

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

#### Forty-fifth Session

#### COMMENTS ON DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS SUBMITTED BY THE SIXTH SESSION OF CODEX COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS<sup>1</sup>

#### BACKGROUND

This document compiles the comments on the draft standards submitted at Step 8 or Step 5/8 and the proposed draft standards submitted at Step 5 of the Procedure. The compiled comments are those received through the Codex Online Commenting Systems (OCS), and in reply to the Circular Letters as indicated in the respective Annex.

The comments are as shown in Annex I, II, III, IV, V and VI.

OCS is an online tool that enables Codex Contact Points to submit comments on draft texts in a standardized way, thus providing more transparency and better management of comments on different Codex texts as requested through Circular Letters.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES ON ANNEX I, II, III, IV, V and VI.

The comments received are presented in a table format, with two columns as follows:

**First column** – Presents the comments with the rationale.

**Second column** – Presents the provider of the comments (name of country or observer)

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<sup>1</sup> This document compiles comments submitted through OCS, or via email by the time this document was issued, in reply to CL 2022/63/OCS-SCH, CL 2022/64/OCS-SCH, CL 2022/65/OCS-SCH, CL 2022/66/OCS-SCH, CL 2022/67/OCS-SCH and CL 2022/68/OCS-SCH.

**COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STANDARD FOR DRIED FLORAL PARTS - SAFFRON, IN REPLY TO CL 2022/63/OCS-SCH  
(AT STEP 8)**

*Comments of Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, India, Iraq, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Panama, Saudi Arabia and ICUMSA*

| <b>COMMENT</b>  | <b>MERMBER / OBSERVER</b> |
|---|---------------------------|
| Se apoya el avance a trámite 8 para su adopción final el proyecto de Norma para partes florales secas: Azafrán seco.  | <b>Chile</b>              |
| Costa Rica supports the advancement of the proposed STAND to the next step as proposed.   | <b>Costa Rica</b>         |
| Egypt appreciates the work done in the document and agrees with it  | <b>Egypt</b>              |
| Yes. India supports the adoption of the text by CAC45.<br><br>Rationale: All the issues were discussed thoroughly during the Virtual Working Group meetings and the plenary meeting of CCSC6 and were resolved. Considering para (4) of the statements of principle concerning the role of science in the codex decision-making process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account, proposed draft standard should be considered for adoption by CAC45.   | <b>India</b>              |
| Yes   | <b>Iraq</b>               |
| Position: Kenya supports the adoption of the standard at step 8 at CAC 45 meeting<br><br>Rationale: Considering that saffron is an expensive spice and on remarkably high demand, it is very prone to adulteration and food fraud. Thus, the changes are intended for the protection of the true origin and authenticity of the product. Labelling of the country of harvest would provide the consumer the information on its originality including the type and nature of the plant and thus empower them to make an informed choice. This will prevent fraud.<br><br>In addition, this will promote consumer protection and fair food trade practices especially for developing countries who are the major producers and exporters. | <b>Kenya</b>              |
| Mauritius supports the adoption of the standard at step 8 during the next CAC 45 meeting.<br><br>Rationale: Being given that saffron is an expensive spice that is in great demand, it is very prone to adulteration and food fraud. Thus, the changes are intended for the protection of the true origin and authenticity of the product. Labelling of the country of harvest would provide the consumer the information on its originality including the type and nature of the plant<br><br>and thus empower them to make an informed choice. This will also prevent fraud, thus ensuring consumer protection and fair food trade practices especially for developing countries who are the major producers and exporters.           | <b>Mauritius</b>          |
| Le Maroc n'a pas d'objection pour l'adoption de ce projet de norme.   | <b>Morocco</b>            |
| Panama according to the approval of the document. We have no further comments.  | <b>Panama</b>             |
| Saudi Arabia supports the adoption of the standard.   | <b>Saudi Arabia</b>       |

Annex I, Table 2. All of the headings columns are left-justified but the rest of the data below all but the first column header are centre-justified. Best to make all but the first column centre-justified.

Superscripts in table are larger font than is necessary; best to reduce size.

Annex I, Table 1. Column heading "powdered style" should be "Powdered style" and be centre-justified, in order to match other column headings.

9.1 Methods of Analysis table. Table heading has 1, 2, \* as superscripts in it, but no \* is described in the section where 1 and 2 are. Top row of table has right-justify for columns three and four but should be centre-justify.

**ICUMSA**

**COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STANDARD FOR DRIED SEEDS - NUTMEG, IN REPLY TO CL 2022/64/OCS-SCH  
(AT STEP 8)**

*Comments of Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, India, Iraq, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Panama and ICUMSA*

| <b>COMMENT</b>   | <b>MEMBER / OBSERVER</b> |
|--|--------------------------|
| Se apoya el avance para adopción final al proyecto de norma para semillas secas: nuez moscada.   | <b>Chile</b>             |
| Costa Rica supports the advancement of the proposed Standard to the next step as proposed.   | <b>Costa Rica</b>        |
| Egypt appreciates the work done in the document and agrees with it   | <b>Egypt</b>             |
| Yes. India supports the adoption of the text by CAC45.<br>Rationale: All the issues were discussed thoroughly during the Virtual Working Group meetings and the plenary meeting of CCSCH6 and were resolved. Considering para (4) of the statements of principle concerning the role of science in the codex decision-making process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account, proposed draft standard should be considered for adoption by CAC45. | <b>India</b>             |
| Yes  | <b>Iraq</b>              |
| Position: Kenya supports the adoption of this standard at Step 8.<br>Rationale: Considering that, all the areas of contention were resolved, the standard can be adopted at the next steps thus facilitation trade, especially in the developing countries.  | <b>Kenya</b>             |
| Mauritius supports the adoption at Step 8<br>Rationale: All the areas of contention have been resolved and if the standard is adopted, this will facilitate trade, especially in the developing countries.   | <b>Mauritius</b>         |
| Le Maroc n'a pas d'objection pour l'adoption de ce projet de norme.  | <b>Morocco</b>           |
| Panama according to the approval of the document. We have no further comments.   | <b>Panama</b>            |
| Annex 1, Table 2. Superscript font size is larger than necessary/typical.<br>3.2.1, 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 are all incorrectly indented, relative to the body of the document text.<br>Table 1, Annex II. Fourth column is left-justified but this makes the values hard to distinguish from the border of the column.  | <b>ICUMSA</b>            |

**COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR DRIED OR DEHYDRATED CHILLI PEPPER AND PAPRIKA, IN REPLY TO CL 2022/65/OCS-SCH  
(AT STEP 5/8)**

*Comments of Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, India, Iraq, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Panama, Saudi Arabia and ICUMSA*

| <b>COMMENT</b>  | <b>MEMBER / OBSERVER</b> |
|---|--------------------------|
| Se apoya el avance a trámite 5/8.   | <b>Chile</b>             |
| Costa Rica supports the advancement of the proposed Stand to the next step as proposed.   | <b>Costa Rica</b>        |
| Egypt appreciates the work done in the document and agrees with it  | <b>Egypt</b>             |
| Yes. India supports the adoption of the text by CAC45.<br>Rationale: All the issues were discussed thoroughly during the Virtual Working Group meetings and the plenary meeting of CCSC6 and were resolved. Considering para (4) of the statements of principle concerning the role of science in the codex decision-making process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account, proposed draft standard should be considered for adoption by CAC45. | <b>India</b>             |
| Yes   | <b>Iraq</b>              |
| Position: Kenya supports the adoption of this standard at Step 8<br>Rationale: Consensus was reached on the consensus sections therefore Kenya recommends that the standard can be moved forward for adoption. This will encourage trade considering that these products are grown throughout the world and at different climatic conditions.   | <b>Kenya</b>             |
| Mauritius supports the adoption at Step 5/8<br>Rationale: consensus has been reached on relevant sections, therefore the standard can be moved forward for adoption. This will encourage trade considering that these products are grown throughout the world and at different climatic conditions  | <b>Mauritius</b>         |
| Le Maroc n'a pas d'objection pour l'adoption de ce projet de norme.   | <b>Morocco</b>           |
| Panama has no comments on the document, we agree on its advance to the next procedure   | <b>Panama</b>            |
| Saudi Arabia supports the development of the standard   | <b>Saudi Arabia</b>      |
| Superscripts used in the Tables in the Annexes are too large. In the current format, there is a likelihood that they could be read as an additional number in Table 1.  | <b>ICUMSA</b>            |

**COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR DRIED SMALL CARDAMOM, IN REPLY TO CL 2022/66/OCS-SCH  
(AT STEP 5)**

*Comments of Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, India, Iraq, Kenya, Mauritius, Panama, Saudi Arabia and ICUMSA*

| <b>COMMENT</b>   | <b>MEMBER /<br/>OBSERVER</b> |
|--|------------------------------|
| Se apoya el avance a trámite 5 del anteproyecto para el cardamomo pequeño seco.  | <b>Chile</b>                 |
| Costa Rica supports the advancement of the proposed Stand to the next step as proposed.  | <b>Costa Rica</b>            |
| Egypt appreciates the work done in the document and agrees with it   | <b>Egypt</b>                 |
| Yes. India supports the adoption of the text by CAC45.<br><br>Rationale: All the issues were discussed thoroughly during the Virtual Working Group meetings and the plenary meeting of CCSCH6 and were resolved. Considering para (4) of the statements of principle concerning the role of science in the codex decision-making process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account, proposed draft standard should be considered for adoption by CAC45. | <b>India</b>                 |
| Yes  | <b>Iraq</b>                  |
| Position: Kenya agrees with the recommendation to forward the standard to CAC45 for adoption at Step 5<br><br>Rationale: the redrafted standard that includes the comments made during the CCSCH6 meeting will encourage trade and safe food within the importers and exporter. This will encourage fair trade especially within the developing countries.   | <b>Kenya</b>                 |
| Agreeing with the recommendation to forward the standard to CAC45 for adoption at Step 5<br><br>Rationale: the redrafted standard that includes the comments made during the CCSCH6 meeting will encourage trade and safe food within the importers and exporter. But also, this will encourage fair trade especially within the developing countries.   | <b>Mauritius</b>             |
| Panama has no comments on the document, we agree on its advance to the next procedure  | <b>Panama</b>                |
| Saudi Arabia supports the development of the standard.   | <b>Saudi Arabia</b>          |
| Annex I, Table 2. Last column (Mould Visible) is off the edge of the printable page. Some re-formatting of the table is required to ensure the whole of the table is on the printable page.  | <b>ICUMSA</b>                |

**COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR SPICES DERIVED FROM FRUITS AND BERRIES (ALLSPICE, JUNIPER BERRY AND STAR ANISE), IN  
REPLY TO CL 2022/67/OCS-SCH**

**(AT STEP 5)**

*Comments of Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, India, Iraq, Kenya, Mauritius, Panama, Saudi Arabia and ICUMSA*

| <b>COMMENT</b>  | <b>MEMBER /<br/>OBSERVER</b> |
|---|------------------------------|
| Se apoya el avance a trámite 5 del Anteproyecto.  | <b>Chile</b>                 |
| Costa Rica supports the advancement of the proposed Stand to the next step as proposed.   | <b>Costa Rica</b>            |
| Egypt appreciates the work done in the document and agrees with it  | <b>Egypt</b>                 |
| Yes. India supports the adoption of the text by CAC45.<br>Rationale: All the issues were discussed thoroughly during the Virtual Working Group meetings and the plenary meeting of CCSC6 and were resolved. Considering para (4) of the statements of principle concerning the role of science in the codex decision-making process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account, proposed draft standard should be considered for adoption by CAC45.   | <b>India</b>                 |
| Yes   | <b>Iraq</b>                  |
| Position: Kenya supports the adoption of proposed draft group standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries - Allspice, Juniper berry, and Star anise for adoption at Step 5, while returning the section on vanilla for redrafting at Step 2/3 and circulation for comments.<br>Rationale: Working on group standards is a new concept at Codex therefore it is better to ensure that the standards in groups are critically looked at before forwarding to the next step. This will enable the standard to be progressed to the next steps without having to reject it due to incomplete work.<br>In addition, considering that, the standard on vanilla still needs a lot of work, the CCSC6 agreed to progress the other parts to the next stage while the part on vanilla will be returned for redrafting. This will enable the committee to be in position to develop more grouped standards since they would have had a baseline on what needs to be done. | <b>Kenya</b>                 |
| Panama has no comments on the document, we agree on its advance to the next procedure   | <b>Panama</b>                |
| Saudi Arabia supports the development of the standard.  | <b>Saudi Arabia</b>          |
| Better to change page break to be after 8.5 (Labelling of Non-Retail Containers) so that all information relative to 9 (Methods of Analysis and Sampling) are on the same page.<br>Annex I, Table 1 Total Ash figures for Juniper Berries are expressed as if there should be something after the decimal point. There is no decimal point for whole numbers shown in the rest of the table so there isn't a need for them here.<br>Annex I, Table 2, Star Anise is wrongly formatted<br>Annex II, Table 1. The formatting in column 4 (Principles) should be adjusted so as not to split the word gravimetry.<br>Page break should be clearly indicated, as it is obviously required.  | <b>ICUMSA</b>                |

**COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE LABELLING PROVISIONS FOR NON-RETAIL CONTAINERS IN THE EIGHT EXISTING SCH STANDARDS, IN REPLY TO CL 2022/68/OCS-SCH**

**(ADOPTION)**

*Comments of Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, India, Iraq, Kenya, Panama, Saudi Arabia and Thailand*

| COMMENT  | MEMBER / OBSERVER |
|--|-------------------|
| Chile agradece la posibilidad de comentarios y apoya el avance de la Parte A y Parte B del documento para su adopción final.   | Chile             |
| Costa Rica supports the advancement of the proposed Stand to the next step as proposed.  | Costa Rica        |
| Egypt appreciates the work done in the document and agrees with its adoption   | Egypt             |
| <p>Yes. India supports the adoption of the text by CAC45.</p> <p>Rationale: All the issues were discussed thoroughly during the Virtual Working Group meetings and the plenary meeting of CCSC6 and were resolved. Considering para (4) of the statements of principle concerning the role of science in the codex decision-making process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account, proposed draft standard should be considered for adoption by CAC45.</p>   | India             |
| Yes  | Iraq              |
| Kenya supports adoption of the amendment to the labelling provisions for non retail containers in existing standards for spices and culinary herbs. This will align the format of these Codex Standards in accordance to the Procedural Manual.  | Kenya             |
| <p>El etiquetado de los envases no destinados a la venta al por menor debe estar de acuerdo con la Norma general para el etiquetado de envases no destinados a la venta al por menor en los alimentos.</p> <p>Panamá está de acuerdo con el texto anterior, puesto que hace enlace directo con la norma referencial, y le brinda la oportunidad al usuario de poder aplicarla en su totalidad al producto tratado.</p> <p>Panamá de acuerdo con la enmienda.</p> <p><b>English</b></p> <p>The labeling of non-retail containers must be in accordance with the General Standard for the Labeling of Non-Retail Containers of Food.</p> <p>Panama agrees with the above text, since it makes a direct link with the reference standard, and offers the user the opportunity to apply it in its entirety to the treated product.</p> <p>Panama agrees with the amendment</p> | Panama            |
| Saudi Arabia supports the development of the standard.   | Saudi Arabia      |
| The title of CXS 346 as specified in column current text should be corrected to "...of foods" not "...in foods".   | Thailand          |