sup>86</sup> ALINORM 99/11, para. 96.

<sup>87</sup> CAC/GL 13-1991 (ALINORM 91/13, Appendix X).

<sup>88</sup> ALINORM 91/40, paras 232-234.

<sup>89</sup> ALINORM 99/30A, paras 69-84.

**DESIGNATION OF HOST GOVERNMENTS FOR CODEX COMMITTEES AND AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCES (AGENDA ITEM 12)<sup>90</sup>****REVIEW OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

219. The Commission confirmed the abolition of the Joint UNECE/Codex Groups of Experts on the Standardization of Fruit Juices and on the Standardization of Quick Frozen Foods. It decided that revision of the Codex Standards for quick frozen fruits and vegetables be transferred to the responsibility of the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables. It also decided that any revision of the Recommended International Code of Practice for the Processing and Handling of Quick Frozen Foods that might be required should be undertaken by the Committee on Food Hygiene.

220. The Commission agreed to the abolition of the Committee on Meat and Poultry Products as suggested by the Host Government, Denmark. It noted that the Committee on Vegetable Proteins (Canada) had been requested to undertake a revision of the Codex Standard for Wheat Gluten, upon completion of which the Committee would be abolished. Other Codex Committees adjourned *sine die* were retained for the time being.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SUBSIDIARY BODIES*****Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Fruit Juices***

221. In accordance with its authority contained in Rule IX.1(b)(i), the Commission agreed to establish an *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Fruit Juices with the Terms of References set out in Appendix VI to this report. It agreed to designate the Government of Brazil to be responsible for appointing the Chairperson of the Task Force in compliance with Rule IX.10 of its Rules of Procedure. It was noted that the establishment of such Task Forces would lead to a more flexible structure to handle specific issues for a time-limited period under closely defined terms of reference, but functioning in the same manner as established Codex Committees.

***FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committee for the Near East***

222. The Commission recalled its earlier decision concerning the membership of the Codex Near East Region in the Executive Committee and considered the modalities for the establishment of a Regional Coordinating Committee and the appointment of a Coordinator for that Region (see paras. 6 and 60, above).

223. The Delegation of Nigeria expressed concern that some countries might have the possibility to exercise their voting rights in two different regions, which might not be consistent with equal treatment of all member countries, and proposed that the status of members and observers should be clarified before the new Coordinating Committee become operational.

224. The FAO Legal Counsel indicated that FAO Member countries could participate as members in more than one regional group, but that they had to choose to which region they belonged as members for the purposes of participation in FAO Council; they could not stand for election in two groups and the same principle should apply to the Codex Coordinating Committees. The Legal Counsel proposed that the Commission adopt the proposed Terms of Reference with the understanding that Member countries could not be eligible for Representatives or appointed as Coordinator in two Regions at the same time. The Commission noted that participation in different regional groups was a general question which could be considered by the Committee on General Principles at a later date.

225. The Commission agreed to establish, under Rule IX.1 (b)(ii) a Regional Coordinating Committee for the Near East under the Terms of Reference presented in Appendix VI, for inclusion in the Procedural Manual.

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<sup>90</sup> ALINORM 99/16, ALINORM 99/16-Add.1, ALINORM 99/4 paras. 28-32, CAC/LIM 18 and CAC/LIM 20.

***Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology***

226. The Delegation of Japan introduced draft Terms of Reference for the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology<sup>91</sup> elaborated by a drafting group that had met during the Commission Session.

227. The Commission agreed to establish the Task Force to develop standards, guidelines or other recommendations on foods derived from biotechnology. It agreed also to designate the Government of Japan to be responsible for appointing the Chairperson of the Task Force in conformity with Rule IX.10 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure. The Delegation of Japan informed the Commission that the first meeting of the Task Force would be convened during the first half of the year 2000, its precise date and venue being decided following consultations with the Codex Secretariat. It was recalled that the Task Force would be open for all members and observers of the Commission.

228. Under the discussions on the Terms of Reference, some delegations mentioned that the objectives should be broadly defined while others were of the opinion they should be restricted to safety and nutrition aspects in order to meet the timeframe set down for the Task Force. The Commission decided to adopt the Terms of Reference as drafted by the drafting group on an interim basis with the understanding that the Task Force might review them at its first meeting if required. The Terms of Reference are given in Appendix VI.

229. The Representative of WHO informed the Commission that a Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation would be convened prior to the first session of the Task Force to support the work of the Task Force.

***Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Good Animal Feeding***

230. The Commission noted the recommendation of the 46<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee concerning the urgent need for the Commission to develop international guidelines or recommendations which addressed all the issues relating to animal feeding and that the new mechanism of an ad hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force would be an appropriate means of achieving this goal. Several delegations supported the establishment of such a Task Force in view of the great importance attached to consumers' health and practices in international trade. In consequence, the Commission agreed to establish an *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Good Animal Feeding under Rule IX.1(b)(i) of its Procedure. The Secretariat presented draft Terms of Reference prepared by the Delegation of Denmark as set out in Appendix VI of the present Report. The Commission agreed to designate the Government of Denmark to be responsible for appointing the Chairperson of the Task Force in compliance with Rule IX.10 of its Rules of Procedure.

***CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRMANSHIP OF CODEX COMMITTEES***

231. In accordance with the Rule IX.10 of the Rules of Procedures, the Commission confirmed the chairmanship of the Codex Committees hosted by Member governments as listed in Appendix IX.

**OTHER BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEM 13)*****LANGUAGE POLICIES OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION***

232. The Commission noted the earlier discussions held on this matter (see paras. 10). It also took note of the provisions of Rule XII of its Rules of Procedure. On this basis, it agreed as a first step that, subject to availability of resources, beginning with the biennium 2000/2001, future Sessions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Executive Committee and Regional Coordinating Committees as appropriate, would be held in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish. Working papers and reports for these Sessions, the Procedural Manual, information documents, and final Codex texts would also be made available in all five languages.

233. The Commission noted the view of the FAO Council that the availability of resources should not act as a restraint on the implementation of equal treatment of all languages in FAO and its statutory bodies, which included the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

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<sup>91</sup>

234. The Delegations of Spain and Chile referring to the Spanish language, and the Delegation of Senegal referring to the French language, drew attention to current difficulties in providing timely distribution of Codex documents in these languages and to the quality of translation of some of these documents and called upon the Secretariat to give urgent attention to addressing these problems.

#### **DIOXINS**

235. The Delegation of Belgium provided the Commission with information concerning the incident that had resulted in wide-spread concern among consumers and disruption in international trade, due to the contamination of poultry, cattle and pigs and derived products with dioxin and dioxin-like PCBs. It was noted that the contamination was due to a single incident and that measures had been taken to withdraw contaminated produce from the market and prohibit the marketing or export of foods from affected farms.

236. The Delegations of the Republic of Korea and The Philippines stated that the incident had drawn attention to the lack of adequate Codex guidance on an acceptable limit for the presence of dioxin in foods and called on the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants to give urgent and priority consideration to this work. The Chairperson of the Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants noted that work on dioxins had been re-commenced in 1999, and requested Members to provide the Committee with data that would allow the establishment of an appropriate guideline or maximum level.

237. The Commission noted that the incident also drew attention to the lack of suitable Codex guidance on the nature of measures to be applied at import and export under such circumstances. It noted the *Codex Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Control Emergency Situations* (CAC/GL 19-1995). The Secretariat suggested that the Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems might consider what guidance could be developed to assist Member countries in the event of similar future unforeseen emergencies.

238. The Representative of WHO noted that risk communication was of particular importance during times of crisis and drew attention to the need for all countries to be prepared for such situations. He noted that Strategies for Risk Communication during a food safety crisis were provided in the Report of a Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation in "Application of Risk Communication to Food Standards and Safety Matters".<sup>92</sup>

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<sup>92</sup> See FAO Food and Nutrition Paper no. 70.



**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix/Annexe/Apéndice I**

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Les chefs de délégation figurent en tête et les suppléants et conseillers sont énumérés en ordre alphabétique.

Figuran en primar lugar los Jefes de las delegaciones, los Suplentes y Asesores aparecen par orden alfabético.

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**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix II****MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR 1998 TO 2002****GENERAL APPROACHES AND ISSUES**

1. The general approach taken in the preparation of the Medium-Term Plan for the period realistically takes into account the financial situations facing the parent organizations and the UN system-wide desire for simplification and streamlining of existing structures. The emphasis on horizontal issues laid down by the Commission in recent years provides a satisfactory basis for this streamlining. Overall improvements in the procedures for decision-making and the acceptance of standards and related texts will be developed.

2. The world's food security needs stretching into the mid-21<sup>st</sup> Century were the focus of the World Food Summit, Rome, November 1996. The International Conference on Nutrition, 1992, stressed the importance of improved food quality and safety as a means of improving nutrition. The efficient use of sustainable agricultural resources and improvements in agricultural production efficiencies and food processing and marketing practices by all available safe technologies must be assured. In the Medium-Term, therefore, high priority should be given to science-based standards, guidelines and other recommendations aimed at enhancing protection of consumers' health and removing unjustified impediments to trade in food produced and marketed by such means. Nevertheless, buyers who wish to have access to foods produced or processed by alternative methods should have adequate information and assurances that such alternative conditions have indeed been applied. Labelling and certification procedures for such alternative products may need to be considered in parallel with the development of guidelines for new production and processing technologies for mainstream food products, where these are deemed necessary.

3. Among other general issues which are included, the integration of risk analysis principles into the Codex decision-making process should be completed in the period by introducing necessary changes to the Procedures for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts, the General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius, and the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities. Specific guidance on the application of risk analysis principles should be provided to Codex Committees on one hand and to Member Governments on the other: the former guidance to be included in the Procedural Manual, the latter in the Codex Alimentarius itself. The challenges facing developing countries in applying risk analysis principles will need to be taken into consideration. Guidance will be developed for the identification, management, application and interpretation of legitimate factors other than science relevant to the health protection of consumers and for the promotion of fair practices in the food trade. Risk communication principles will be incorporated into the risk analysis framework and probably in food labelling requirements.

4. Continued priority should be given to the Commission's horizontal science-based work in the areas of food additives, contaminants, pesticide and veterinary drug residues, food hygiene, food labelling and nutrition. Consideration should be given to the development of standards in these areas for foods derived from biotechnology or traits introduced into foods by biotechnology, where this is scientifically justified. Trade-related issues between governments of food inspection and certification and determination of equivalence and appropriate methods of analysis and sampling will also remain priority areas.

5. In the period 1998 to 2002 it will be proposed that the Commission will continue to reduce its work on commodity-specific standards in favour of horizontal or general standards. The modernisation of existing commodity standards, begun in 1993, and the transfer of material from commodity standards to applicable general standards should be completed in this period. The medium-term period should also see clarification of the relationship between the Commission and the World Trade Organisation's Committees on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee) and on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Committee) especially insofar as notification of the use of standards or acceptance of standards is concerned.

6. The period should also see a significant increase in the use of electronic transmission of documents and storage of archival material. Cooperation with private-sector institutions and associations which is now an integral part of UN system-wide programming can also provide the Codex Alimentarius Commission with ways to facilitate the dissemination of Codex information and support the costs of archiving existing documentation.

7. Improvements in assuring transparency, the need to improved participation of non-governmental organizations as observers in the Codex decision-making process, and the need to take the views of these organizations into account when defining areas of work have been included in the Medium-Term Plan.

### MEDIUM-TERM PLAN 1998 - 2002

Programme area	Medium-Term Objectives
General principles and rules of procedure	Integration of risk analysis principles into Codex procedures. Improved guidelines for participation of international non-government organizations. Improved procedures for decision-making and consideration of acceptance of standards. Consideration of special or more flexible conditions which may apply to developing countries in the acceptance and application of standards.
Application of policy principles for risk management	Guidelines on the application and interpretation in risk management of legitimate factors other than science relevant to the health protection of consumers and for the promotion of fair practices in the food trade. Completion of the General Standard for the Use of Food Additives; General Standard for Contaminants in Foods. Maintenance of up-dated MRLs for Pesticides and Veterinary Drugs Residues and extension to coverage of products of particular interest to developing countries. Application of risk analysis principles for control of specific microbiological food-borne hazards.
Food production and processing systems	Establishment of principles for the use of safe technologies in food production, processing and handling including those for specific food sectors. Consideration of standards, guidelines or other recommendations as appropriate for foods derived from biotechnology or traits introduced into foods by biotechnology on the basis of scientific evidence and risk analysis and having regard, where appropriate, to other legitimate factors relevant for the health protection of consumers and the promotion of fair practices in food trade. Continued development of guidelines for food quality and safety management systems. Consideration of application of standards and related texts by small and medium-scale enterprises, especially in developing countries.
Equivalence, mutual recognition and quality assurance of food control systems	Guidelines on equivalence and mutual recognition of testing procedures, inspection and certification systems. Recommendations on optimising control systems by official and voluntary quality assurance schemes.
Nutrition and consumer information	Review of the basis for nutrition requirements and relevant food labelling requirements in light of scientific evidence, risk analysis and legitimate factors other than science relevant to the health protection of consumers and for the promotion of fair practices in the food trade and consumer information. Guidelines on claims and certification procedures for alternative production processes. Integration of food labelling and nutrition requirements.
Commodity standards	Finalization of revision/simplification of Codex Commodity Standards. Elaboration of specific Commodity Standards where justified.
Strengthening Transparency	Establish general recommendations to improve the transparency of

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Programme area	Medium-Term Objectives
Publication	Codex decision-making. Develop guidelines on the procedures for granting observer status to international non-governmental organizations in Codex Alimentarius. Procedures for the full availability to be made of results of Codex decisions to interested parties. Continuing effort to take into account the views of international non-governmental organizations while defining areas of work.
Administration	Transfer of the contents of the Codex Alimentarius to the World Wide Web. Transfer of Codex archives to electronic form (external funding).

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**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix III**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**RULE II - OFFICERS**

Amend the following<sup>93</sup>:

- 4.(a) The Commission may appoint a Coordinator from among ~~the delegates of the Member of the Commission~~ **the Members of the Commission** for any of the geographic locations enumerated in Rule III.1 (hereinafter referred to as “regions”) or for any group of countries specifically enumerated by the Commission (hereinafter referred to as ‘groups of countries’), whenever it may find, on the basis of a proposal of a majority of the Members of the Commission which constitute the region or group, that work for the Codex Alimentarius in the countries concerned so requires.
- 4.(b) Appointment of Coordinators shall be made exclusively on the proposal of a majority of the Members of the Commission which constitute the region or group of countries concerned. Coordinators shall hold office from the end of the session of the Commission at which they were ~~elected~~ **appointed** until not later than the end of the third succeeding regular session, the precise term being determined by the Commission in each instance. After having served two consecutive terms, the Coordinators shall be ineligible to hold such office for the next succeeding term.

4.(d) Delete

Add new 4.(d) to read as follows:

4.(d) In order to carry out their functions, Coordinators shall participate in the Executive Committee as Observers.

4.(e) Delete

**Rule IX.7 (consequential amendment)**

..and in the case of bodies established under Rule IX.1(b)(ii), after consultation with the Coordinator for the region or group of countries concerned, if any ~~or with the Chairperson of the Coordinating Committee~~.

**Rule IX.10 (consequential amendment)**

The Members who shall be responsible for appointing Chairpersons of subsidiary bodies established under Rule IX.1(b)(i) **and Rule IX.1(b)(ii)** shall be designated at each session by the Commission...

**RULE III.1 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission together with ~~six~~ **seven** further members, elected by the Commission at regular sessions from among the Members of the Commission, one each coming from the following geographic locations: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, **Near East**, North America, South-West Pacific; it being understood that not more than one delegate from any one country shall be a member of the Executive Committee. Members elected on a geographic basis shall hold office from the end of the session of the Commission at which they were elected until the end of the second succeeding regular session and shall be eligible for re election, but after having served two consecutive terms shall be ineligible to hold such office for the next succeeding term.

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<sup>93</sup> Deletions are marked by text ~~struck out~~ and additions by text in **bold**.

***RULE X – ELABORATION AND ADOPTION OF STANDARDS***

1. Subject to the provisions of these Rules of Procedure, the Commission may establish the procedures for the elaboration of world-wide standards and of standards for a given region or group of countries, and when necessary, amend such procedures.
2. **The Commission shall make every effort to reach agreement on the adoption or amendment of standards by consensus. Decisions to adopt or amend standards may be taken by voting only if such efforts to reach consensus have failed.**

**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix IV****AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL****CRITERIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WORK PRIORITIES**

When a Codex Committee proposes to elaborate a standard, code of practice or related text within its terms of reference, it should first consider the priorities established by the Commission in the Medium-Term Plan of Work, any specific relevant strategic project currently being undertaken by the Commission and the prospect of completing the work within a reasonable period of time. It should also assess the proposal against the criteria set out below.

If the proposal falls in an area outside the Committee's terms of reference the proposal should be reported to the Commission in writing together with proposals for such amendments to the Committee's terms of reference as may be required.

**1 CRITERIA*****CRITERIA APPLICABLE TO GENERAL SUBJECTS***

- (i) Consumer protection from the point of view of health and fraudulent practices.
- (ii) Diversification of national legislations and apparent resultant or potential impediments to international trade.
- (iii) Scope of work and establishment of priorities between the various sections of the work.
- (iv) Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field.

***CRITERIA APPLICABLE TO COMMODITIES***

- (i) Consumer protection from the point of view of health and fraudulent practices.
  - (ii) Volume of production and consumption in individual countries and volume and pattern of trade between countries.
  - (iii) Diversification of national legislations and apparent resultant or potential impediments to international trade.
  - (iv) International or regional market potential.
  - (v) Amenability of the commodity to standardization.
  - (vi) Coverage of the main consumer protection and trade issues by existing or proposed general standards.
  - (vii) Number of commodities which would need separate standards indicating whether raw, semi processed or processed.
  - (viii) Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field.
-

## CRITERIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

When there is a proposal for the elaboration of a standard, code of practice or related text in an area not covered by the terms of reference of any existing subsidiary body<sup>94</sup>, or the revision of standards, codes of practice or other texts elaborated by subsidiary bodies adjourned *sine die*, such a proposal should be accompanied by a written statement to the Commission explaining its justification in light of the Commission's Medium-Term Objectives and containing, as far as practicable, the information contained in the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities.

Should the Commission decide to establish a Subsidiary Body for the purpose of elaborating an appropriate draft standard or related text or for the purpose of revising an existing standard(s) or related text(s), first consideration should be given to the establishment of an *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force under Rule IX.1(a) of the Commission's Rules of Procedure under the following conditions:

### TERMS OF REFERENCE:

- the terms of reference of the proposed *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force shall be limited to the immediate task at hand and normally shall not be subsequently modified;
- the terms of reference shall clearly state the objective(s) to be achieved by the establishment of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force;
- the terms of reference shall clearly state either (i) the number of sessions to be convened, or (ii) the date (year) by which the work is expected to be completed, which in any case shall not exceed five years;

### REPORTING:

The *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force shall report to the Codex Alimentarius Commission and to the Executive Committee on the progress of its work. The reports of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force shall be transmitted to all Members of the Commission and interested international organization.

### OPERATING EXPENSES:

No provision shall be made concerning the operating expenditures of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force in the estimate of expenditures of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, except insofar as costs involved in preparatory work are recognized as operating expenses of the Commission in accordance with Article 10 of its Statutes.

### HOST GOVERNMENT ARRANGEMENTS:

The Commission, at the time of the establishment of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force shall ascertain that there will be appropriate host government arrangements adequate to ensure the functioning of the Task Force for the duration of its assignment.<sup>95</sup>

### WORKING PROCEDURES:

*Ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Forces shall be open to all Members of the Commission and the Rules Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Forces.

### DISSOLUTION:

The *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force shall be dissolved after the specified work has been completed or when the number of sessions or the time limit allocated for the work has expired.

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<sup>94</sup> The Commission may wish to consider extending the Terms of Reference of an appropriate existing body to accommodate the proposal.

<sup>95</sup> This may involve Host Government arrangements with one or more Members of the Commission.

**AMENDMENT TO THE FOOD HYGIENE PROVISIONS IN ‘RELATIONS BETWEEN  
COMMODITY COMMITTEES AND GENERAL COMMITTEES’**

Replace the current provisions on Food Hygiene with the following text:

***FOOD HYGIENE***

Commodity Committees should use in the commodity standards the following text:

- It is recommended that the products covered by the provisions of this standard be prepared and handled in accordance with the appropriate sections of the Recommended International Code of Practice - General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969, Rev 3-1997), and other relevant Codex texts such as Codes of Hygienic Practice and Codes of Practice.
  - The products should comply with any microbiological criteria established in accordance with the Principles for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria for Foods (CAC/GL 21-1997).
- 

**AMENDMENT TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON MILK  
AND MILK PRODUCTS**

Replace the existing Terms of Reference with the following:

To elaborate world-wide standards, codes and related texts for milk and milk products.

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**DEFINITIONS OF RISK ANALYSIS TERMS RELATED TO FOOD SAFETY*****RISK COMMUNICATION***

The interactive exchange of information and opinions throughout the risk analysis process concerning risk, risk-related factors and risk perceptions, among risk assessors, risk managers, consumers, industry, the academic community and other interested parties, including the explanation of risk assessment findings and the basis of risk management decisions.

***RISK MANAGEMENT***

The process, distinct from risk assessment, of weighing policy alternatives, in consultation with all interested parties, considering risk assessment and other factors relevant for the health protection of consumers and for the promotion of fair trade practices, and, if needed, selecting appropriate prevention and control options.



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**PRINCIPLES CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WORK OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

**1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of collaboration with International Non-Governmental Organizations is to secure for the Codex Alimentarius Commission, expert information, advice and assistance from international non-governmental organizations and to enable organizations which represent important sections of public opinion and are authorities in their fields of professional and technical competence to express the views of their members and to play an appropriate role in ensuring the harmonizing of intersectoral interests among the various sectoral bodies concerned in a country, regional or global setting.

Arrangements made with such organizations shall be designed to advance the purposes of the Codex Alimentarius Commission by securing maximum cooperation from International Non-Governmental Organizations in the execution of its programme.

**2 TYPES OF RELATIONSHIP**

Only one category of relationship shall be recognized, namely “Observer Status”; all other contacts, including working relations, shall be considered to be of an informal character.

**3 ORGANIZATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR “OBSERVER STATUS”**

The following shall be eligible for Observer Status:

- International Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status, specialized consultative status or liaison status with FAO;
- International Non-Governmental Organizations having official relations with WHO; and
- International Non-Governmental Organizations that:
  - (a) are international in structure and scope of activity, and representative of the specialized field of interest in which they operate;
  - (b) are concerned with matters covering a part or all of the Commission’s field of activity;
  - (c) have aims and purposes in conformity with the Statutes of the Codex Alimentarius Commission; and
  - (d) have a permanent directing body, authorized representatives and systematic procedures and machinery for communicating with its membership in various countries. Its members shall exercise voting rights in relation to its policies or action or shall have other appropriate mechanisms to express their views.

**4 PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING “OBSERVER STATUS”**

**4.1 INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVING STATUS OR OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH FAO AND WHO**

“Observer status” shall be accorded to those International Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status, specialized consultative status or liaison status with FAO or International Non-Governmental Organizations having official relations with WHO that inform the Secretary of the Codex Alimentarius Commission of their desire to participate in the work of the Commission and/or any or all of the Commission’s subsidiary bodies<sup>96</sup> on a regular basis. They may also request invitations to participate at specific sessions of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies on an *ad hoc* basis.

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<sup>96</sup> The term “subsidiary bodies” means any body established under Rule IX of the Commission’s Rules of Procedure.

#### **4.2 NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS NOT HAVING STATUS OR OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH FAO AND WHO**

Before any form of formal relationship is established with a Non-Governmental Organization, such Organization shall supply the Secretary of the Commission with the information outlined in the Annex to these Procedures. The Secretary shall transmit this information to the Directors-General of FAO and WHO.

Upon confirmation that the Directors-General are satisfied that the applicant Organization is in a position to make a significant contribution in advancing the purposes of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Observer Status shall be granted to the applicant Organization.

Observer Status at specific meetings will not normally be granted to individual organizations that are members of a larger organization authorized and that intends to represent them at these meetings.

### **5 PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS**

International Non-governmental Organizations in Observer status shall have the following privileges and obligations:

#### **5.1 PRIVILEGES OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN "OBSERVER STATUS"**

An Organization in Observer Status:

- (a) shall be entitled to send an observer (without the right to vote) to sessions of the Commission, who may be accompanied by advisers; to receive from the Secretary of the Commission, in advance of the session, all working documents and discussion papers; to circulate to the Commission its views in writing, without abridgement; and to participate in discussions when invited by the Chairperson<sup>97</sup>;
- (b) shall be entitled to send an observer (without the right to vote) to sessions of specified Subsidiary Bodies, who may be accompanied by advisers; to receive from the Secretaries of the Subsidiary Bodies, in advance of the session, all working documents and discussion papers; to circulate to these Bodies its views in writing, without abridgement; and to participate in discussions when invited by the Chairperson<sup>97</sup>;
- (c) may be invited by the Directors-General to participate in meetings or seminars on subjects organized under the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme which fall within its fields of interest, and if it does not so participate it may submit its views in writing to any such meeting or seminar;
- (d) will receive documentation and information about meetings planned on subjects agreed upon with the Secretariat;
- (e) may submit, under the authority of its governing body, written statements on matters before the Commission, in one of the languages of Commission, to the Secretary, who may communicate them to the Commission or the Executive Committee as appropriate.

#### **5.2 OBLIGATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN "OBSERVER STATUS"**

An Organization in Observer Status shall undertake:

- (a) to cooperate fully with the Codex Alimentarius Commission for the furtherance of the objectives of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme;
- (b) in cooperation with the Secretariat, to determine the ways and means of co-ordinating activities within the scope of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, with a view to avoiding duplication and overlapping;
- (c) to contribute, as far as possible, and at the request of the Directors-General, to the promotion of a better knowledge and understanding of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme through appropriate discussions or other forms of publicity;
- (d) to send to the Secretary of the Commission on an exchange basis, its reports and publications concerned with matters covering all or part of the Commission's field of activity;

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<sup>97</sup> An invitation to a Codex meeting and representation thereat by an observer shall not imply the granting to an international non-governmental organization of a status different from that which it already enjoys.

(e) to keep the Secretary of the Commission informed of changes in its structure and membership, as well as of important changes in its secretariat.

## **6 REVIEW OF “OBSERVER STATUS”**

The Directors-General may terminate arrangements for Observer Status which are no longer considered necessary or appropriate in the light of changing programmes or other circumstances, and will report such action to the Commission. However, the international non-governmental organization concerned may appeal the termination of Observer Status.

An international non-governmental organization in Observer Status which has not shown any interest and has not attended any meetings during a period of four years may be deemed not to have sufficient interest to warrant the continuance of such relationship.

The Secretary shall report to the Codex Alimentarius Commission on the relations between the Codex Alimentarius Commission and international non-governmental organizations established in accordance with the present Procedures and shall provide a list of organizations granted Observer Status, with an indication of the membership that they represent.

The Commission shall periodically review these principles and procedures and shall consider, as necessary, any amendments which may seem desirable.

**ANNEX: INFORMATION REQUIRED OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS REQUESTING “OBSERVER STATUS”**

1. Official name of the organization in different languages (with initials)
2. Full postal address, Telephone, Telex address, Facsimile and Email as appropriate
3. Aims and subject fields (mandate) of organization, and methods of operation. (Enclose charter, constitution, by-laws, rules of procedures, etc.)
4. Member organizations (name and address of each national affiliate, method of affiliation, giving number of members where possible, and names of principal officers. If the organization has individual members, please indicate approximate number in each country)
5. Structure (assembly or conference; council or other form of governing body; type of general secretariat; commissions on special topics, if any; etc.)
6. Indication of source of funding (e.g., membership contributions, direct funding, external contributions, or grants)
7. Meetings (indicate frequency and average attendance; send report of previous meeting, including any resolutions passed) that are concerned with matters covering all or part of the Commission’s field of activity
8. Relations with other international organizations:
  - UN and organs (indicate consultative status or other relationship, if any)
  - UN Specialized Agencies (indicate consultative status or other relationship, if any)
  - Other international organizations
9. Expected contribution to the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme
10. Past activities on behalf of, or in relation to, the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme (indicate any relationship by national affiliates with the Regional Coordinating Committees and/or the National Codex Contact Points or Committees)
11. Area of activity in which participation as an observer is requested (Commission and/or Subsidiary Bodies). If more than one organization with similar interests is requesting observer status in any field of activity, such organizations will be encouraged to form themselves into a federation or association for the purpose of participation. If the formation of such a single organization is not feasible, the application should explain why this is so.
12. Language (English, French or Spanish) in which documentation should be sent to the international non-governmental organizations
13. Name, Function and address of the person providing the information
14. Signature and date

### **CORE FUNCTIONS OF CODEX CONTACT POINTS**

The operation of Codex Contact Points will differ in each country depending on national legislation, government structures and practices.

#### ***CODEX CONTACT POINTS:***

- 1 Act as the link between the Codex Secretariat and Member countries;
- 2 Coordinate all relevant Codex activities within their own countries;
- 3 Receive all Codex final texts (standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other advisory texts) and working documents of Codex sessions and ensure that they are circulated to those concerned within their own countries;
- 4 Send comments on Codex documents or proposals to the Codex Alimentarius Commission or its subsidiary bodies and/or the Codex Secretariat;
- 5 Work in close cooperation with the national Codex committee, where such a committee has been established. The Codex Contact Point acts as the liaison point with the food industry, consumers, traders and all other concerned to ensure that the government is provided with an appropriate balance of policy and technical advice upon which to base decisions relating to issues raised in the context of the Codex work;
- 6 Act as a channel for the exchange of information and coordination of activities with other Codex Members;
- 7 Receive the invitation to Codex sessions and inform the relevant chairpersons and the Codex Secretariat of the names of participants from their own countries;
- 8 Maintain a library of Codex final texts; and
- 9 Promote Codex activities throughout their own countries.

ALINORM 99/37  
Appendix VSTATEMENT OF WHO ON THE RECOMMENDED AGE RANGE FOR THE INTRODUCTION  
OF COMPLEMENTARY FOODS**WHO's current infant-feeding recommendation**

WHO's current infant-feeding recommendation may be summarised as follows:

*The World Health Organization recommends that infants should be fed exclusively on breast milk from birth to 4 to 6 months of age; that is, they should be given no other liquids or solids than breast milk, not even water, during this period. Given the worldwide variation in growth velocity, an age range is an essential element of this feeding recommendation.*

*After this initial 4-to-6-month period of exclusive breast-feeding, children should continue to be breast-fed for up to 2 years of age or beyond, while receiving nutritionally adequate and safe complementary foods. Starting complementary feeding too early or too late are both undesirable. Ideally, the decision when precisely to begin will be made by a mother, in consultation with her health worker, based on her infant's specific growth and development needs.*

*WHO's current infant-feeding recommendation was based initially on the technical review and discussion undertaken in 1979 in connection with a joint WHO/UNICEF meeting on infant and young child feeding. The meeting's statement and recommendations were subsequently endorsed in their entirety by the World Health Assembly. Important additional scientific evidence including, most recently in 1995, from the WHO Expert Committee on the use and interpretation of anthropometry, underscores the reliability of the earlier review.*

**Reported change in WHO's recommendation**

Some observers point to resolution WHA47.5, which the World Health Assembly adopted in May 1994, as evidence of a change in WHO's infant-feeding recommendation. In fact, operative paragraph 2(1)(d) of this resolution merely restates that portion of the recommendation dealing with complementary feeding:

2. *URGES Member States to take the following measures:*

(1) to promote sound infant and young child nutrition ... through coherent effective intersectoral action, including:

(d) *fostering appropriate complementary feeding practices from the age of **about six months**, emphasizing continued breast-feeding and frequent feeding with safe and adequate amounts of local foods (emphasis added);*

The significance of the words "about six months" is reinforced when viewed in the context of an earlier resolution (WHA45.34, 1992) where the entire recommendation is summarized as follows:

*Reaffirming that during the first **four to six months** of life no food or liquid other than breast milk, not even water, is required to meet the normal infant's nutritional requirements, and that from the age of **about six months** infants should begin to receive a variety of locally available and safely prepared foods rich in energy, in addition to breast milk, to meet their changing nutritional requirements (emphasis added);*

**Conclusion**

WHO maintains a continual review of the scientific evidence relating to the optimal **duration** of *exclusive breastfeeding*, and thus the optimal **timing** of the start of *complementary feeding*. Based on the best available evidence, this is currently considered to be between 4 and 6 months of age for most infants. Given the worldwide variation in growth velocity, an age range is an essential element of WHO's feeding recommendation. The wording "about 6 months" for the start of complementary feeding, which reflects this range, is identical in both the 1992 and 1994 Assembly resolutions.

**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix VI****TERMS OF REFERENCE OF CODEX COMMITTEES AND AD HOC TASK FORCES****TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE NEAR EAST****Membership:**

Membership of the Committee is open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO that are members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, within the geographic locations of the Near East as defined by FAO or the Eastern Mediterranean by WHO.

**Terms of reference:**

- (a) defines the problems and needs of the region concerning food standards and food control;
- (b) promotes within the Committee contacts for the mutual exchange of information on proposed regulatory initiatives and problems arising from food control and stimulates the strengthening of food control infrastructures;
- (c) recommends to the Commission the development of world wide standards for products of interest to the region, including products considered by the Committee to have an international market potential in the future;
- (d) develops regional standards for food products moving exclusively or almost exclusively in intra regional trade;
- (e) draws the attention of the Commission to any aspects of the Commission's work of particular significance to the region;
- (f) promotes coordination of all regional food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations within the region;
- (g) exercises a general coordinating role for the region and such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Commission, and
- (h) promotes the acceptance of Codex standards and maximum limits for residues by member countries.

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING****Objectives**

With the aim of ensuring the safety and quality of foods of animal origin, the Task Force should develop guidelines or standards as appropriate on Good Animal Feeding practices.

**Time Frame**

The Task Force shall complete its work within four years. The Task Force should first submit a preliminary report to the Commission in 2001 and a full report in 2003.

**Terms of Reference**

- (i) To complete and extend the work already done by relevant Codex Committees on the Draft Code of Practice for Good Animal Feeding.
  - (j) To address other aspects which are important for food safety, such as problems related to toxic substances, pathogens, microbial resistance, new technologies, storage, control measures, traceability, etc.
  - (k) To take full account of and collaborate with, as appropriate, work carried out by relevant Codex Committees, and other relevant international bodies, including FAO, WHO, OIE and IPPC.
-

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AD HOC CODEX INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE ON FRUIT AND VEGETABLE JUICES**

The *ad hoc* Task Force shall

- (a) revise and consolidate the existing Codex standards and guidelines for fruit and vegetable juices and related products, giving preference to general standards;
  - (b) revise and up-date the methods of analysis and sampling for these products;
  - (c) complete its work prior to the 26th Session of the Commission (2005).
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**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE ON FOODS DERIVED FROM BIOTECHNOLOGY**

***Objectives***

To develop standards, guidelines or recommendations, as appropriate, for foods derived from biotechnology or traits introduced into foods by biotechnology, on the basis of scientific evidence, risk analysis and having regard, where appropriate, to other legitimate factors relevant to the health of consumers and the promotion of fair trade practices.

***Time frame***

The Task Force shall complete its work within four years. The Task Force should first submit a preliminary report to the Commission in 2001, a mid-term report, where appropriate, to the Executive Committee in 2002, and a full report in 2003.

***Terms of Reference***

- (a) To elaborate standards, guidelines, or other principles, as appropriate, for foods derived from biotechnology;
  - (b) To coordinate and closely collaborate, as necessary, with appropriate Codex Committees within their mandate as relates to foods derived from biotechnology; and
  - (c) To take full account of existing work carried out by national authorities, FAO, WHO, other international organizations and other relevant international fora.
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**ALINORM 99/37**  
**APPENDIX VII**

**LIST OF STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS ADOPTED BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS  
COMMISSION AT ITS 23<sup>RD</sup> SESSION**

*PART I. STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS ADOPTED AS FINAL TEXTS*

STANDARD AND RELATED TEXTS	REFERENCE	STATUS
Draft General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix II	Adopted with amendments
Draft Revised Standard for Butter	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix IV	Adopted with amendments
Draft Revised Standard for Milkfat Products	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix V	Adopted with amendments
Draft Revised Standard for Evaporated Milks	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix VI	Adopted with amendments
Draft Revised Standard for Sweetened Condensed Milks	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix VII	Adopted with amendments
Draft Revised Standard for Milk Powders and Cream Powder	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix VIII	Adopted with amendments
Draft Revised Standard for Cheese	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix IX	Adopted with amendments
Draft Revised Standard for Whey Cheese	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix X	Adopted with amendments
Draft Group Standard for Cheeses in Brine	ALINORM 99/11, Appendix XI	Adopted with amendments
Food Grade Salt: Draft Amendments to the Food Additive Provisions	ALINORM 99/12, Appendix VII	Adopted with amendments
Draft Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives	ALINORM 99/12, Appendix VIII and ALINORM 99/12A, para. 65, 68 and Appendix VII	Adopted
International Numbering System for Food Additives: Allocation of new numbers for Konjac Flour, Stevioside, Argon, Helium and Oxygen	ALINORM 99/12, Appendix IX and ALINORM 99/12A, para. 74 and Appendix VIII	Adopted
Draft Maximum Level for Aflatoxins in Peanuts intended for Further Processing	ALINORM 99/12, Appendix X	Adopted (Sampling Plan was adopted on interim basis)
General Standard for Food Additives: Draft Table 1 (Additives Permitted for Use Under Specified Conditions in Certain Food Categories or Individual Food Items)	ALINORM 99/12A, paras 34, 46, 56, Appendix II and Corrigendum	Adopted with amendments
Proposed Draft Amendment to the General Standard for Food Additives: Preamble – Footnote	ALINOMR 99/12A, paras 33, 56, Appendix V	Adopted
General Standard for Food Additives: Draft Revised Table 3 and Annex	ALINORM 99/12A, para. 52, 56 and Appendix III	Adopted with amendments

STANDARD AND RELATED TEXTS	REFERENCE	STATUS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Table 3: Additives Permitted for Use in Food in General, Unless Otherwise Specified, in Accordance with GMP</li> <li>Annex to Table Three: Food Categories or Individual Food Items Excluded from the General Conditions of Table Three</li> </ul>		
Draft Code of Hygienic Practice for Refrigerated Packaged Foods with Extended Shelf Life	ALINORM 99/13, Appendix III	Adopted
Draft Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Assessment	ALINORM 99/13A, Appendix II	Adopted
Draft Amendment to the Recommended International Code of Practice: General Principles of Food Hygiene	ALINORM 99/13A, Appendix III	Adopted with editorial amendment
Draft Asian Regional Guidelines for Codex Contact Points and National Codex Committees	ALINORM 99/15, Appendix II	Adopted with amendment
Draft Standard for Named Vegetable Oils	ALINORM 99/17, para. 62 and Appendix II	Adopted
Draft Standard for Named Animal Fats	ALINORM 99/17, para. 79 and Appendix III	Adopted
Draft Revised Standard for Edible Fats and Oils not Covered by Individual Standards	ALINORM 99/17, para. 91 and Appendix IV	Adopted
Draft Revised Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Fats and Oils in Bulk	ALINORM 99/17, para. 123 and Appendix V	Adopted
Draft Guidelines for the Sensory Evaluation of Fish and Shellfish in Laboratories	ALINORM 99/18, Appendix II	Adopted
Draft Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods (Except sections for livestock production)	ALINORM 99/22, Appendix II and ALINORM 99/22A, para. 33 and Appendix II	Adopted
Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: Foods that can cause Hypersensitivity	ALINORM 99/22, Appendix III	Adopted with amendments
Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: Composite Ingredients	ALINORM 99/22A, para. 39 and Appendix III	Adopted
Draft Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Pesticides	ALINORM 99/24, Appendix II;	Adopted
Draft Revised Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Pesticides	ALINORM 99/24A, Appendix II;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acephate</li> </ul>	ALINORM 99/24,	

STANDARD AND RELATED TEXTS	REFERENCE	STATUS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bifenthrin</li> <li>• Carbaryl</li> <li>• Carbofuran</li> <li>• Chlorothalonil</li> <li>• Chlorpyrifos</li> <li>• Diazinon</li> <li>• Dicofol</li> <li>• Diquat</li> <li>• Dithiocarbamates</li> <li>• Fenarimol</li> <li>• Fenbuconazole</li> <li>• Flumethrin</li> <li>• Glyphosate</li> <li>• Methamidophos</li> <li>• Methidathion</li> <li>• Myclobutanil</li> <li>• Parathion</li> <li>• Parathion-methyl</li> <li>• Phorate</li> <li>• Propoxur</li> <li>• Tebuconazole</li> <li>• Tebufenozide</li> <li>• Teflubenzuron</li> <li>• Thiabendazole</li> </ul>	Appendix IV; and ALINORM 99/24A, Appendix IV	
Draft Revised Recommended Methods of Sampling for Pesticide Residues for the Determination of Compliance with MRLs	ALINORM 99/24A, Appendix III	Adopted
Draft Revised Standard for Sugars	ALINORM 99/25, Appendix 1	Adopted with amendments
Draft Revised African Regional Guidelines for the Design of Control Measures for Street-Vended Foods in Africa	ALINORM 99/28, Appendix II	Adopted
Draft Guidelines for the Development of Equivalence Agreements regarding Food Imports and Export Inspection and Certification Systems	ALINORM 99/30A, para. 30 and Appendix II	Adopted
Draft Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs in Foods	ALINORM 99/31, Appendices II & III	Adopted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Azaperone</li> <li>• Benzylpenicillin/procaine benzylpenicillin</li> <li>• Ceftiofur</li> <li>• Diclazuril</li> <li>• Dihydrostreptomycin/streptomycin</li> <li>• Febantel/fenbendazole/oxfendazole</li> <li>• Fluazuron</li> <li>• Moxidectin</li> </ul>		

STANDARD AND RELATED TEXTS	REFERENCE	STATUS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neomycin</li> <li>• Nicarbazin</li> <li>• Specitnomyacin</li> <li>• Tilmicosin</li> </ul>		
Draft Standard for Limes	ALINORM 99/35, Appendix II	Adopted (except for Sections 2.1.2 & 3)
Draft Standard for Pummelos ( <i>Citrus grandis</i> )	ALINORM 99/35, Appendix III	Adopted (except for Section 3)
Draft Standard for Guavas	ALINORM 99/35, Appendix IV	Adopted
Draft Standard for Chayotes	ALINORM 99/35, Appendix V	Adopted
Proposed Draft Standard for Mexican Limes	ALINORM 99/35, Appendix VI	Adopted
Proposed Draft Standard for Ginger	ALINORM 99/35, Appendix VII	Adopted
Draft Codex Standard for Pineapples	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 46 and Appendix II	Adopted
Draft Codex Standard for Grapefruits ( <i>Citrus paradisi</i> )	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 62 and Appendix III	Adopted (except for Section 3)
Draft Codex Standard for Longans	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 70 and Appendix IV	Adopted

**PART 2. DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS ADOPTED AT STEP 5**

STANDARD AND RELATED TEXTS	REFERENCE	STATUS
Proposed Draft Maximum Level for Patulin	ALINORM 99/12A, para. 120	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Revised Guideline for the Development of Maximum Levels of Use for Food Additives with Numerical Acceptable Daily Intakes	ALINORM 99/12A, para. 55 and Appendix IV	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Code of Hygienic Practice for the Transport of Foodstuffs in Bulk and Semi-Packed Foodstuffs	ALINORM 99/13A, para. 52 and Appendix IV	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Revised Standard for Cocoa Butters	ALINORM 99/14, Appendix II	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Revised Standard for Cocoa (Cacao) Mass (Cocoa/Chocolate Liquor) and Cocoa Cake, for the Use in the Manufacture of Cocoa and Chocolate Products	ALINORM 99/14, Appendix III	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Revised Standard for Cocoa Powders (Cocoas) and Dry Cocoa-Sugar Mixture	ALINORM 99/14, Appendix IV	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: Proposed Draft Amendment concerning the Labelling of Foods obtained through Biotechnology	ALINORM 99/22, Appendix VII	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: Class names	ALINORM 99/22A, para. 52 and Appendix V	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Pesticides	ALINORM 99/24, Appendix V; and	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Revised Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Pesticides	ALINORM 99/24A, Appendix V	
Proposed Draft Revised Extraneous Maximum Residue Limit (EMRL)		
Proposed Draft Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs in Foods	ALINORM 99/31, Appendix V	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Tiquisque (White and Lilac)	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 117 and Appendix V	Adopted at Step 5 of the Normal Procedure and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Yellow Pitahayas	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 155 and Appendix VI	Adopted at Step 5 of the Normal Procedure and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Papaya	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 167 and Appendix VII	Adopted at Step 5 of the Normal Procedure and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Oranges including Guide for Use in scoring Freezing Injury	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 108 and Appendix X	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6

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STANDARD AND RELATED TEXTS	REFERENCE	STATUS
Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Cape Gooseberry	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 145 and Appendix XI	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Codex Standard for Asparagus	ALINORM 99/35A, para. 87 and Appendix IX	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6
Proposed Draft Revised Regional Code of Practice for the Preparation and Sale of Street-Vended Foods (Latin America and the Caribbean)	ALINORM 99/36, Appendix II	Adopted at Step 5 and advanced to Step 6

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**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix VIII**

**APPROVED NEW WORK**

STANDARD AND RELATED TEXTS	RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	NOTES
Revised European Regional Standard for Mayonnaise	CCEURO	Previously approved
Revised European Regional Standard for Vinegar	CCEURO	Previously approved
Amendments to the International Numbering System for Food Additives	CCFAC	Accelerated Procedure: 4-Hexylresorcinol; Pectins (technological function only)
Code of Practice for the Prevention of Contamination by Ochratoxin A in Cereals	CCFAC	
Code of Practice for the Prevention of Contamination of Cereals by Zearalenone	CCFAC	
Revised General Standard for Irradiated Foods	CCFAC	
Standards for:	CCFFV	In cooperation with UN/ECE
- Apples		
- Table Grapes		
- Tomatoes		
Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Utilisation of and Promotion of Quality Assurance Systems	CCFICS	
Amendments to the Draft Standard for Named Vegetable Oils:	CCFO	
- High Oleic Acid Sunflower Oil		
- High Oleic Acid Safflower Oil		
Code of Practice for Storage and Transport of Fats & Oils in Bulk: List of Acceptable and Banned Previous Cargoes	CCFO	
Revision of the Code of Ethics for International Trade in Foods (CAC/RCP 20-1979; Rev.1-1985)	CCGP	
Amendments to the Revised Standard for Cheese	CCMMP	
Revised Standard for Edible Casein Products	CCMMP	
Revised Standard for Whey Powders	CCMMP	
Standard for Products in Which Milk Components Are Substituted by Non-Milk Components	CCMMP/ CCASIA	
Revision of the Advisory List(s) of Mineral Salts and Vitamin Compounds for Use in Foods for Infants and Children	CCNFSDU	
Standard for Dried Figs	CCPFV	

STANDARD AND RELATED TEXTS	RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	NOTES
Maximum Residue Limits (New or Revised) for various pesticides (Priority List):	CCPR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-Phenylphenol</li> <li>• Aldicarb</li> <li>• Amitraz</li> <li>• Bitertanol</li> <li>• Buprofezin</li> <li>• Captan</li> <li>• Carbaryl</li> <li>• Chlorfenvinphos</li> <li>• Chlormequat</li> <li>• Chlorpyrifos</li> <li>• Clethodim</li> <li>• Cypermethrin</li> <li>• DDT</li> <li>• Diazinon</li> <li>• Dinocap</li> <li>• Diphenylamine</li> <li>• Ethephon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethoxyquin</li> <li>• Fenamiphos Fenpropimorph</li> <li>• Fenpyroximate</li> <li>• Fenthion</li> <li>• Fipronil</li> <li>• Folpet</li> <li>• Glufosinate ammonium</li> <li>• Malathion</li> <li>• Methiocarb</li> <li>• Mevinphos</li> <li>• Parathion</li> <li>• Parathion-methyl</li> <li>• Phosalone</li> <li>• Piperonyl butoxide</li> <li>• Pyrethrins</li> <li>• Pyriproxyfen</li> <li>• Thiabendazole</li> </ul>	
Maximum Residue Limits (New or Revised) for various veterinary drugs in foods (Priority List):	CCRVDF	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abamectin</li> <li>• Carazolol</li> <li>• Cyhalothrin</li> <li>• Dicyclanil</li> <li>• Dihydrostreptomycin/streptomycin</li> <li>• Flumequine</li> <li>• Imidocarb</li> <li>• Ivermectin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lincomycin</li> <li>• Melangestrol acetate</li> <li>• Metrifonate</li> <li>• Natural hormones (estradiol-17<math>\beta</math>, progesterone &amp; testosterone)</li> <li>• Temephos</li> <li>• Thiamphenicol</li> </ul>	



**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix IX**

**CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRMANSHIP OF CODEX COMMITTEES**

<b>CODEX COMMITTEES</b>	<b>CHAIRMANSHIP</b>
Codex Committee on General Principles	France
Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants	The Netherlands
Codex Committee on Food Hygiene	United States of America
Codex Committee on Food Labelling	Canada
Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling	Hungary
Codex Committee on Pesticides Residues	The Netherlands
Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Food	United States of America
Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems	Australia
Codex Committee on Nutrition and Food for Special Dietary Uses	Germany
Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate	Switzerland
Codex Committee on Sugars	United Kingdom
Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables	United States of America
Codex Committee on Fats and Oils	United Kingdom
Codex Committee on Meat Hygiene	New Zealand
Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products	Norway
Codex Committee on Soups and Broths	Switzerland
Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes	United States of America
Codex Committee on Vegetable Proteins	Canada
Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Mexico
Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products	New Zealand
Codex Committee on Natural Mineral Waters	Switzerland
 <b>AD HOC CODEX INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCES</b>	
Foods Derived from Biotechnology	Japan
Animal Feeding	Denmark
Fruit and Vegetable Juices	Brazil

**ALINORM 97/37  
Appendix X****PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

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Item and Subject Matter	<u>Document</u>
1. Adoption of the Agenda	ALINORM 99/1
2. Election of Officers of the Commission and Appointment of Regional Coordinators	ALINORM 99/2
3. Report by the Chairperson on the Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth Sessions of the Executive Committee	ALINORM 99/3 ALINORM 99/4
4. Report on the financial situation of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme for 1998/99 and 2000/01	ALINORM 99/5
5. Consideration of the Draft Medium-Term Plan for 1998 to 2002	ALINORM 99/6
6. Consumers' involvement in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission	ALINORM 99/8
7. Principles of risk analysis	ALINORM 99/9
8. Consideration of amendments to the Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission	ALINORM 99/10
9. Consideration of draft standards and related texts	ALINORM 99/21 Part I
10. Consideration of proposals to elaborate new standards and or related texts	ALINORM 99/21 Part II
11. Matters arising from reports of Codex Committees	ALINORM 99/21 Part III
12. Designation of Host Governments for Codex Committees and ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Forces	ALINORM 99/16
13. Other Business	
14. Adoption of Report	

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**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix XI**

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	
<b>WORKING PAPERS</b>	
ALINORM 99/1	Provisional Agenda and Timetable
ALINORM 99/2	Election of Officers of the Commission and Appointment of Regional Coordinators - Explanatory Note on Procedure and Voting
ALINORM 99/5	Financial and Budgetary Matters
ALINORM 99/5 – Addendum <u>ENGLISH ONLY</u>	Financial and Budgetary Matters - Addendum: Support to developing Member countries
ALINORM 99/6	Consideration of the Draft Medium-Term Plan for 1998-2002
ALINORM 99/8	Consumers' Involvement in the Work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
ALINORM 99/9	Principles of Risk Analysis
ALINORM 99/10 - Part I	Consideration of Amendments to the Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
ALINORM 99/10 – Part I Corrigendum	Consideration of Amendments to the Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
ALINORM 99/10 - Part II	Consideration of Amendments to the Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission covering the 14 <sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles
ALINORM 99/10 - Addendum	Government comments
ALINORM 99/16	Designation of Host Governments for Codex Committees and ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Forces
ALINORM 99/16 – Addendum 1	Review of the Codex Standards for Fruit Juices and Review of Subsidiary Bodies Adjourned Sine Die. Designation of Host Governments for Codex Committees and ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Forces
ALINORM 99/21 – Part I	Consideration of Draft Standards and Related Texts and Abolition or Revocation of Existing Standards (Codex Sessions 1998)
ALINORM 99/21 - Part I – Corrigendum 1	Draft Codex Standards for Limes and Pummelos Consideration of Draft Standards and Related Texts and Abolition or Revocation of Existing Standards (Codex Sessions 1998)
ALINORM 99/21 - Part I – Corrigendum 2	Proposed Draft Amendment to the Standard for Sardines and Sardine-Like Products – Consideration of Draft Standards and Related Texts and Abolition or Revocation of Existing Standards (Codex Sessions 1998)
ALINORM 99/21 - Part I – Addendum 1	Consideration of Draft Standards and Related Texts and Abolition or Revocation of Existing Standards (Codex Sessions 1999)

	<b>SUBJECT</b>
ALINORM 99/21 Part I – Addendum 2	Consideration of Draft Standards and Related Texts Maximum Residue Limits for Bovine Somatotropins
ALINORM 99/21 - Part I – Addendum 3 <u>ENGLISH ONLY</u>	Consideration of Draft Standards and Related Texts (Government comments on Standards and Related Texts at Step 8)
ALINORM 99/21 – Part I - Addendum 4	Consideration of Draft Standards and Related Texts and Abolition or Revocation of Existing Standards – Status of Endorsement of Standards Submitted at Step 8
ALINORM 99/21 - Part II	Consideration of Proposals to elaborate New Standards and/or Related Texts (Codex Sessions 1998)
ALINORM 99/21 - Part II – Addendum 1	Consideration of Proposals to elaborate New Standards and/or Related Texts (Codex Sessions 1999)
ALINORM 99/21 - Part III	Matters arising from Reports of Codex Committees (Codex Sessions 1998)
ALINORM 99/21 - Part III – Addendum 1	Matters arising from Reports of Codex Committees (Codex Sessions 1999)
<b>CODEX COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	
ALINORM 99/3	Report of Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, 45 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/4 (CRD)	Report of Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, 46 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/11	Report of Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/11 – Corrigendum	Report of Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/12	Report of Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants, 30 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/12A	Report of Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants, 31 <sup>st</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/12A – Corrigendum	Report of Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants, 31 <sup>st</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/13	Report of Codex Committee on Food Hygiene, 30 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/13A	Report of Codex Committee on Food Hygiene, 31 <sup>st</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/14	Report of Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate, 17 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/15	Report of Codex Regional Coordinating Committee for Asia, 11 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/17	Report of Codex Committee on Fats and Oils, 16 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/18	Report of Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/19	Report of Codex Regional Coordinating Committee for Europe, 21 <sup>st</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/20	Report of Codex Committee on Natural Mineral Waters, 6 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/22	Report of Codex Committee on Food Labelling, 26 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/22A	Report of Codex Committee on Food Labelling, 27 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/23	Report of Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Session

	<b>SUBJECT</b>
ALINORM 99/24	Report of Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues, 30 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/24A	Report of Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues, 31 <sup>st</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/25	Report of Codex Committee on Sugars
ALINORM 99/26	Report of Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses, 21 <sup>st</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/27	Report of Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables, 19 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/28	Report of Codex Regional Coordinating Committee for Africa, 13 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/30	Report of Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems, 6 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/30A	Report of Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems, 7 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/31	Report of Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods, 11 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/32	Report of Codex Regional Coordinating Committee for North America and the South-West Pacific, 5 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/33	Report of Codex Committee on General Principles, 13 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/33A	Report of Codex Committee on General Principles, 14 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/35	Report of Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, 7 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/35A	Report of Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, 8 <sup>th</sup> Session
ALINORM 99/36	Report of Codex Regional Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean, 11 <sup>th</sup> Session
<b>INFORMATION PAPERS</b>	
CAC 23/INF-1	Provisional List of Documents
CAC 23/INF-2	Tentative Timetable of Codex Sessions 1999-2001
CAC 23/INF-3	List of Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations in "Observer Status" with the Codex Alimentarius Commission
CAC 23/INF-4 <u>ENGLISH ONLY</u>	Current Status of Work (All Committees)
<b>CONFERENCE ROOM DOCUMENTS</b>	
CAC/LIM 1 (EFS)	List of Documents
CAC/LIM 1/1	List of CAC/LIM (1999) Documents
CAC/LIM 2	Principles of Risk Analysis
ALINORM 99/9, Add. 1	Comments of Consumers International
CAC/LIM 3	Membership of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
CAC/LIM 4	List of Governmental and non-Governmental Organizations, in "Observer Status" with the Codex Alimentarius Commission
CAC 23/INF-3	
CAC/LIM 5 (ALINORM 99/21-Part I - Add. 3 )	Government Comments on Standards and Related Texts at Step 8

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	<b>SUBJECT</b>
CAC/LIM 6 (ALINORM 99/8)	Comments of Consumers International
CAC/LIM 7	Tentative Timetable of Codex Sessions 1999-2001 (Revised)
CAC 23/INF-2.Rev.	
CAC/LIM 8 (EFS)	Biotechnology - Japan
CAC/LIM 9	Government Comments on Standards and Related Texts at Step 8
CAC/LIM 10	Comments of Thailand
CAC/LIM 11	Comments of the International Association of Consumer Food Organizations
CAC/LIM 12	Comments of India
CAC/LIM 13	Comments of European Community
CAC/LIM 14	Comments of Italy
CAC/LIM 15	Comments of Philippines
CAC/LIM 16	Comments of China
CAC/LIM 16 (EFS)	Rules – Near East
CAC/LIM 17 (EFS)	Draft Resolution – Item 4
CAC/LIM 18 (EFS)	Proposal to Appoint a Coordinator for the Near East
CAC/LIM 19 (EFS)	Principles of Risk Analysis
CAC/LIM 20 (EFS)	Biotechnology

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**ALINORM 99/37**  
**Appendix XII**

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**  
**(27 OCTOBER 2000)**

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|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Albania                                   | 45. Ecuador                       | 89. Lithuania                          |
| 2. Algeria                                   | 46. Egypt                         | 90. Luxembourg                         |
| 3. Angola                                    | 47. El Salvador                   | 91. Madagascar                         |
| 4. Antigua and Barbuda                       | 48. Equatorial Guinea             | 92. Malawi                             |
| 5. Argentina                                 | 49. Eritrea                       | 93. Malaysia                           |
| 6. Armenia                                   | 50. Estonia                       | 94. Malta                              |
| 7. Australia                                 | 51. Ethiopia                      | 95. Mauritania                         |
| 8. Austria                                   | 52. Fiji                          | 96. Mauritius                          |
| 9. Bahrain                                   | 53. Finland                       | 97. Mexico                             |
| 10. Bangladesh                               | 54. France                        | 98. Micronesia, Federated<br>States of |
| 11. Barbados                                 | 55. Gabon                         | 99. Moldova                            |
| 12. Belgium                                  | 56. Gambia                        | 100. Mongolia                          |
| 13. Belize                                   | 57. Georgia                       | 101. Morocco                           |
| 14. Benin                                    | 58. Germany                       | 102. Mozambique                        |
| 15. Bhutan                                   | 59. Ghana                         | 103. Myanmar                           |
| 16. Bolivia                                  | 60. Greece                        | 104. Namibia                           |
| 17. Botswana                                 | 61. Grenada                       | 105. Nepal                             |
| 18. Brazil                                   | 62. Guatemala                     | 106. Netherlands                       |
| 19. Brunei Darussalam                        | 63. Guinea                        | 107. New Zealand                       |
| 20. Bulgaria                                 | 64. Guinea Bissau                 | 108. Nicaragua                         |
| 21. Burkina Faso                             | 65. Guyana                        | 109. Niger                             |
| 22. Burundi                                  | 66. Haiti                         | 110. Nigeria                           |
| 23. Cambodia                                 | 67. Honduras                      | 111. Norway                            |
| 24. Cameroon                                 | 68. Hungary                       | 112. Oman                              |
| 25. Canada                                   | 69. Iceland                       | 113. Pakistan                          |
| 26. Cape Verde                               | 70. India                         | 114. Panama                            |
| 27. Central African Republic                 | 71. Indonesia                     | 115. Papua New Guinea                  |
| 28. Chad                                     | 72. Iran (Islamic Republic<br>of) | 116. Paraguay                          |
| 29. Chile                                    | 73. Iraq                          | 117. Peru                              |
| 30. China                                    | 74. Ireland                       | 118. Philippines                       |
| 31. Colombia                                 | 75. Israel                        | 119. Poland                            |
| 32. Congo, Democratic Rep.                   | 76. Italy                         | 120. Portugal                          |
| 33. Congo, Republic of                       | 77. Jamaica                       | 121. Qatar                             |
| 34. Cook Islands                             | 78. Japan                         | 122. Republic of Korea                 |
| 35. Costa Rica                               | 79. Jordan                        | 123. Romania                           |
| 36. Côte d'Ivoire                            | 80. Kenya                         | 124. Russian Federation                |
| 37. Croatia                                  | 81. Kiribati                      | 125. Rwanda                            |
| 38. Cuba                                     | 82. Kuwait                        | 126. Saint Kitts and Nevis             |
| 39. Cyprus                                   | 83. Laos                          | 127. Saint Lucia                       |
| 40. Czech Republic                           | 84. Latvia                        | 128. Samoa                             |
| 41. Democratic People's<br>Republic of Korea | 85. Lebanon                       | 129. Saudi Arabia                      |
| 42. Denmark                                  | 86. Lesotho                       | 130. Senegal                           |
| 43. Dominica                                 | 87. Liberia                       | 131. Seychelles                        |
| 44. Dominican Republic                       | 88. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya        | 132. Sierra Leone                      |

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|----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 133. Singapore       | 145. Syrian Arab Republic                         | 156. United Republic of<br>Tanzania |
| 134. Slovak Republic | 146. Thailand                                     | 157. United States of America       |
| 135. Slovenia        | 147. The Former Yugoslav<br>Republic of Macedonia | 158. Uruguay                        |
| 136. Solomon Islands | 148. Togo   | 159. Vanuatu                        |
| 137. South Africa    | 149. Tonga  | 160. Venezuela                      |
| 138. Spain           | 150. Trinidad and Tobago                          | 161. Viet Nam                       |
| 139. Sri Lanka       | 151. Tunisia                                      | 162. Yemen                          |
| 140. Sudan           | 152. Turkey                                       | 163. Yugoslavia                     |
| 141. Suriname        | 153. Uganda                                       | 164. Zambia                         |
| 142. Swaziland       | 154. United Arab Emirates                         | 165. Zimbabwe                       |
| 143. Sweden          | 155. United Kingdom                               |                                     |
| 144. Switzerland     |   |                                     |