

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 4, 11,12,13,15,16,17

CRD23

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

13th Session

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 29 April – 3 May 2019

Revised Comments of Republic of Korea

(Replacement of comments of ROK in the CRD 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12)

Agenda Item 4

Republic of Korea supports the establishment of Electronic Working Group (EWG) on Radioactivity in Food which is proposed by IAEA.

However, regarding to the Notes in Proposal, we would like to suggest following comments:

- Since the scope of application timing of the Codex Guideline levels (CXS 193-1995) is ambiguous and the standards for radionuclides are absent, we suggest these issues to be considered together in eWG.

Agenda Item 11

Republic of Korea appreciates to Brazil for leading the electronic Working Group (eWG).

Republic of Korea agrees to the prioritization of food categories proposed by eWG for setting new maximum level (ML) in lead. We support to establish maximum level (ML) in lead progressively (e.g. in case of 'Processed fish', definition and the scope needs to be set preferentially) according to the timeline suggested in the project document.

Also, Republic of Korea agrees to all foods for children should be considered as priority. Regarding the recommendations of the eWG, **we support that actual food consumption data for children need to be submitted and analyzed.**

Agenda Item 12

Republic of Korea would like to support the work for including quinoa in the maximum levels (MLs) for lead and cadmium in cereals in the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (GSCTFF)* (CXS 193-1995).

Since, in Republic of Korea, lead and cadmium standards are set for cereals including quinoa, we agree to include quinoa in the maximum levels (MLs) for lead and cadmium in cereals in the GSCTFF (CXS 193-1995).

Agenda Item 13

Republic of Korea appreciates to United States of America and the United Kingdom for leading the electronic Working Group (eWG).

Republic of Korea supports the new work on revision of the COP and would like to suggest 'agricultural practice' of section 1.2 of appendix II, mentioned in the COP, to reflect the current environment related to the source of lead pollution.

- For example, leaded gasoline is not a major contributor to atmospheric lead at the moment, because leaded gasoline is not used by many countries in comparison with the past.

Agenda Item 15

Republic of Korea appreciates to New Zealand and Canada for leading the electronic Working Group (eWG).

Republic of Korea would like to support the binominal nomenclature for classifying data at a “species level”, considering that the data of concentrations of methyl mercury or total mercury show significant differences between “species”.

Agenda Item 16

Republic of Korea appreciates to Nigeria for leading the electronic Working Group(eWG).

Republic of Korea would like to submit the following comment:

- More representative data is needed to evaluate mycotoxicological concern in cassava and cassava products. Most of the currently used data was skewed to Africa. Since Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam also produce cassava as much as Nigeria, it is necessary to include samples from these countries and analyzed together.

Agenda Item 17

Republic of Korea appreciates to Brazil for leading the electronic Working Group(eWG).

Republic of Korea supports the work of eWG and would like to submit the following comments:

- We propose to add '**Rice grain, destined for further processing**' to the Food category. According to Appendix II-Table 1, it is clear that rice grain was one of the cereals frequently contaminated with aflatoxins (AF). It is necessary to call for data on AF occurrence in rice grain and conduct a dietary exposure assessment.
- We propose to include '**rice flour**' in the polished rice category. Although the impact of rice flour on AF exposure was estimated to be low, the occurrence data (Table 1) show that rice flour could be contaminated with AF at the level high enough to be concerned. For patients with celiac disease, inclusion of rice flour in the polished rice category would be helpful for improving their health. In case of inclusion of rice flour in the categories, it should be applied the same ML for polished rice.
- **We agree** on a call for data of AF occurrence on whole wheat flour. Whether this is to be included in the food categories will be depended on the results of the data analysis after more data is available for consideration.
- Whether sorghum should be included in the categories or not can be determined after gathering and analyzing more data. The data estimated was too small to conclude.
- We agree to launch a call for data on AF occurrence for the food categories selected for the new work on the establishment of MLs. The current dataset was biased by region (largely by the data from EU), and the data of some cereals, such as “maize flour, husked rice, parboiled rice, polished rice, rice flour, sorghum”, were relatively less than other cereals.