



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
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Agenda Item 2

CX/FL 24/48/2  
August 2024

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING

Forty-eighth Session

Quebec City, Canada

27 October – 1 November 2024

### MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND/OR ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 46TH SESSIONS OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CAC46) AND 84TH, 85TH AND 86TH SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CCEXEC84, 85 and 86)

#### **Matters for information**

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

1. CAC46 adopted at Step 5 the:
  - revision to the *General standard for the labelling of pre-packaged foods* (CXS 1-1985) (GSLPF): Provisions relevant to allergen labelling;
  - Guidelines on the provision of food information for pre-packaged foods to be offered via e-commerce; and
  - Guidelines on the use of technology to provide food information.
2. CAC46 approved new work on amendment to the *General standard for the labelling of pre-packaged foods* (CXS 1-1985): Labelling of pre-packaged foods in joint presentation and multipack formats.<sup>2</sup>
3. CAC46 approved the amendment to Procedural Manual (PM) to formalize the submission of labelling provisions for non-retail containers to CCFL for endorsement.<sup>3</sup>

#### Future of Codex work<sup>4</sup>

4. CCEXEC85(2023) agreed that rather than develop a blueprint for the future of Codex, it was more appropriate to use the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 to guide the future direction of Codex and to consider, in parallel, a working model for future Codex work; and that the document (i.e. CX/EXEC 23/85/3, Appendix II) describing the key elements of a model for future Codex work remained a living document that should be periodically reviewed in light of experiences and learnings.
5. CAC46 endorsed the conclusions of CCEXEC85 regarding matters pertaining to future Codex work.

#### Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031<sup>5</sup>

6. CCEXEC85 (2023) considered the first draft of the elements to be included in the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031, in particular, the vision; mission; core values; drivers for change; the role of Codex; and a high-level description on Codex ways of working of the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031.
7. CCEXEC86 (2024) continued discussions on the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 and agreed:
  - i) on the following three strategic goals and one functional goal:

<sup>1</sup> REP23/CAC, para 88

<sup>2</sup> REP23/CAC, para 91

<sup>3</sup> REP23/CAC, para 22(iii)

<sup>4</sup> REP23/CAC paragraphs 8 and 16; REP22/CAC paragraph 41; [REP23/EXEC2](#) paragraph 38 (I & iii); REP24/EXEC1 paragraph 77 and 79

<sup>5</sup> REP22/EXEC2 paragraph 54, REP23/EXEC1 paragraph 115 (iii); REP23/CAC paragraphs 9 and 16

#### Strategic goals

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

#### Functional goal

- Enhance work management systems and practices that support the efficient and effective achievement of all strategic plan goals
- ii) to request the Codex Secretariat to issue a Circular Letter in September 2024 requesting comments on the agreed draft strategic goals and outcomes from all Codex Members and Observers.

### MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

#### A. Matters for information

##### 28th Session of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO28)<sup>6</sup>

8. CCFO28 agreed to forward for adoption by CAC47, the draft amendments to the labelling provisions of non-retail containers in the six existing fats and oils standards (*Standard for edible fats and oils not covered by individual standards* (CXS19-1981), *Standard for olive oils and olive pomace oils* (CXS33-1981), *Standard for named vegetable oils* (CXS210-1999), *Standard for named animal fats* (CXS211-1999), *Standard for fat spreads and blended spreads* (CXS256-1999), and *Standard for fish oils* (CXS329-2017).

##### 54th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH54)

9. CCFH54 noted the suggestion from CCFL47 to ensure consistency between the *Code of practice on allergen management for food business operators* (CXC 80-2020) and their new provisions on food allergens in the *General standard for the labelling of pre-packaged foods* (CXS 1-1985) in the future and suggested Members may wish to prepare a discussion paper ahead of CCFH55, based on the outcomes of CCFL48.

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

10. CCMAS42 established an EWG to develop a discussion paper to respond to the request from CCFL47 to support their work on precautionary allergen labelling.

11. CCMAS43 noted that the discussion paper did not fully answer the questions from CCFL and agreed to re-establish the EWG to:

- request Members to submit validation data of the methods listed in Appendix I of CX/MAS 24/43/9;
- evaluate the submitted validation studies through published method validation guidelines from AOAC14,15 and CEN performance requirements<sup>16</sup>; and
- submit a list of methods that meet either one or both of the AOAC validation guidelines and CEN performance requirements.

#### B. Matters for action

##### 7th Session of the Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH7)

12. CCFL47 requested CCSCH to answer questions to support the review of the labelling provisions for country of origin and country of harvest in the Standard for dried floral parts – saffron.

13. CCSCH7 discussed the questions and agreed to forward their responses<sup>8</sup> to CCFL (see CX/FL 24/48/4, Appendix II for the full reply).

### RECOMMENDATIONS

14. CCFL48 is invited to:

- i. note the information provided in paragraphs 1 - 11;
- ii. consider the labelling provisions for country of origin and country of harvest in the Standard for dried floral parts – saffron taking into account of the responses from CCSCH7 under Agenda item 4.

<sup>6</sup> REP24/FO, para 15(i) and Appendix II

<sup>7</sup> REP24/MAS, para 50(i), CX/MAS 24/43/9 Appendix I

<sup>8</sup> REP24/SCH, para 11 and Appendix II Part A