



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fifty-first Session

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 41ST SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CAC41)

A. Matters for information

Standards and Related Texts adopted by the Commission¹

1. CAC41 adopted:
 - Amendments to the *List of Codex Specifications for Food Additives* (CXM 6);
 - Food additive provisions of the *General Standard for Food Additives* (CXS 192-1995) (GSFA) with proposed amendments;
 - Revision of the *Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives* (CXG 36-1989);
 - Revised food-additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the alignment of the annexes on canned mangoes, canned pears and canned pineapples of the *Standard for Certain Canned Fruits* (CXS 319-2015) and 14 standards for fish and fish products; and
 - Revised food-additive sections of the *Standard for Certain Canned Fruits* (CXS 319-2015) and the Standards for *Canned Salmon* (CXS 3-1981); *Canned Shrimps or Prawns* (CXS 37-1991); *Canned Tuna and Bonito* (CXS 70-1981); *Canned Crab Meat* (CXS 90-1981); *Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products* (CXS 94-1981); *Canned Finfish* (CXS 119-1981); *Salted Fish and Dried Salted Fish of the Gadidae Family of Fishes* (CXS 167-1989); *Dried Shark Fins* (CXS 189-1993); *Crackers from Marine and Freshwater Fish, Crustacean and Molluscan Shellfish* (CXS 222-2001); *Boiled Dried Salted Anchovies* (CXS 236-2003); *Salted Atlantic Herring and Salted Sprat* (CXS 244-2004); *Sturgeon Caviar* (CXS 291-2010); *Fish Sauce* (CXS 302-2011) and *Smoked Fish, Smoke-Flavoured Fish and Smoke-Dried Fish* (CXS 311-2013); Standards for *Milk Powders and Cream Powder* (CXS 207-1999), *a Blend of Skimmed Milk and Vegetable Fat in Powdered Form* (CXS 251-2006); and *Edible Casein Products* (CXS 290-1995)

Revocation of existing Codex Standards and Related Texts²

2. CAC41 approved the revocation of food additive provisions of the GSFA and various Codex standards as proposed by CCFA50.

Discontinuation of work³

3. CAC41 approved the discontinuation of draft and proposed draft food additive provisions for the GSFA as proposed by CCFA50.

¹ REP18/CAC para 45 and Appendices III and VIII

² REP18/CAC Appendix V

³ REP18/CAC Appendix VII

B. Matters for action

Food-additive provisions of *the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)*⁴

4. At CAC41, one Member expressed concern regarding the justification for the inclusion of Rebaudioside A from multiple gene donors expressed in *Yarrowia lipolytica* (INS 960b(i)) in the GSFA and requested procedural clarification in this regard.
5. CAC41 requested that CCFA clarify the operational procedure for the addition/removal of individual food additives under the same group heading should such issues be raised in CCFA.
6. The Committee is **invited to consider** the request.

MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

A. Matters for information

24th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS24)

Food Integrity, food authenticity and food fraud⁵

7. CCFICS24 continued the discussions on the topic of food integrity, food authenticity and food fraud and noted that the work was broad and might overlap with the mandates of other committees and CCFICS could consider seeking advice from the Commission and relevant Committees.
8. CCFICS24 agreed to inform CCEXEC, the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of its ongoing discussions on this subject.

40th Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU40)

Food additives – mechanism / framework for considering technological justification and other matters^{6,7}

9. CCNFSDU 40 agreed to: (i) continue the consideration on the mechanism / framework for considering technological justification; (ii) appraise the technological need for the proposed use of xanthan gum (INS 415), pectin (INS 440) and gellan gum (INS 418) at the next session.
10. CCNFSDU 40 also agreed to consider alignment of food additives in CCNFSDU standards with the GSFA at its next session.

B. Matters for action

The 75th Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC75)

Guidelines for the management of (micro)biological foodborne crises/outbreaks⁸

11. CCEXEC75 took note of the cross-cutting nature of the new work proposal by CCFH for guidelines for the management of (micro)biological foodborne crises/outbreaks and requested the Codex Secretariat to inform other relevant Codex committees and request that they reflect on whether similar guidance was needed on food safety crises/outbreaks in their respective areas of work; would, depending on the feedback from those committees, consider any need to address the issue in a more integrated manner; and stressed that the process should not prevent CCFH from moving forward with the new work.
12. The Committee is **invited to consider** the request.

The 4th Session of Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH4)

Guidance on the alignment of food-additive provisions and alignment plan⁹

13. CCSCH4 noted that only anticaking agents may be used in spices and culinary herbs and only in the powdered form of such products and therefore agreed to forward the following generic statement to CCFA for endorsement:

⁴ REP18/CAC paras 40-46

⁵ REP19/FICS, paras 54-60

⁶ REP19/NFSDU para 139

⁷ REP19/NFSDU para 141

⁸ REP18/EXEC2-Rev.1, paras 9 - 11

⁹ REP19/SCH, para 9

“Anticaking agents may be used in the powdered form of the product in accordance with Table 3 of the *General Standards for Food Additives* (CXS 192-1995).”

Technological justification for the use of food additives¹⁰

14. CCSCH4 agreed to inform CCFA that anticaking agents were used in the powdered form of culinary herbs with the purpose of maintaining the free-flowing physical characteristic of the product and that magnesium stearate (INS 470 (iii)) and amorphous silicon dioxide (INS 551) may be used in the powdered form and in accordance with good manufacturing practice (GMP).
15. The Committee **is invited to consider** the replies contained in paragraphs 13 and 14.

Proposed draft standard for dried or dehydrated ginger¹¹

16. CCSCH4 agreed to request CCFA to clarify how processing aids could be addressed under the Section 4 “Food additives” in accordance with relevant provisions in the Codex Procedural Manual.
17. The Committee **is invited to consider** the request.

¹⁰ REP19/SCH, para 10

¹¹ REP19/SCH, para 39(iii)