

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Item 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

CRD7

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEx COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION
AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS
Twenty-fourth Session
Comments of Papua New Guinea

Agenda Item 4

AGENDA ITEM 4: PROPOSED DRAFT GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF SYSTEMS EQUIVALENCE
CX/FICS 18/24/4

- **Comments at Step 3**
- Appreciate the Electronic Working Group (EWG) led by New Zealand with assistance from USA and Chile as Vice Chairs and other interested member countries
- System equivalence will address the dual mandate of Codex
- Information exchange was a critical factor in determining equivalence
- The Guidance document would reduce barriers to trade and save costs
- **Papua New Guinea appreciated using Codex text (CAC/GL 34-1999)**
- Initiating guidance document for import and export countries in consultation with Codex Manual's risk analysis framework
- The Physical Working Group (PWG) in Chile in 2017 was attended by 33 Codex Member countries and observers including Chair of CCFICS and Codex Secretariat. However, others participated using Webinar Technology
- **Papua New Guinea would supported as a standalone text**
- A 2nd PWG was held in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2018 to revise draft proposed guidance
- **Transparency was a very vital element that was considered.**
- Guidance for NFCS (CAC/GL 82-2013) provides more understanding of the generic compounds of NFCS amongst countries
- **Papua New Guinea agreed to have standalone document**
- The EWG and PWG carefully considered the existing guidance texts on CAC/GL 34-1999 and CAC/GL53-2003
- Rewrite development of work to merge with existing guidance document
- Development of new work to merge and re-write new existing equivalence guidance
- Option B- rewrite project document for consideration by the committee to merge current guidance with existence guidance

Papua New Guinea Remarks

Since the EWG and PWG have done extensive work so far in the development of the new Draft Codex guidance, Papua New Guinea would propose that we progress the work to step 5 of the Codex process and treat it as a standalone text as well as retaining references of existing texts as footnotes and retain suitable examples where appropriate.

APPENDIX 1- Draft Guidelines on Recognition and maintenance of Equivalence of National Food Control Systems (NFCS)

(Step 3)

Preamble/**Introduction**

- Existing guidance: CAC/GL 89-2016 - Guidance on the Exchange on the Exchange of NFCS information between importing and exporting countries to support in trade in food.
- CAC/GL 26-1997 provides guidance on the assessment of a Food Inspection and Certification System
- Ensure the objectives of the NFCS are similar

Section 2 –Scope/Purpose

-Recognition of equivalence is to protect the health of consumer and facilitate trade

Section 3 Definitions

-Papua New Guinea believes that what’s been described by CAC/GL 82/2013 is sufficient

Alternatives

Nationalpolicy and **regulation** setting

Equivalencesame objectives and **outcomes**

Outcomes.....**such as low, medium and high level**initial.

Equivalence of Systems

a.....**or comparable**

Alignment with international standards

c.....guidelines, **codes of practices** or

Decision Criteria

e. The.....**and outcomes**

Maintenance and Constant Review

Step 1 Initial discussions and declarations to commence

-Papua New Guinea suggests that confidence be replaced by trust

Step2-4.....Objectives or requirements

Step 7 Formalization and maintenance constant review of the recognition

Scope consideration

16. level of **trust and** confidence.....and

22.....functions (**Competent Authority**are replicated

23.knowledge, **trust**used

25. Experience, knowledge, **trust** and confidence

5.3 Step 3**objectives requirements**

27. System.....**continuous constant** improvement

Description**objectives requirements**

29.....standards, **codes of practices**.....provided.

31.....relevant **existing**met.

32.....appropriate **level of** information.....

34.....**confidence-trust**

35.....**any comparison harmonization**

36.by **an** in

37 *in accordance **with**.....

*Overarching goals (**what are some of these goals**)???

38.....**considerations documents**

41**recognitions conclusions**

42.....**maintenance review of the recognitions conclusions**

Figure 1 System Equivalence Process

-Steps 3 and 4 Objectives requirements

-Step 7 ~~Ongoing Maintenance~~ **Constant Review**

Papua New Guinea General Comments

In view of our review and editorial comments, Papua New Guinea believes the PWG and EWG has done a comprehensive work on this new guidance document therefore we recommend the Draft Standard be a standalone document and be progressed it to Step 5.

Agenda Item 5

**AGENDA ITEM 5: PROPOSED DRAFT GUIDANCE ON PAPERLESS USE OF ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATES (REVISION OF THE GUIDELINES FOR DESIGN, PRODUCTION, ISSUANCE AND USE OF GENERIC OFFICIAL CERTIFICATES - CXG 38-2001)
CX/FICS 18/24/5**

-EWG was chaired by Netherlands and co-chaired by Australia

-Revision of the Guidance for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Official Certificates (CAC/GL 38-2001)

-Electronic certificates to paperless certification

-Papua New Guinea appreciated the Development of guidance material for implementation of paperless electronic certification by amending and complementing the Codex Guidance for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic official Certificates (CAC/GL-38-2001)

-Papua New Guinea noted that the EWG maintains provisions of CAC/GL 38-2001 and added an annex to describe fundamentals of paperless exchanges, new elements introduced.

-We also the EWG learned from countries that use electronic certificates or paperless certificates.

APPENDIX 1

Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuances and Use of Generic Official Certificates

(Step 3)

Section 1. Preamble

-importing and exporting countries play a vital role in issuance of official certificates

3.....trade **and protect health of consumers**.....listing

Section 2 **Scope and** Objectives

5.....feed **and feed ingredients**animals

6.....data **elements documents**information

7....., data **elements documents**certificates

Section 3 Definitions

Certifying officers are **gazette** officers.....certificates

Section 4 Principles

9(B)through **means (what means?)**.....appropriate.

Principle B

Exporting.....through **means (what means?)**

13.....list of **food** establishments.....consignment

Principle C

16.....use of **existing** international standards.....certificates

Principle E

22.. beofficial **translations languages**

Principle F

25.Official**government competent** authorities

26...benational/regional **#**.....certificate

---have**they** issue

27. Ifincluding, **inspection and** auditing arrangements

29.....have**be neutral** andparties

30....national registrations or **regulations framework** in place.....certification

31. Where.....**of information**

33. whenWTO **for** Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) **measures such as may believed (ie** Codex, OIE, IPPC applies

35. In.....trade **protect health of consumers**. If.....exporter.

39. Paper.....**practicable possible**

41.....official **translation(s) languages**

Paperless exchange of data **elements (information and attestations)** of official certificates

42.....consider data **elements information and attestation**structure

46. Replacement.....have been **for example** lostconnect.

Revocation of Certificates

48. Whenrevocation **notice**.....The revoked originalauthority for archives.

50.....Ifnational / regional / **international laws**

ANNEX 1

GENERIC MODEL OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE

11 Conditions for transport /storage

.....**approximate temperature (what is the temperature in °C)**

15. Identification of food products

.....intended purpose (or product certified for)further processing, **feed ingredients** and trade samples.

Generic Model Official Certificate sample looks sufficient

Annex II

Requirements, Responsibilities & Data Model for Paperless Exchange of Official Certificates

Section 1. Introduction

Papua New Guinea believes the world is moving forward and as we are moving into E-commerce, it is important to implement paperless exchange of official certificate. Thus, electronic certification and signatures is the way forward as far as E-commerce is concerned eg. Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) & ePhyto.

Section 2 Scope

.....recommendations, **Codes of practices that includes like**.....protocol.

Section 3 Definitions

An.....**country's competent authority to the importing country's competent authority.**

Section 4 Requirements

The.....standards, **recommendations Codes of Practices** and guidance

Papua New Guinea Comments

In addition to the editorial comments above, Papua New Guinea fully supported the view of the EWG and PWG led by The Netherlands and co-chaired by Australia on this work.

Agenda Item 6

AGENDA ITEM 6: PROPOSED DRAFT GUIDELINES ON REGULATORY APPROACHES TO THIRD PARTY ASSURANCE SCHEMES IN FOOD SAFETY AND FAIR PRACTICES IN FOOD TRADE CX/FICS 18/24/6

- **Comments at Step 3**

Introduction

iv. Developing guidance.....may will prevent trade barriers-

v. It regulatory elements requirements be replaced as framework

Approach and sequence of the work

-Webinar technology was used via the worldwide web that involves live presentation, lecture or workshops that happens in real time as users participate the culture, video chatting, file sharing or asking questions with a microphone.

-Draft text submitted at Step 3

-Proposed text submitted for discussion was as a result of extensive discussion and inputs of 2 physical working groups and one electronic working group which involve 43 members and 15 observer organizations

-para 54 of CAC GL 82-2013 which discusses national food control systems (NFCS) taking account of Quality Assurance Systems,

-the preamble which introduces and frames the guideline with a clear scope.

-A new principal seven (7) was added to address the regulatory approaches

-the title of the document was changes in relation to what is reflected on the project document. Further comments to improve the structure are welcome.

-Appendix 1 was attached contains proposed draft principles and guidelines for assessment and use of voluntary third party assurance.

-Consider Draft presented at Appendix 1 at step3

-Propose amendments to the Draft

-Consider CAC42 for endorsement to Step 5

Preamble

-Effective controls and procedures in place protect health of consumers and enhance trade facilitation

-Principles and Guidelines for National Food Control System (NFCS) (**CAC/GL82 2013**)

-It is essential to have information and reliable data

-Guidelines provide a framework and criteria for assessing integrity and credibility of governance structures and the reliability of information generated by vTPA programme.

-Constant monitoring and review is necessary for poorly performing FBOs or sectors by increased official inspection or targeted interventions by Competent Authorities in alignment with Principle and Guidelines for National Food Control Systems (CAC/GL 82-2013).

Scope

-These guidelines are intended to assist competent authorities within the national boundaries in the effective assessment and transparent use of reliable vTPA programme information /data **to strengthen in support of their NFCS objectives.**

Definitions

Governance.....**and duplication**

Integrity: Quality of being honest and having strong moral principles

Review: verification of suitability, adequacy & effectiveness of selection and determination activities and **results output** of those activities

D. Principles

Principle 2 (Roles and responsibilities)

-**requirement framework**

Principle 3 (Processes and policies)

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

- (a)**requirements framework**
- (b)inform the **planning**, design, implementation.....

VOLUNTARY THIRD PARTY ASSURANCE OWNERS

- a. Are.....**systems**
- d. WillvTPA.....obligation

Policy options

- a. In an**rights and obligations standards**
- b. **Ok**
- c.**requirement**
- d. As.....**on the regulatory requirements framework**.....in food trade

Papua New Guinea Comments

With above few editorial above, Papua New Guinea would greatly appreciate the work of the two physical working groups and one electronic working group to further progress the Document at Step 3 and would appreciate to CCFICS24 Session would recommend the document to move to Step 5 of the Codex Process during the CAC42 Session.

Agenda Item 7

AGENDA ITEM 7: DISCUSSION PAPER ON FOOD INTEGRITY AND FOOD AUTHENTICITY

Comments submitted by Papua New Guinea

1. Introduction

The discussion paper on food integrity and authenticity was discussed at CCFICS23 and as a result the committee endorsed an EWG to be chaired by Islamic Republic of Iran and to co-chair by Canada and EU. According to the general findings it has noticed that there is a dramatic increase in food fraud and there are a various forms of food fraud. The committee developed a TOR to identify possible gaps in CCFICS texts. **In this essence, Papua New Guinea believes that the CCFICS Committee to come up with new TOR to develop a project proposal for new work and submit to CAC42 for endorsement.**

- 2. Definitions

The main elements investigated were:

(1) food integrity; (2) food authenticity; (3) food fraud; (4) economically motivated adulteration

3. Scope

- Preliminary assessment of CCFICS text
- Papua New Guinea agreed that CCFL and other Codex Committee to further look into this.
- Papua New Guinea agreed with Principles of Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification (CAC/GL 20-1995) para 7 and 8 covers risk in the area of food safety. We support the EWG to extend its TOR to look at CCFL and CCGP Texts and expand the scope of the TOR

5. Conclusion

- CCFICS texts CAC/GL 38-2001 and CAC/GL 82-2013 have guidance on Food Safety rather than food fraud.
- Also, the Principles and Guidelines for Exchange of Information in Food Safety Emergency Situations (CAC/GL 19-1995) have the scope which is limited to food safety emergencies only.

Papua New Guinea Position

Papua New Guinea congratulated the extensive work of the EWG chaired by Islamic Republic of Iran and co-chaired by Canada and EU. PNG is of the view that new work area to be requested at CAC41 Session and recommends expanding the Scope of TOR to cater for other relative Codex texts to be explored such as CCFL and CCGP. We wish to recommend the EWG and PWG to develop a Project proposal for consideration in CCFICS25 in 2019 and CAC42 to further progress the document.

Agenda Item 8

AGENDA ITEM 8: DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSIDERATION OF EMERGING ISSUES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR THE WORK OF CCFICS CX/FICS 18/24/8

YTBC