



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Eighty-first Session

Virtual

Matters related to other Codex Subsidiary bodies

Prepared by the Codex Secretariat

Proposal for revision of the *Standard for Kimchi (CXS 223-2001)*

1. The Codex Secretariat would like to inform CCEXEC that a discussion paper with a proposal for the revision of the Codex *Standard for Kimchi (CXS 223-2001)*, which was last revised in 2017, has been submitted to the Codex Secretariat by the Republic of Korea.
2. Before being presented as new work proposal for CCEXEC's critical review and the Commission's consideration for approval, the Codex Secretariat will issue a Circular Letter (CL) requesting the views from Members and observers on the new work proposal.
3. The Codex Secretariat would like to bring to CCEXEC's attention that this standard falls under the purview of the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV), which was adjourned *sine die* by CAC43 in 2020.
4. It is recalled that CCEXEC79 (2020) recommended that upon completion of its current session, CCPFV be adjourned *sine die* with the understanding that the Committee may be reactivated in the future based on needs identified by Members and a sufficient workload. CAC40 (2017) had already approved new work proposals on cashew kernels (submitted by India) and dried sweet potatoes (submitted by the Republic of Korea), which CAC41 (2018) had agreed to consider at a later stage. The Coordinator for Asia at CCEXEC79 (2020) highlighted the interest in commencing work on developing a standard for cashew kernels and on dried sweet potato.
5. It is also recalled that CAC43 (2020), when adjourning CCPFV *sine die*, requested CCFFV to consider the feasibility of taking up the task related to the development of a standard for cashew kernels. Mexico, as host country of CCFFV, indicated that in their view the work on cashew kernels was within the mandate of CCPFV and it should be undertaken by CCPFV rather than CCFFV. At CAC43 (2020), Ghana, Kenya, Senegal and Uganda stressed the importance of cashew kernels in Africa and supported commencing work on developing a standard for this product. India expressed their reservation to the adjournment of CCPFV.
6. CCEXEC81 is invited to note the proposal on revising the *Standard for Kimchi (CXS 223-2001)*, also in light of the two new work items that already have been approved and placed in a queue for possible future work, and that this may warrant a consideration of a possible proposal for reactivation of CCPFV by CAC45.

Update on the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products

7. CAC43 (2020) approved the proposal that the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP) be reactivated to work by correspondence in accordance with the "Procedure for the Inclusion of Additional Species in Codex Standards for Fish and Fishery Products" in the Procedural Manual to evaluate if the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products (CXS 94-1981) could be amended to include the fish species *S. lemuru* (Bali Sardinella) in the list of *Sardinella* species under section 2.1.
8. The 35th Session of CCFFP was successfully convened between 20 September and 25 October 2021 working by correspondence (report adoption held virtually on 25 October 2021, REP21/FFP).
9. CCFFP35 agreed to establish an EWG, chaired by the Philippines and co-chaired by the EU, working in English, French and Spanish, to oversee the sensory evaluation of the candidate species, i.e. *S. lemuru* and report to the CCFFP36, tentatively scheduled to take place in early 2023, on its findings, conclusions and recommendations.

Update on the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils

10. The 27th Session of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO27) took place virtually between 18 and 26 October 2021. CCFO27 successfully concluded its work on sunflowerseed oil and forwarded it to the Commission for final adoption (Step 5/8) and advanced its work on avocado oil which it forwarded to the Commission for adoption at Step 5. In addition, it addressed a range of issues referred from CCMAS.

11. Discussions on the revision of the *Standard for olive oil and olive pomace oils* (CXS33-1981) led to progress on several of the outstanding issues including a reconsideration on the inclusion of ordinary olive oil and a mechanism has been put in place to facilitate completion of this work at the next session. However, due to the need for further work on both the olive oil standard and the provisions for avocado oil, an extension of the timeline for the work is requested from CCEXEC in both cases.

12. CCFO27 forwarded four new work proposals for approval, namely work on high oleic acid soy bean oil, sacha inchi oil and camellia oil, which would lead to revisions to the *Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* (CXS 210-1999) and new work on calanus oil which would lead to a revision of the *Standard for Fish Oils* (CXS-239-2017). Based on the current practice and in order not to lose time, the EWGs are expected to immediately commence their work pending the approval of the new proposals by CAC45.

13. There was strong interest in considering how CCFO could contribute to addressing the issue of *trans-fatty acids/partially hydrogenated oils* and a discussion paper on this will be developed for the next session of CCFO. CCFO, on behalf of a Member, has also requested guidance and advice from CCEXEC on the mechanisms that could be used to revise the *Standard for Milk Fat Products* (CXS 280-1973) with a view to aligning the maximum levels for copper and iron in ghee (butter oil) in CXS 280-1973 with those in the *Standard for Named Vegetable Oil* (CXS 210-1999).

14. Due to the short time period between the completion of CCFO27 and CAC44, it was not possible to prepare the critical review or circulate standards for adoption for a final round of comments. Therefore, these will be considered by CAC45.