

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
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Agenda Item 3

CX/FL 02/3

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING

Thirtieth Session

Halifax, Canada, 6 - 10 May 2002

CONSIDERATION OF LABELLING PROVISIONS IN DRAFT CODEX STANDARDS

COMMITTEE FOR COCOA PRODUCTS AND CHOCOLATE¹

DRAFT STANDARD FOR CHOCOLATE AND CHOCOLATE PRODUCTS

(At Step 8 of the Procedure)

In addition to the requirements of the Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CODEX STAN 1-1985 Rev. 1-1991), the following declarations shall be made:

5.1 NAME OF THE FOOD

5.1.1 Products described under Sections 2.1 and 2.2 of this Standard and complying with the appropriate requirements of the relevant section shall be designated according to the name listed in Section 2 under subsequent section and subject to the provisions under Section 5 of this Standard. The products defined in section 2.1.1 may be described as “Bittersweet chocolate”, “Semi-sweet chocolate”, “Dark chocolate” or “Chocolat fondant”.

5.1.1.1 When sugars are fully or partly replaced by sweeteners, an appropriate declaration should be included in proximity of the sales designation of the chocolate, mentioning the presence of sweeteners. *Example:* “X Chocolate with sweeteners”.

5.1.1.2 The use of vegetable fats in addition to Cocoa butter in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 shall be indicated on the label in association with the name and/or the representation of the product. The authorities having jurisdiction may prescribe the specific manner in which this declaration shall be made.

5.1.2 Filled Chocolate

5.1.2.1 Products described under Section 2.2.2. shall be designated “Filled Chocolate”, “X Filled Chocolate”, “Chocolate with X Filling” or “Chocolate with X Centre”, where “X” is descriptive of the nature of the filling.

5.1.2.2 The type of chocolate used in the external coating may be specified, whereby the designations used shall be the same as stated under Section 5.1.1 of this Standard.

5.1.2.3 An appropriate statement shall inform the consumer about the nature of the centre.

¹ ALINORM 03/14, Appendix II

5.1.3 A Chocolate or Praline

Products in a single mouthful size described under Section 2.2.3 of this Standard shall be designated “A *Chocolate*” or “*Praline*”.

5.1.4 Assorted Chocolates

Where the products described under Section 2.1 or 2.2 with exception of *chocolate a la taza*, *chocolate familiar a la taza* and *chocolate para mesa* are sold in assortments, the product name may be replaced by the words “*Assorted Chocolates*” or “*Assorted filled Chocolates*”, “*Assorted Chocolate Vermicelli*”, etc. In that case, there shall be a single list of ingredients for all the products in the assortment or alternatively lists of ingredients by products.

5.1.5 Other Information Required

5.1.5.1 Any characterizing flavour, other than chocolate flavour shall be in the designation of the product.

5.1.5.2 Ingredients, which are especially aromatic and characterize the product shall form part of the name of the product (e.g. Mocca Chocolate).

5.1.6 Use of the Term Chocolate

Products not defined under this Standard, and where the chocolate taste is solely derived from non-fat cocoa solids, can carry the term “chocolate” in their designations in accordance with the provisions or customs applicable in the country in which the product is sold to the final consumer and this to designate other products which cannot be confused with those defined in this Standard.

5.2 DECLARATION OF MINIMUM COCOA CONTENT

When required by the authority having jurisdiction, products described under Section 2.1 of this Standard, except for *white chocolat*, shall carry a declaration of cocoa solids. For the purpose of this declaration, the percentages declared shall be made on the chocolate part of the product after the deduction of the other permitted edible foodstuffs.

5.3 LABELLING OF NON-RETAIL CONTAINERS

5.3.1 Information required in Section 5.1 and 5.2 of this Standard and Section 4 of the Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor and/or importer shall appear on the container.

5.3.2 However, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor and/or importer may be replaced by an identification mark provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.