

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 7

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CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Forty-second Session

CICG, Geneva, Switzerland, 8 - 12 July 2019

PROPOSAL FOR NEW WORK

Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems

Comité du Codex sur les systèmes d'inspection et de certification des importations et des exportations alimentaires

Comité del Codex sobre Sistemas de Inspección y Certificación de Importaciones y Exportaciones de Alimentos

Project document for new work on the consolidation of Codex Guidelines related to equivalence

Comments of Ghana and Tanzania

GHANA

Position: Ghana supports consolidation of all guidelines related to equivalence.

Rationale: The consolidation is necessary to remove overlapping documents on equivalence. This could potentially prevent confusion especially where countries have to consult several documents in the process of equivalence determination.

TANZANIA

Position: Tanzania supports consolidation of all guidelines related to equivalence.

Rationale: The consolidation is necessary to remove overlapping documents on equivalence. This could potentially prevent confusion especially where countries have to consult several documents in the process of equivalence determination.

Committee on Food Hygiene

Comité sur l'hygiène alimentaire

Comité sobre Higiene de los Alimentos

Project document for new work on development of guidelines for the control of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) in beef meat, leafy greens, raw milk and cheese produced from raw milk, and sprouts

Comments of Ghana, Senegal and Tanzania

GHANA

POSITION: Ghana supports new work on STEC and agrees that beef and leafy greens should be considered the first priority commodities due to public health burden and impact on global trade.

RATIONALE: The STEC guidance document will complement already existing codex guidance (e.g control of salmonella in meat) to enable countries better manage microbiological contamination of food with STEC.

SENEGAL

Contexte: Selon le rapport de JEMRA, Comité d'Experts de la FAO/OMS, sur les STEC commandité par le CCFH47 (2015), les STEC représentent un problème grave de santé publique dans le monde entier ainsi que des défis dans la gestion des risques et le commerce. Au cours du CCFH 50, les États-Unis et le Panama ont co-présidés le GTP sur les travaux prioritaires du CCFH, et présenté le document de travail et le document de projet soumis par les États-Unis, le Chili et l'Uruguay sur la "Maîtrise des Escherichia coli

producteurs de Shiga toxines (STEC)” dans la viande de bœuf, le lait non pasteurisé et les fromages produits à partir de lait non pasteurisé, de légumes-feuilles et de graines germées comme de nouveaux travaux. Le Comité a convenu de créer un GTE présidé par le Chili et les États-Unis en vue d’élaborer un projet de directives à examiner au cours de la prochaine session.

Position: Soutient la proposition d’approbation de nouveaux travaux sur les STEC.

Justificatif: Le document d'orientation sur les STEC viendra compléter les directives du Codex qui existent déjà (par ex. la maîtrise de Salmonella dans la viande) afin de permettre aux pays de mieux gérer la contamination microbiologique des aliments par les STEC.

TANZANIA

Position: Tanzania supports new work on STEC and agrees that beef and leafy greens should be considered the first priority commodities due to public health burden and impact on global trade.

Rationale: The STEC guidance document will complement already existing codex guidance (e.g control of salmonella in meat) to enable countries better manage microbiological contamination of food with STEC.

**Committee on Pesticide Residues
Comité sur les Résidus de Pesticides
Comité sobre Residuos de Plaguicidas**

Proposal for new work to develop Guidelines for compounds of low public health concern that could be exempted from the establishment of CXLs

Comments of Ghana

GHANA

POSITION: Ghana supports the development of Guidelines for compound of low public health concerns

RATIONALE: Currently there are no international Guidelines for pesticides of low public health concerns and yet there is growing use of such products. These Guidelines will assist countries in the development of national Guidelines/ regulations on compound of low public health concerns.

The proposal is also in line with the Codex Strategic Plan.

**Committee on Contaminants in Foods
Comité sur les contaminants dans les aliments
Comité sobre Contaminantes de los Alimentos**

Establishment of MLs for lead in certain food categories

Comments of Ghana and Tanzania

GHANA

POSITION: Ghana supports approval for new work on MLs for lead

RATIONALE: This work will ensure public health protection by harmonizing the level of lead in food categories not included in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) (GSCTFF) and ensure fair practices in international food trade.

TANZANIA

Position: Tanzania supports approval for new work on MLs for lead

Rationale: This work will ensure public health protection by harmonizing the level of lead in food categories not included in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) (GSCTFF) and ensure fair practices in international food trade.

**Revision of the Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of lead contamination in foods
(CXC 56-2004)**

Comments of Ghana

GHANA

POSITION: Ghana recommends the approval for new work to revise the Code of Practice(COP) for the Prevention and Reduction of Lead Contamination in Foods

RATIONALE: Revision of the COP would complement ongoing work by CCCF on lead, including revision of maximum levels (MLs) for lead in selected commodities in the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (GSCTFF) and a discussion paper on future work on MLs for lead for inclusion in the GSCTFF.

Development of a Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cocoa beans

Comments of Ghana

GHANA

POSITION: Ghana recommends the approval for new work to develop a code of practice for the reduction and prevention of cadmium contamination in cocoa beans.

RATIONALE: Cocoa is a valuable commercial crop that contributes to the economies of several developing countries including Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Cameroon. Cadmium levels in cocoa has attracted attention lately and the CAC has already adopted MLs for cadmium in chocolates and cocoa-derived products.

The Code of Practice (COP) will provide guidance to Member States and the cocoa production industry on the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cocoa beans during production and post-harvest processing: fermentation, drying and storing.

Establishment of MLs for aflatoxins in certain cereals and cereal-based products including foods for infants and young children

Comments of Ghana and Tanzania

GHANA

POSITION: Ghana recommends approval for new work on the establishment of MLs for total aflatoxins in wheat maize, rice, flour and cereal based foods for young children

RATIONALE: This work will contribute to protecting public health and fair practices in the international food trade by establishing MLs for aflatoxins in cereal and cereal-based products.

TANZANIA

Position: Tanzania recommends approval for new work on the establishment of MLs for total aflatoxins in wheat maize, rice, flour and cereal based foods for young children

Rationale: This work will contribute to protecting public health and fair practices in the international food trade by establishing MLs for aflatoxins in cereal and cereal-based products.

**Committee on Food Labelling
Comité du Codex sur l'étiquetage des denrées alimentaires
Comité del Codex sobre Etiquetado de los Alimentos**

Proposed draft guidance on internet sales/e-commerce

Comments of Ghana, India and Tanzania

GHANA

POSITION: Ghana supports approval for new work on guidance for Internet Sales/e-Commerce.

RATIONALE: The proposal aims to develop a text that will provide Governments, the food Industry and consumers with clear and transparent guidance on the labeling of foods sold through the internet sales/e-

commerce. This will contribute to ensuring food safety, protecting consumers from food fraudulent practices and promoting fair trade globally.

INDIA

Comment: India supports the approval of proposed draft guidance as new work. We believe it is an important area of work, since online marketing/e-commerce of food products has grown rapidly over the years and a considerable number of consumers conduct their grocery shopping over the internet and the important aspect of food safety and fair practices need to be taken into consideration/addressed in the online distribution channel as well.

TANZANIA

Position: Tanzania supports approval for new work on guidance for Internet Sales/e-Commerce.

Rationale: The proposal aims to develop a text that will provide Governments, the food Industry and consumers with clear and transparent guidance on the labeling of foods sold through the internet sales/e-commerce. This will contribute to ensuring food safety, protecting consumers from food fraudulent practices and promoting fair trade globally.

Proposal for new work on allergen labelling: Revision to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: allergen labelling, and guidance on precautionary allergen or advisory labelling

Comments of Ghana, India and Tanzania

GHANA

POSITION: Ghana supports approval of the Project document on allergen labelling and guidance on precautionary allergen advisory labelling.

RATIONALE: The proposal aims to review and clarify the provisions relevant to allergen labelling in GSFLPF and provide consistent allergen information for consumers. Noting that it will help to ensure food safety, protect a consumer from consuming food/ingredients of which they might be allergic to; and promote fair trade.

INDIA

Comment: India supports the approval of new work on allergen labelling, with the understanding that issue related to precautionary allergen or advisory labelling, will also be undertaken by CCFL, advice on which was originally requested by CCFH.

TANZANIA

Position: Tanzania supports approval of the Project document on allergen labelling and guidance on precautionary allergen advisory labelling.

Rationale: The proposal aims to review and clarify the provisions relevant to allergen labelling in GSFLPF and provide consistent allergen information for consumers. Noting that it will help to ensure food safety, protect a consumer from consuming food/ingredients of which they might be allergic to; and promote fair trade.