

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 2

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

73rd Session

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10 - 13 July 2017

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEES' CHAIRS TO THE CRITICAL REVIEW

COMMITTEE ON PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

These comments are for consideration by CCEXEC on the subject of continuation or adjournment *sine die* of CCPFV. These update my earlier CCPFV Critical Review comments (in CX/EXEC 17/73/2 Add.2), and take into consideration the recently distributed proposals for new work for CCPFV (see CX/CAC 17/40/8 Add1) received in response to CL 2017/07-PFV.

In light of the recent history of CCPFV, and the recently received proposals for new work, I believe it is in the best interest of the Commission to allow CCPFV to adjourn *sine die* at this time. There are several factors which contribute to this recommendation, including the following:

- During five of its last six meetings, CCPFV has not had enough participating members to meet the requirements for a quorum, i.e., at least 20% of the members of the Commission (now at 188 members) attending^{1/}. In the last four meetings, since 2010, 26 to 29 members participated - approximately 14% to 16% of the members of the Commission at the time. This very low level of participation is a core basis for adjourning *sine die* in order to ensure responsible use of Codex resources.
- In earlier sessions, CCPFV prioritized its work, and has finished what had been identified as higher priority. Currently CCPFV has completed all of its work in the step process. (This includes CCPFV's recommendations for adoption by the 40th Session of the Commission).
- The nine proposals for new work for CCPFV, received in response to CL 2017/07-PFV, range in nature and scope; however, as a group, they do not appear to demonstrate urgency for execution nor do they appear to identify specific trade issues that the work would help resolve. They do not include support for a systematic review/revision of the group of 18 as yet-unrevised standards. Additionally, each proposal's area of interest can be addressed to varying degrees without the need for CCPFV to meet, through one of the following approaches:
 - Maintaining current status as effective regional standards for Chili Sauce and Gochujang;
 - Developing new regional standards, through existing regional coordinating committees, for Dried Persimmons, Dried Sweet Potatoes, and Dried Longans;
 - Using standards developed by other bodies (e.g., UN/ECE standards exist for Cashew Kernels and Dried Chili Peppers); or
 - Continuing to use existing Codex worldwide standards for Mango Chutney, Canned Topical Fruit Salad, and Canned Fruit Cocktail.

When there is a strong basis to ensure that a future session of CCPFV would have adequate participation, and there is enough agreed-upon new work and progress expected to merit the expenditure of Codex resources associated with a meeting, CCPFV could reconvene, and include consideration of those proposals which may be placed now in a queue for later consideration. (A precedent exists for CCPFV with respect to adjourning *sine die* and later reconvening - in 1986, CCPFV adjourned *sine die* after completing its work, and successfully reconvened in 1998 when CAC identified new work.)

These comments are intended to help facilitate review of the situation, and assist the involved decision-making bodies reach a conclusion regarding the status of CCPFV. I continue to be available to provide additional information to help in this process.

* See Codex Procedural Manual, Rule VI, paragraph 7

COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

1. Total agenda items per session of CCCF

- Items for discussion have been counted separately, also if included in one agenda item (eg. 9(a), 9(b) etc)
- There are 8 standard agenda items per session (eg. Matters referred from CAC or other Codex Committees, Other business and future work etc,)

Session	Total agenda items
CCCF1	27 (24 if AFT tree nuts combined)
CCCF2	23 (20 if AFT tree nuts combined)
CCCF3	18
CCCF4	14
CCCF5	20
CCCF6	20
CCCF7	22
CCCF8	22
CCCF9	21
CCCF10	18
CCCF11	17
CCCF12 (expected)	21 (including discussion workplan)

2. Results after each session CCCF (thus planning for next session)

Committee sessions	Step 8 and 5/8	Step 5	Other texts for adoption	Ongoing work (Steps 6 or 7) (step 2/3 and 3) (GSCTFF)	New Work	Discussion paper for next session	Revoked Standards, Discontinued work or discussion paper
CCCF1	2 (MLs tin canned food, COP OTA wine)	2 (ML 3MCPD aHVP, COP 3MCPD aHVP)	5 (amendments ToR, risk analysis principles, policy exposure assessment, definition contaminant, schedule 1)	6 (OTA cereals, AFT tree nuts RTE, AFT tree nuts FFP, revision preamble GSTCFF, SP AFT tree nuts, COP acrylamide, COP PAHs drying)	1 (COP AFT figs)	4 (ML AFT tree nuts RTE, ML AFT brazil nuts, COP OTA coffee, COP OTA cocoa)	1 (revoke CODEX STAN 248-2005)
CCCF2	7 (ML 3MCPD aHVP, ML OTA cereals, ML AFT tree nuts, COP 3-MCPD aHVP, COP AFT figs, SP AFT tree nuts)	2 (COP acrylamide, COP PAHs drying)	1 (Provisions Contaminants "Relations Commodity - General Committees)	1 (revision preamble GSTCFF)	2 (ML AFT brazil nuts, COP OTA coffee)	5 (fumonisin, benzene in soft drinks, cyanogenic glycosides, mycotoxins sorghum, ethylcarbamate alcohol beverages)	1 (DP OTA in cocoa)

Committee sessions	Step 8 and 5/8	Step 5	Other texts for adoption	Ongoing work (Steps 6 or 7) (step 2/3 and 3) (GSCTFF)	New Work	Discussion paper for next session	Revoked Standards, Discontinued work or discussion paper
CCCCF3	4 (COP acrylamide, COP OTA coffee, COP PAHs drying, revision preamble GSCTFF)	0	1 (amendments SP AFT tree nuts)	1 (ML AFT brazil nuts)	4 (ML maize, ML melamine, COP ethylcarbamate, revision COP AFT tree nuts)	1 (mycotoxins sorghum)	1 (DP benzene in soft drinks) <i>not counted: cyanogenic glycosides awaiting JECFA evaluation</i>
CCCCF4	3 (MLs melamine powdered infant formula, other foods, MLs AFT tree nuts, revised COP tree nuts)	0	0	3 (MLs melamine liquid infant formula, COP ethylcarbamate stone fruit distillates, MLs fumonisins maize)	3 (MLs DON + acetylated, MLs AFT figs) <i>Editorial amendments GSCTFF counted, was not adopted as new work</i>	7 (Natural mineral water, PAs food feed, mycotoxins sorghum, arsenic rice, OTA cocoa, furan food, risk management options)	0
CCCCF5	2 (MLs melamine liquid infant formula, COP ethylcarbamate stone fruit distillates)	0	1 (removal footnote 3 standard natural mineral waters)	3 (MLs DON + acetylated, MLs AFT figs) <i>Editorial amendments GSCTFF not discussed, no doc available</i> <i>Not counted: MLs fumonisins held at step 4 awaiting JECFA</i>	3 (MLs arsenic rice) <i>(not at step 1 but counted: revision risk analysis principles, revision COP source directed measures)</i>	5 (PAs, MLs+COP lead, risk management options, mycotoxins sorghum, OTA cocoa,	1 (DP furan in food)
CCCCF6	2 (MLs melamine liquid infant formula, AFT figs)	0	3 (revised risk analysis principles, revised COP source directed measures, definition contaminant)	3 (MLs DON, Arsenic rice (held at 4), editorial amendments GSCTFF) <i>Not counted: MLs fumonisins held at step 4 awaiting JECFA</i>	7 (MLs lead, ML HCN cassava, revision GL radionuclides, COP OTA cocoa, COP PAs weed control, COP HCN cassava, COP Annex AFT/OTA sorghum,	5 (COP arsenic rice, control measures fumonisins, COP PAs other than weed control, GL methylmercury fish, AFT cereals)	1 (DP guidance risk management options)

Committee sessions	Step 8 and 5/8	Step 5	Other texts for adoption	Ongoing work (Steps 6 or 7) (step 2/3 and 3) (GSCTFF)	New Work	Discussion paper for next session	Revoked Standards, Discontinued work or discussion paper
CCCCF7	4 (MLs lead, DON, COP HCN cassava, COP OTA cocoa)	1 (MLs DON)	1 (consequential amendments HCN cassava)	6 (MLs lead, iAs rice, fumonisins, COP Pas, COP Annex AFT/OTA sorghum, editorial amendments GSCTFF)	0	4 (MLs AFT peanuts, AFT cereals, GL methylmercury fish, revision COP mycotoxins cereals)	4 (consequential MLs lead, MLs HCN cassava, revision GL radionuclides, DP PAs other than for weed control)
CCCCF8	5 (MLs lead, iArsenic polished rice, fumonisins, COP Pas, COP Annex OTA myco cereals)	0	1 (editorial amendments GSCTFF)	3 (MLs DON and Lead, iArsenic husked rice)	4 (ML AFT cereals, MLs cadmium cocoa, COP arsenic rice, revision COP mycotoxins cereals)	6 (radionuclides, MLs mycotoxins spices, methylmercury fish, COP mycotoxins spices, submission data GEMS/Food, Phasing in MLs)	2 (MLs acetylated DON, consequential MLs lead)
CCCCF9	2 (MLs lead and DON)	2 (ML iArsenic and revised COP myco cereal)	0	4 (ML lead, cadmium, COP arsenic, COP annexes mycotoxins cereals) <i>Not counted: MLs AFT peanuts RTE held at step 4 awaiting JECFA</i>	1 (COP mycotoxins spices)	3 (COP annexes ergot, MLs mycotoxins spices, MLs methylmercury fish)	3 (consequential MLs lead, DP GEMS/Food and DP phasing in MLs)
CCCCF10	4 (MLs iArsenic, lead, COP mycotoxins cereals + Annexes)	0	0	4 (MLs lead, cadmium, COP mycotoxins spices, COP arsenic rice. COP annex ergot as part of total COP, not new work.) <i>Not counted: MLs AFT peanuts RTE held at step 4 awaiting JECFA</i>	0	3 (ML mycotoxins spices, ML methylmercury fish, Revision COP dioxins/PCBs)	1 (consequential MLs lead)

Committee sessions	Step 8 and 5/8	Step 5	Other texts for adoption	Ongoing work (Steps 6 or 7) (step 2/3 and 3) (GSCTFF)	New Work	Discussion paper for next session	Revoked Standards, Discontinued work or discussion paper
CCCCF11	4 (MLs lead, COP arsenic rice, COP mycotoxins spices, COP Annex ergot)	1 (MLs lead)	1 (inclusion ML lead and iArsenic standard fish oil)	3 (MLs lead, ML cadmium, ML AFT peanuts)	5 (MLs methylmercury, MLs mycotoxins spices, GL low levels food, COP 3MCPD/GE, revision COP dioxins/PCBs)	5 (ML lead new categories, MLs HCN cassava, AFT/STG cereals, COP cadmium cocoa, workplan CCCF)	1 (consequential MLs lead) <i>Not counted: Annexes COP myco spices which was considered separate work in CCCC9</i>