

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**

**CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

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**REPORT**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Selected Decisions of CAC42

CAC42 was attended by 538 delegates from 99 Member countries and 58 Observer organizations.

#### **CAC42 adopted:**

- Maximum residue limits (MRLs) for 32 different pesticides in various foods and feeds;
- 154 food-additive provisions of the *General Standard for Food Additives* (GSFA) (CXS 192- 1995) which were already in the step procedure and replacement notes to Note 161 which allowed the adoption of 111 revised food additive provisions for sweeteners; revised food additive provisions in 23 commodity standards and in the GSFA as part of the ongoing exercise on alignment of food additive provisions between commodity standards and the GSFA; and revisions to the *Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives* (CXS36-1989);
- Maximum levels (MLs) for lead in selected commodities in the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (CXS 193- 1995) with a consequential amendment to the ML for lead in wine;
- *Guidelines for rapid risk analysis following instances of detection of contaminants in food where there is no regulatory level*;
- The *Code of practice for the reduction of 3- monochloropropane 1,2-diol esters (3- MCPDEs) and glycidyl esters (GEs) in refined oils and food products made with refined oils*;
- Amendments to the *Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products* (CXC 52- 2003) to align with the Guidance for Histamine Control;
- The Preamble and document structure for the *General Standard on Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234-1999);
- *A Standard for dried or dehydrated garlic*;
- The Section on moisture in the *Standard for quinoa*;
- Provisions for almond, flaxseed, hazelnut, pistachio, and walnut oils as well as palm oil with a higher content of Oleic acid (OXG) to be included in the *Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* (CXS 210-1999);

**CAC42 held** extensive discussions on the proposed draft ML for cadmium for chocolates containing or declaring <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis and the inclusion of a provision for trisodium citrate in fluid milk (FC 01.1.1) in the GSFA. As there was no consensus on final adoption, these two standards will be further discussed in the relevant technical committees.

**CAC42 approved** ten new work items, including on allergen labelling, internet sales/e-commerce, a code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cocoa beans, and guidelines for the control of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in specific foods.

**CAC42 discontinued** work on development of a standard for non-centrifuged dehydrated sugar cane juice and as consequence, the Codex Committee on Sugars (CCS) was adjourned *sine die*;

#### **CAC42 discussed Codex work management and sustainable scientific advice from FAO/WHO and in particular:**

- Endorsed the decision of CCEXEC77 to establish a sub-committee to develop practical guidance for Codex Subsidiary Bodies and their chairpersons on the operationalisation of the *Statements of Principle Concerning the Role of Science* to allow Codex to set standards that are needed by Members and are based on science, while acknowledging different situations in different areas of the world and to complement the guidance provided in the *Measures to Facilitate Consensus*.
- Adopted the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025, encouraged all Members to participate in the development of the work plan for its implementation over the next year, particularly during the FAO/WHO coordinating committees, and requested CCEXEC79 to present the proposed work plan for implementation of the Strategic Plan to CAC43;
- Acknowledged the valuable scientific advice work by FAO and WHO and supported the recommendations to FAO and WHO included in the discussion paper for the development of a new strategy for sustainable funding from FAO and WHO regular budgets for scientific advice in support of Codex activities.

**CAC42 re-elected**, as Chairperson, Mr Guilherme Antonio da Costa Jr. (Brazil) and, as Vice-Chairpersons, Mr Purwiyatno Hariyadi (Indonesia), Ms Mariam Eid (Lebanon) and Mr Steve Wearne (United Kingdom); and re-elected Egypt (Near East), United States of America (North America), and Australia (South West Pacific) and elected Tanzania (Africa), Japan (Asia), Germany (Europe), and Uruguay (Latin America and the Caribbean) as Members of the Executive Committee.

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission convened its Forty-second Session (CAC42), in Geneva, Switzerland, from 8 to 12 July 2019, chaired by Mr Guilherme Antonio da Costa Jr. (Brazil), Chairperson of the Commission, assisted by the Vice-Chairpersons Mr Purwiyatno Hariyadi (Indonesia), Ms Mariam Eid (Lebanon) and Mr Steve Wearne (United Kingdom), and attended by delegates from 99 Member countries and one Member Organization, and observers of 58 international governmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including United Nations agencies. The list of participants is contained in Appendix I.

## OPENING<sup>1</sup>

### Welcome addresses by FAO and WHO

2. The Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus<sup>2</sup>, and the Assistant Director-General for Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Mr Bukar Tijani<sup>3</sup>, welcomed participants and addressed the Commission. The Chairperson of the Commission also gave an opening address.
3. An announcement was made that the fourth round of country applications to the Codex Trust Fund (CTF) is open from 15 August to 30 November 2019.
4. CAC42 observed a minute's silence in memory of the late Mr Xuegui Kan, former Director-General, Department of Health Regulation and Supervision, Ministry of Health of China, who had for many years served as the Head of the Chinese National Codex Committee and was the driving force behind China's application to be the host country for the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) and the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) in 2006.

### Division of competence<sup>4</sup>

5. CAC42 noted the division of competence between the European Union (EU) and its Member States in accordance with Rule II, paragraph 5, of the CAC Rules of Procedure, as presented in conference room document 1 (CRD1).

### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda item 1)<sup>5</sup>

6. CAC42 adopted the provisional agenda with the addition under item 19, "Any other business", of:
  - i. Cooperation between the International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV) and the Codex Alimentarius Commission (proposed by OIV)<sup>6</sup>;
  - ii. Importance of Codex standards for the promotion of public health and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (proposed by Saudi Arabia)<sup>7</sup>; and
  - iii. Support for the use of Basic Methacrylate Copolymer (BMC, INS 1205) in food fortification programmes (proposed by Senegal)<sup>8</sup>.

### REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON ON THE 76th and 77th SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Agenda item 2)<sup>9</sup>

7. Pursuant to Rule V, paragraph 7, of the CAC Rules of Procedure, the Chairperson drew the attention of the Commission to the reports of the seventy-sixth and seventy-seventh sessions of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC), observing that the Commission would consider their recommendations under the relevant agenda items.

### CCEXEC76

8. CAC42 took note of the discussions and conclusions contained in the report of CCEXEC76.

<sup>1</sup> Video recordings available at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/Meetings/Extra/CAC42/CAC42-Webcast/en>

<sup>2</sup> Available at: <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/opening-speech-at-the-42nd-session-of-the-codex-alimentarius-commission>

<sup>3</sup> CRD 26

<sup>4</sup> Division of Competence between the European Union and its Member States (CRD1)

<sup>5</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/1 Rev.1

<sup>6</sup> CRD 10 (OIV)

<sup>7</sup> CRD31 (Saudi Arabia)

<sup>8</sup> CRD33 (Senegal)

<sup>9</sup> REP19/EXEC1, REP19/EXEC2, CRD12 (Ecuador), CRD24 (India)

**CCEXEC77**

9. CAC42 took note of the discussions and conclusions contained in the report of CCEXEC77.
10. In addition, CAC42:
  - i. noted the concern raised by India on the pace of the work to establish a maximum level for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts and its importance for developing countries; and
  - ii. clarified that work on the development of the definition on biofortification, was the responsibility of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU), which should further discuss the issue and consider discontinuation following feedback from the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL).

With regards to the Statements of Principle, CAC42 noted the following views expressed by delegations:

- i. that the Procedural Manual sets a clear route for managing the subsidiary bodies and provides sufficient tools for science-based decision making consistent with transparency and consensus; and
  - ii. that the paper for CCEXEC on the history and analysis of the issue (CX/EXEC 19/77/10) will remain a reference for further discussion among the whole Codex membership.
11. CAC42 endorsed the recommendations of CCEXEC77 to establish a sub-committee of the CCEXEC on the application of the Statements of Principle Concerning the Role of Science, while not reopening them. CAC42 also endorsed the Proposed Terms of Reference for the sub-committee<sup>10</sup>.
  12. CAC42 stressed that while the lead for this work would be with the CCEXEC and its sub-committee, it was desirable to reinforce transparency and the possibility for all members to give input to this work by:
    - i. Making the online exchanges and documents distributed by the sub-committee via the forum for Electronic Working Groups (EWGs) accessible to all members;
    - ii. Holding informal discussions on the issue in the margins of appropriate meetings, e.g. FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees and the CCGP;
    - iii. Issuing Circular Letters to request comments from all members in advance of both CCEXEC78 and CCEXEC79; and
    - iv. Ensuring the timely distribution of documents and in all languages where relevant.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL (Agenda item 3)**

13. There were no amendments to the Procedural Manual.

**FINAL ADOPTION OF CODEX TEXTS AT STEPS 8 AND 5/8 (Agenda item 4)<sup>11</sup>**

14. CAC42 adopted the draft and proposed draft standards and related texts submitted by its subsidiary bodies at Step 8 (including those submitted at Step 5/8 with a recommendation to omit Steps 6 and 7), as well as other standards and related texts submitted for adoption as endorsed by the relevant general subject committees, taking into account the Critical Review of CCEXEC77 (Appendix II).
15. In addition, CAC42 noted the following comments and decisions:

**Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)*****Alignment of the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (CXC 52 – 2003) with the Histamine Control Guidance<sup>12</sup>***

16. CAC42 noted that with the finalization of the consequential amendments to the *Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products* (CXC 52-2003) to align with the guidance on histamine control, which was adopted at CAC41, the guidance on histamine control would now be published as the new section 10 of the *Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products* (CXC 52-2003).

<sup>10</sup> REP19/EXEC2, Appendix IV

<sup>11</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/3-Rev.1, CX/CAC 19/42/3-Add.1, CX/CAC 19/42/4, CX/CAC 19/42/4 Add.1, CRD12 (Ecuador), CRD13 (Gambia), CRD14 (El Salvador), CRD15 (Mali), CRD16 (Nicaragua), CRD17 (Uruguay), CRD19 (Uganda), CRD20 (Peru), CRD21 (Indonesia), CRD22 (African Union), CRD23 (Nigeria), CRD25 (Liberia), CRD28 (Philippines), CRD32 (NHF)

<sup>12</sup> REP19/FH para. 38, Appendix II

## Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

### *Food-additive provisions of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)<sup>13</sup>*

#### Use of mono- and diglycerides of fatty acids (INS 471) and salts of myristic, palmitic and stearic acids with ammonia, calcium, potassium and sodium (INS 470 (i)) in FC 04.1.1.2 "Surface-treated fresh fruit"

17. One Member expressed concern on the use of food additives as "surface treatment" on fresh fruits as in their view, this could mislead consumers. The Member emphasized the importance of providing sufficient information to consumers regarding such treatment through mandatory labelling.
18. The CCFA Chairperson explained that these provisions were submitted for adoption as, after extensive discussions at CCFA51, a Note reading "*For use in waxes, coatings, or glazes where these applications are allowed for the application to the surface of fresh fruit/fresh vegetables*" was agreed and then associated with the relevant provisions.
19. The Codex Secretariat clarified that the use of INS 471 and INS 470(i) in Food Category (FC) 04.1.1.2 "Surface-treated fresh fruit" was also discussed at the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV20), and a request, including the technological justification for these additives was forwarded to CCFA for their entry into the *General Standard for Food Additives* (GSFA, CXS 192-1995). It was further mentioned that requirements for labelling were covered by the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985) and the respective commodity standards.

### Conclusion

20. The Commission adopted the draft food-additive provisions for the use of INS 471 and INS 470(i) in FC 04.1.1.2 at Step 8.
 

Draft provision for trisodium citrate (INS 331(iii)) in FC 01.1.1 "Fluid milk (plain)"
21. The Codex Secretariat introduced the item and explained that the use of trisodium citrate (INS 331(iii)) in FC 01.1.1 "Fluid milk (plain)" had been extensively discussed at several CCFA sessions, and that CCFA had decided to associate the provision with notes 438, 439 and B25, to facilitate its application.
22. CAC42 noted the following views expressed by delegations not supporting the provision:
  - i. The use of trisodium citrate (INS 331(iii)) was not technologically justified and could result in changing the nature of the product and cause inconsistencies with the *General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms* (CXS 206-1999);
  - ii. Scientific studies had demonstrated that there was no need to use additives in UHT milk and that currently nitrogen (INS 941) and the food additive group PHOSPHATES were the only additives authorised for use in FC 01.1.1;
  - iii. Permitting the use of this food additive under conditions of GMP could create public health concerns in infants fed with UHT milk; and
  - iv. This issue was related to the application of section 3.2 of the preamble to the GSFA and therefore the use of food additives in this FC would mislead consumers as they did not expect milk to contain additives.
23. Delegations supporting the adoption of the provision recognised the scientific advice provided by FAO and WHO and were of the opinion that the use of trisodium citrate in FC 01.1.1 did not constitute any food safety concerns and was technologically justified only under certain climatic conditions.
24. One delegation that supported the use of this food additive considered it necessary to insist on good practices in the food chain bearing in mind risk factors.
25. The Representative of FAO clarified that, taking into account the global diet exposure data, the safety of trisodium citrate had been confirmed by JECFA. Should new information become available, a JECFA re-evaluation could be requested by CCFA.
26. One member stated that it was unclear under which "climatic conditions" Note B25 reading "*For use in UHT milk from bovine species to compensate for citrate or calcium content to prevent sedimentation as a result of climatic conditions only*" would apply and that further explanation would be needed.
27. In view of the lengthy discussions and difficulty in reaching consensus, the CCFA Chairperson proposed that CAC42 recommend to CCFA to further consider possible solutions, e.g. setting numeric use levels and/or clarifying the notes further.

<sup>13</sup> REP19/FA para. 137 (i), Appendix VI Part A

28. CAC42 encouraged members to actively participate in CCFA meetings so that technical issues could be fully deliberated there.

#### **Conclusion**

29. CAC42 agreed to return the draft food-additive provision for the use of trisodium citrate in FC 01.1.1 to CCFA for further consideration.

#### Proposed draft provisions related to FC 01.1.2 “Other fluid milks (plain)” with the technological functions of emulsifier and stabilizer

30. CAC42 was informed that FC 01.1.2 was a new food category adopted by CAC39 in 2016 aimed at differentiating the use of food additives used in fluid milks other than those specified in FC 01.1.1.

31. Delegations not supporting the adoption of the proposed draft provisions pointed out that:

- i. Addition of food additives in FC 01.1.2 with the technological functions of emulsifier and stabilizer could mislead consumers as these additives could also have other technological functions, such as thickener which, for this category, was not justified in accordance with Section 3.2 of the preamble of the GSFA; and
- ii. Food products covered under FC 01.1.2 may be used in production of food for children and therefore the use of food additives in FC 01.1.2 should be addressed together with the provisions relating to FC 01.1.1.

32. Delegations supporting the adoption of these provisions were of the view that:

- i. These food additives had been evaluated by JECFA with Acceptable Daily Intakes (ADIs) of “not specified” and there had been consensus after extensive discussions at several sessions of CCFA; and
- ii. The use of these food additives in this food category is limited to emulsifier or stabilizer only, which was technologically justified and would not mislead consumers.

#### **Conclusion**

33. CAC42 adopted the proposed draft provisions related to FC 01.1.2 with the technological functions of emulsifier and stabilizer only, at Step 5/8.

34. Costa Rica expressed their reservation to this decision.

#### *Revised food-additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the replacement notes to Note 161<sup>14</sup>*

35. The CCFA Chairperson informed CAC42 that Note 161 had first been used 12 years ago as a compromise note that could be associated with certain sweetener provisions to allow for differences in application by members. However, concerns were expressed that the application of Note 161 was inconsistent with the Statements of Principle in the Procedural Manual and could cause barriers to trade and therefore the note should be removed or revised. CCFA had held several rounds of EWGs and the new replacement notes endorsed at CCFA51 represented important progress and compromise.

36. Tanzania noted that: (i) both notes had lost the reference to Section 3.2 of the GSFA on the justification for use of food additives, which was originally included in Note 161; (ii) Note B applied to the use of additives with sweetener and flavour enhancer functions, which represented a high risk especially to people with special dietary needs; and (iii) the aspect of special dietary needs was crucial in developing countries where protection and guidance to such population groups by regulatory bodies still needed to be developed to allow consumers to make the right choices.

37. CAC42 noted that: (i) Section 3.2 of the Preamble of the GSFA applies to all food-additive provisions whether associated with notes or not; (ii) the replacement Notes provided accurate information on the different uses of sweeteners, which enabled the adoption of a substantial amount of provisions related to sweeteners; and (iii) a similar approach would be followed for the pending provisions at the next session of CCFA. In addition, it was noted that due to the successful discussions, a number of draft provisions for colours were recommended for adoption without Note 161.

#### **Conclusion**

38. CAC42 endorsed the recommendations of CCEXEC77 to adopt the revised food-additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the replacement notes to Note 161.

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<sup>14</sup> REP19/FA para. 119 (j), Appendix VI Part C



## Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL)

### *Standard for quinoa*<sup>15</sup>

39. CAC42 noted the recommendations of CCEXEC77 to adopt the section on moisture content (section 3.2.1) and to delete the section on grain size (section 3.2.7)<sup>16</sup>.
40. Members expressed divergent views on whether the section on grain size should be included.
41. Those supporting the inclusion of the section (four sizes i.e. extra-large, large, medium and small) commented that:
- i. grain size was an essential characteristic for quinoa and size was included in other commodity standards such as the standards for rice, avocado, tree tomato, aubergine, dwarf maize and peppers;
  - ii. the information on size could contribute to ensuring fair practices in food trade, was important information for consumers and in line with the requirements of the Procedural Manual;
  - iii. in line with the proposed classification, it was necessary to include a new category for “extra-large” grains which is the only one distinct from the others; and
  - iv. the exclusion of the provision on grain size would create a negative precedent for Codex and weaken the standard, not having considered the issue of classification as it is responsible for fair practices in food trade and protection of consumers.
42. Those supporting the deletion of the section noted that:
- i. quinoa could be classified based on its colour and composition and grain size was a commercial issue rather than a food safety issue and that no trade distortions have been observed due to grain size; and
  - ii. the section on size had not been included in all standards for cereals, pulses and legumes except for the *Standard for Rice* (CXS 198-1995), in which case size was included in an annex.
43. The United States of America, as the host country for CCCPL, explained that the section on grain size had been extensively considered by CCCPL over the past year; however, those who supported the inclusion of grain size could not agree on the proposed provisions.

### Conclusion

44. CAC42 agreed to:
- i. adopt the provisions for moisture content with the deletion of the sentence “*Governments accepting the Standard are requested to indicate and justify the requirements in force in their country*” from the accompanying note; and
  - ii. return the section on grain size to Step 6 for further consideration by CCCPL, which would conduct its work by correspondence.
45. CAC42 noted that:
- i. the standard for quinoa would be published with a note to indicate that the section on grain size was to be developed; and
  - ii. if consensus could not be reached at the next session, the section on grain size would be removed.

## Codex Committee on Pesticides Residues (CCPR)

### *MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) for food and feed*<sup>17</sup>

46. The Codex Secretariat informed CAC42 that the maximum residue level (MRL) for chlorfenapyr in fruiting vegetables, cucurbits at 0.3 mg/kg proposed for adoption at Step 5/8 was erroneously included and was not for adoption.
47. An observer raised concerns on how Codex and the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) dealt with effects resulting from the simultaneous presence of several pesticides, which were cumulative, and expressed the view that pesticides having endocrine disrupting effects should get special attention<sup>18</sup>. The observer opposed the adoption of the MRLs.

<sup>15</sup> CL 2019/42-CPL Annex 2

<sup>16</sup> REP19/EXEC2, paras 25-28

<sup>17</sup> REP19/PR, para 145, Appendix II

<sup>18</sup> CRD32 (NHF)

48. The representative of FAO clarified that all adverse health effects, including any potential effects that may stem from the disruptions of endocrine functions are routinely assessed in all those cases where they are relevant. In addition, the risk assessment also encompasses the assessment of any synergistic effects that may result from the presence of multiple pesticides in the diet. He further outlined that any stakeholder can submit data that are relevant to the risk assessment of pesticides in response to the call for data that FAO and WHO will issue prior to each JMPR meeting.

### Conclusion

49. CAC42 adopted the MRLs with the exception of the pesticide erroneously included (see para. 46), noting the reservations of the EU, Norway and Switzerland on a number of pesticide/commodity combinations for the reasons provided in CX/CAC 19/42/4 Add.1 and of Brazil on Pyraclostrobin for "lettuce, head", due to acute risk concern for their consumers.

### Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)

*Proposed draft revised maximum levels for lead in selected commodities in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193 – 1995)<sup>19</sup>*

50. Cuba expressed the view that the MLs as presented by CCCF should not be adopted at Step 5/8 to allow another year for submission of data as the data used to derive the MLs were not geographically representative.
51. CAC42 adopted the MLs for wines (from grapes harvested after the adoption of the ML by CAC) at 0.1 mg/kg; fortified / liqueur wines (from grapes harvested after the adoption of the ML by CAC at 0.15 mg/kg; edible offal (cattle, pig and poultry) at 0.2, 0.15 and 0.1 mg/kg, respectively. CAC42 noted the reservation of Cuba to this decision on the MLs for wine and edible offals for the reasons given above.

*Proposed draft Maximum Limit (ML) for cadmium for chocolates containing or declaring <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis<sup>20</sup>*

52. CAC42 noted the recommendation of CCEXEC77<sup>21</sup> and accordingly considered the proposed draft ML of 0.3 mg/kg for cadmium for chocolates containing or declaring <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis for adoption at Step 5/8.
53. There were divergent views on the adoption of the proposed draft ML.
54. Delegations in favour of the adoption of the proposed draft ML highlighted that:
- i. the ML was sufficiently health protective (not causing threats to health) without having a negative impact on trade;
  - ii. the ML was based on real data from countries around the world available through GEMS/Foods and had a scientific basis based on the JECFA evaluation of cadmium;
  - iii. cadmium was naturally occurring at levels that vary by region and that MLs should be set to meet the needs of all producing regions as long as there were no food safety concerns;
  - iv. the ML was based on the principle of proportionality in relation to the MLs already adopted for the categories of chocolate containing or declaring  $\geq 50\%$  to  $< 70\%$  and  $\geq 70\%$  total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis;
  - v. the ML for rice established by Codex is higher and consumption of rice is also higher than consumption of chocolate products;
  - vi. the ML was of such a level that it would not affect the health of consumers including children; and
  - vii. the ML was proposed to CAC after having taken into account the JECFA risk assessment, the work of an eWG, recommendations reached by consensus in CCCF, and the recommendations made to CAC by CCEXEC.
55. Those against the adoption of the proposed draft ML expressed the views that:
- i. the proposed ML was not sufficiently health protective, especially for children who were particularly high consumers of the category of chocolates in question and therefore a lower ML was preferred;
  - ii. although JECFA indicated that cadmium in cocoa did not pose a health concern at 0.3 mg/kg, it still established a PTMI of 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  bw/month. Chronic toxicity of cadmium was well documented and

<sup>19</sup> REP19/CF, para. 44, Appendix II

<sup>20</sup> REP19/CF, para. 56, Appendix III

<sup>21</sup> REP19/EXEC2, para. 4 (i)

cadmium was known to accumulate in kidneys leading to irreversible tubular renal dysfunction and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs);

- iii. data from African producer countries did not support the setting of an ML of 0.3 mg/kg, as results obtained in the region for this category of chocolates supported an ML of 0.01 to 0.02 mg/kg. Exporting countries, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria, accounted for 75% of the world's cocoa production and the setting of an ML 15 times higher than what was achievable was not in the interest of consumers and would jeopardise efforts of African countries in maintaining the high standards these countries have for the commodity; and
  - iv. there was no shortage of high quality cocoa with a cadmium level of 0.075 mg/kg to justify setting a higher ML, which would run counter to the goals of Codex.
56. These delegations (para 55) proposed to return the proposed draft ML to CCCF for further consideration.
57. The EU, supported by Norway and Switzerland, reiterated their reservation to the proposed draft ML *“that, based on the EFSA opinion only a stricter ML of 0,1 mg/kg can ensure sufficient protection of all consumers, in particular of children”* as expressed also at CCCF13 (see REP19/CF, para. 53).
58. It was noted that while national authorities might reach different conclusions, the reports of the joint FAO/WHO risk assessment bodies were the appropriate reference for Codex.
59. An observer also proposed that consideration should be given to the implementation of good agricultural practices to help reduce cadmium in cocoa beans in certain regions where cadmium levels were high in order to assist those countries in meeting a lower ML.
60. CAC42 noted that CCCF would be developing a Code of Practice (CoP) for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cocoa beans based on currently available mitigation measures that aimed at assisting countries to achieve the ML of 0.3 mg/kg.
61. The Codex Secretariat clarified that in case it was not possible to adopt the MLs on cadmium at this moment, this work could be suspended or discontinued awaiting finalization and implementation of the CoP which would take several years. After gaining more experience with the CoP, CCCF could resume work on the MLs.
62. The Assistant to the Chairperson of the CCCF, speaking on behalf of the Chairperson of the CCCF, recalled that MLs for cadmium in chocolate had been on the CCCF agenda for several sessions, and outlined the history and approaches taken up to now:
- i. It was recognized that there were variations in cadmium content of cocoa across regions;
  - ii. The relevant categories of chocolate had been defined;
  - iii. MLs for the categories of chocolate containing or declaring chocolate  $\geq 50\%$  to  $< 70\%$  or  $\geq 70\%$  total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis were adopted at CAC41;
  - iv. CCCF13 had decided to develop the MLs for the other categories on a proportional approach to these adopted MLs while taking into account achievability;
  - v. For the proposed ML the underlying data had a good geographical distribution and a low rejection rate at a worldwide level;
  - vi. This work was another important step in developing MLs for cadmium in chocolate and that since there already had been several rounds of data collection, no more work could be done at CCCF for this category;
  - vii. The proposed ML represented the best compromise to achieve the task set by the Commission with the data available, and that it was proportional to the MLs adopted at CAC41. Additional or new data was unlikely to change the current compromise ML; and
  - viii. Although for some of the Latin American and Caribbean countries the proposed ML would result in a higher rejection rate of 12%, the present compromise was reached after difficult discussions.
63. The Representative of FAO speaking on behalf of the Secretariat of JECFA explained the outcome of the JECFA evaluation (JECFA77) noting that the dietary exposure to cadmium from cocoa containing products was insignificant compared to other sources of dietary exposure and was not a major concern for public health. The proposed ML thus did not raise a safety concern. He noted that he did not expect new data would change the results significantly.
64. CAC42 considered the adoption at Step 5/8 in view of the statement on behalf of the Chairperson of CCCF that the ML under consideration represented the best compromise with the data available and the principle of proportionality and considering the FAO/WHO intervention on the evaluation by JECFA, but was unable to

reach consensus. CAC42 then agreed to proceed with an informal session facilitated by Dr Emilio Esteban (Chairperson of CCFH) to try to find a way forward.

### Conclusion

65. Based on the outcome of the informal session, CAC42 agreed to adopt the proposed ML at Step 5, which would allow for further discussion at CCCF and noted the reservations of EU, Norway and Switzerland for the reasons expressed in paragraph 57. Discussion would be limited to the ML of 0.3 mg/kg for chocolates containing or declaring <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis. The concept of proportionality as agreed by CCCF with respect to the adopted MLs by CAC41 should be maintained. If new additional information provided does not justify a change to the ML, CCCF14 will recommend the adoption of the ML of 0.3 mg/kg by CAC at its next session.
66. CAC42 confirmed that upon such recommendation by CCCF14, CAC43 shall adopt the ML without further discussion.
67. Benin, the EU, Nigeria, Norway, and Switzerland expressed their reservations to para. 66 as, in their view, this was not an outcome of the informal discussion, and CAC42 could not dictate the outcome nor discussions of the next CAC.

*Draft Code of practice for the reduction of 3- monochloropropane-1,2-diol esters (3- MCPDEs) and glycidyl esters (GEs) in refined oils and food products made with refined oils<sup>22</sup>*

68. One delegation, while supporting the adoption of the CoP, expressed the view that the implementation of this CoP will be a challenge for small farmers, and hoped that it would not prevent them from following the provisions contained in the CoP. This delegation proposed that a review of the document after implementation of the CoP should be further considered by CCCF.

### Conclusion

The Commission adopted the draft Code of practice for the reduction of 3- monochloropropane-1,2-diol esters (3- MCPDEs) and glycidyl esters (GEs) in refined oils and food products made with refined oils at Step 8.

*Draft Guidelines for rapid risk analysis following instances of detection of contaminants in food where there is no regulatory level<sup>23</sup>*

69. The Delegation of Cuba expressed reservation to the adoption of the Guidelines noting in particular that many countries are not currently prepared for the implementation of the guidelines, especially due to differences in laboratory capacity, and proposed to have another round of consultations on the Guidelines. The delegation also requested global assistance from FAO and WHO to assist with implementation of the Guidelines in particular related to the Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC) concept.
70. Another delegation, while not opposed to the adoption of the Guidelines, also expressed the view that the Guidelines could potentially cause disruption to international trade, especially due to the differences in understanding and technical capacity to apply the principles, especially related to laboratory capacity. This delegation also supported the need for a global effort sponsored by FAO or WHO to assist with the implementation of the Guidelines in particular related to the TTC concept.
71. The Representative of FAO explained that normative work in the form of MLs, guidance documents, COPs and similar texts was the main task of CCCF. Capacity building, the strengthening of technical and institutional capabilities to implement Codex texts in the national context was the prime objective of development agencies, amongst them FAO and WHO. He encouraged interested Member States to contact the local representative of these agencies and express their desire for assistance in designing development activities tailored to the specific national or regional needs in improving the technical and institutional capabilities to improve the implementation of and the compliance with applicable Codex texts.

### Conclusion

72. CAC42 adopted the Guidelines for rapid risk analysis following instances of detection of contaminants in food where there is no regulatory level noting the reservation of Cuba for the reasons as expressed above.

<sup>22</sup> REP19/CF, para. 79, Appendix IV

<sup>23</sup> REP19/CF, para. 87, Appendix V

### **Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)**

*Preamble of document structure for the General Standard on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CXS 234 - 1999)<sup>24</sup>*

73. CAC42 noted that the preamble and new structure for CXS 234 – 1999 will not immediately be published as it would take time to prepare the transfer of all the methods into the new structure.

### **ADOPTION OF CODEX TEXTS AT STEP 5 (Agenda item 5)<sup>25</sup>**

74. CAC42 adopted and advanced to Step 6 the proposed draft standards and related texts submitted by its subsidiary bodies for adoption at Step 5, noting that technical comments should be resubmitted at Step 6 for consideration by the relevant committees, taking into account the Critical Review of CCEXEC77. (Appendix III)
75. In addition, CAC42 noted the following comments and decisions.

### **Codex Committee of Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)**

*Draft Principles and guidelines for the assessment and use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (vTPA) programmes*

76. While there was no opposition to the adoption of the draft guidelines for vTPA at Step 5, some concerns were expressed as follows:
- i. Third party assurance programmes are based on private standards and do not take into account the unique circumstances of producers in developing countries; there is a potential risk of creating dual certification systems at the national level, which could affect producers and potentially lead to trade barriers; some countries have legal frameworks that retain official food controls under government purview and the approach presented in this document would not be supported by such frameworks; and establishing Codex guidelines to assess the performance of voluntary third party assurance programmes developed by private entities does not fall in the mandate of the CAC as an intergovernmental standard setting body;
  - ii. The outcomes of recently initiated projects by STDF in some developing countries to test and assess how vTPA programmes may be used in practice by government authorities to improve food safety outcomes should be considered;
  - iii. The scope of the guidelines should clarify how vTPA Programmes could be implemented within existing legal frameworks; and
  - iv. Various sections of the draft guidelines still needed clarification, including Section E (Roles, responsibilities and relevant activities) and Section F (Criteria to assess the credibility and integrity of vTPA Programmes).
77. The CCFICS Chairperson, explained that the draft guidelines are intended to assist competent authorities within their national boundaries in the effective assessment and transparent use of reliable vTPA programme information/data in support of their National Food Control System objectives. The CCFICS Chairperson further explained that private standards were specifically excluded from the scope of this work; that the approach taken was intended to support national food controls systems, not to undermine them; that these guidelines do not oblige competent authorities to use vTPA programme outcomes nor do they mandate the use of vTPA information/data; that the vTPA guidelines are intended to be complementary to the regulatory controls used by those competent authorities who may wish to use it; and that competent authorities remain responsible for maintaining appropriate oversight of the implementation of regulatory requirements and controls, including enforcement actions.
78. The CCFICS Chairperson also pointed out that there had been extensive discussion on all of the elements in the proposed text, as well as concerns raised, at CCFICS prior to submitting the text to the Commission, and emphasized that as this work was only at Step 5, there were still opportunities to submit and consider comments at Steps 6 and 7.

<sup>24</sup> REP19/MAS, para. 61, Appendix III

<sup>25</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/5, CX/CAC 19/42/5 Add.1, CX/CAC 19/42/6, CX/CAC 19/42/6 Add.1, CRD11(Iran), CRD12 (Ecuador), CRD13 (Gambia), CRD14 (El Salvador), CRD15 (Mali), CRD16 (Nicaragua), CRD18 (Thailand), CRD19 (Uganda), CRD21 (Indonesia), CRD22 (African Union), CRD23 (Nigeria), CRD25 (Liberia), CRD28 (Philippines), CRD34 (IBFAN)

## Conclusion

79. CAC42:
- i. agreed to adopt the *Draft Principles and Guidelines for the Assessment and Use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (vTPA)* at Step 5; and
  - ii. noted that all technical comments should be resubmitted at Step 6 for consideration by CCFICS.

## Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

### *Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Food Allergen Management for Food Business Operators*

80. CAC42 noted that CCFH should continue to liaise with CCFL on the issue of precautionary labelling to ensure consistency with the work of CCFL (see CX/CAC 19/42/8 Add.1).

## Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

### *Review of the Standard on Follow-up Formula (CXS 156-1987): Proposed draft Scope, Description and Labelling for follow-up formula for older infants*

81. A delegation could not support adoption of the text as there were unresolved issues on the scope and labelling, and requested that reference to the WHO International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, other relevant WHO documents and relevant WHA resolutions should be included in the scope similar to the *Standard on Infant Formula and Formulas for Special Medical Purposes Intended for Infants* (CXS 72 – 1981).
82. Other delegations supported adoption, while also noting that the issue of cross-promotion required further consideration in CCNFSDU, including from the perspective of determining if such a concept was fully consistent with the international trade rules established by WTO and WIPO. CAC42 noted that all technical comments, including those related to cross-promotion, should be resubmitted at Step 6 in reply to a Circular Letter, for consideration by the next session of CCNFSDU.
83. An observer stated that there was no need for follow-up formula and noted that because of marketing of these products, a provision on cross-promotion was needed<sup>26</sup>.

## Conclusion

84. CAC42:
- i. adopted the proposed draft text (scope, definition and labelling – as endorsed and amended by CCFL), and noted that the last part of section 9.6.4 on cross-promotion would be further considered by CCNFSDU; and
  - ii. noted that CCEXEC77 had recalled and reaffirmed the advice given by CCEXEC75 regarding use of references to WHO documents and WHA resolutions.

## Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

85. One delegation expressed concern that the five draft standards on spices and culinary herbs included parameters such as mammalian excreta, visible mould formation and insect fragments that were of public health concern. CAC42 noted that all technical comments should be resubmitted at Step 6 in reply to a Circular Letter, for consideration by the next session of CCSCH.

### *Proposed draft standard for dried oregano*

86. A delegation noted that the scope of the *Proposed Draft Standard for Oregano* was broad as it included *Lippia* spp., and that this breadth was not fully reflected in all provisions of the draft, e.g., the values for volatile oils should be lowered from 2 to 1.8% to give a better balance with the scope. For these reasons, the delegation expressed concern to adopt two sections of the draft standard at Step 5.
87. Another delegation reminded CAC that the inclusion of *Lippia* spp. was the subject of extensive discussion at the last two sessions of CCSCH, that at both of those sessions the Committee had agreed to include both species that are traded as oregano, consistent with current trade practices, and that this enabled the standard to advance to step 5.

## Conclusion

88. CAC42:
- i. agreed to adopt the *Proposed Draft Standard for Oregano* at Step 5; and

<sup>26</sup> CRD34 (IBFAN)

- ii. noted that all technical comments should be resubmitted at step 6, in reply to a circular letter, for consideration by the next session of CCSC.

#### *Proposed Draft standard for saffron*

- 89. Some delegations commented that the physical and chemical characteristics elaborated in the draft standard for saffron did not reflect current international trade practices which used classifications/grades according to physical and chemical properties including levels of picrocrocin, crocin and safranal. They also called for broad harmonisation with ISO Standards (e.g., ISO 3632-1), which also used classifications/grades.
- 90. Another delegation suggested that classifications/grades should be optional and that the minimum requirements in the draft standard should be those of the lowest class/grade if classified.
- 91. Members were encouraged to participate in the EWG on saffron to discuss these technical issues.

#### **Conclusion**

- 92. CAC42:
  - i. agreed to adopt the *Proposed Draft Standard for Saffron* at Step 5; and
  - iii. noted that all technical comments should be resubmitted at Step 6, in reply to a circular letter, for consideration by the next session of CCSC.

#### **Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)**

##### *Proposed draft guidance for the labelling of non-retail containers*

- 93. One delegation expressed their concern that the document would be adopted at step 5 without having defined its nature; i.e. whether it would be a standard or a guideline.

#### **Conclusion**

- 94. CAC42 agreed to adopt the proposed draft guidance for the labelling of non-retail containers at Step 5 and noted that all technical comments should be resubmitted at Step 6.

#### **REVOCATION OF CODEX TEXTS (Agenda item 6)<sup>27</sup>**

- 95. CAC42 revoked the texts as presented in CX/CAC 19/42/7 (Appendix IV).

#### **PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK (Agenda item 7)<sup>28</sup>**

- 96. CAC42 approved the proposed new work on development of Codex standards and related texts as presented in CX/CAC 19/42/8 taking into account the Critical Review of CCEXEC77 (Appendix V).

#### **Additional comments**

#### **Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)**

##### *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*

- 97. CAC42 noted the proposal from one Member to expand the scope of the work to include beef meet products and other products made from raw milk. It was clarified that the scope could not be changed at this stage as this was also based on the outcome of the work of Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA). It was further noted that managing the risk in raw commodities contributed to reducing the risks in all subsequent processed products. As a step-wise approach was foreseen, there was the possibility to include other food categories at a later stage.

#### **Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)**

##### *Proposed draft guidance on internet sales/e-commerce*

- 98. CAC42 noted the proposal from one Member that CCFL collaborate with CCFICS on the work with a view to developing guidance to assist in the control and inspection of food products sold online.

<sup>27</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/7; CRD 2 (Ghana); CRD15 (Mali); CRD21 (Indonesia), CRD25 (Liberia)

<sup>28</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/8; CX/CAC 19/42/8 Add.1; CRD3 (Ghana, India, Senegal, Tanzania), CRD12 (Ecuador), CRD13 (Gambia), CRD14 (El Salvador), CRD15 (Mali), CRD16 (Nicaragua), CRD18 (Thailand), CRD19 (Uganda), CRD20 (Peru), CRD21 (Indonesia), CRD22 (African Union), CRD23 (Nigeria), CRD25 (Liberia), CRD28 (Philippines)

*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*

99. CAC42 noted that this work is linked to the work of CCFH on allergen management and therefore close collaboration between CCFL and CCFH on this issue was important to ensure consistency between the two texts.

**DISCONTINUATION OF WORK (Agenda item 8)<sup>29</sup>**

100. CAC42 approved discontinuation of the work on items as presented in CX/CAC 19/42/9 (Appendix VI).

**Additional comments**

**CCNFSDU**

*NRV-NCD for EPA and DHA long chain omega-3 fatty acids (CXG 2-1985)*

101. In response to a question from one delegation regarding possible further work on this topic by FAO/WHO, the representative from WHO described the information provided at CCNFSDU40 regarding the outcomes of the robust systematic reviews undertaken as part of the WHO guideline development process through NUGAG, as well as additional analyses done through inclusion of three large trials which recently became available and reiterated that given these results and from the ongoing monitoring of available studies, there was currently no evidence to support continuation of this specific work.

**AMENDMENTS TO CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS (Agenda item 9)<sup>30</sup>**

102. CAC42 adopted the amendments to the standards and related texts as presented in CX/CAC 19/42/10-Rev.1 (Appendix VII).

**MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMISSION BY CODEX COMMITTEES (Agenda item 10)<sup>31</sup>**

103. CAC42 noted the matters for information from CCFICS24, CCFH50, CCFO26, CCFA51 and CCMAS40 in the document CX/CAC 19/42/11 Add.1 taking into account the recommendations contained in the Critical Review by CCEXEC77.
104. One delegation underlined the importance of CCFICS's work on food fraud and the need to expedite this work as had already been highlighted by CCEXEC77<sup>32</sup>.
105. CAC42 noted a concern expressed by the observer from the International Olive Oil Council (IOC), regarding a proposal by CCFO to delete the category Ordinary Virgin Olive Oil from the *Standard on Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils* (XCS 33-1981)<sup>33</sup>. This concern was also shared by two other delegations, who further expressed that this proposal be reconsidered by CCFO and the EWG, in line with their reservation made at CCFO26.

**Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)**

106. One delegation noted its preference for a physical meeting in the first half of 2020 to facilitate the progression of standards to Step 5 at CAC43.
107. The United States of America, speaking on behalf of the CCPFV Chairperson, stated that a physical meeting would be considered "at an appropriate time" as concluded by CAC41 and would be based on the progress of the work.

**Conclusion**

108. CAC42 agreed with the proposals of the Chairperson of CCPFV to
- i. ask CCPFV to continue its work by correspondence; and
  - ii. assess whether a physical meeting in 2020 would be appropriate.

**Codex Committee on Sugars (CCS)**

109. CAC42 noted the discussions at CCEXEC77, that the timeline for completion of the work on the development of a standard for non-centrifuged dehydrated sugar cane juice had been postponed several times and no progress had been made, and that CCEXEC77 had reiterated the conclusion of CCEXEC75 to recommend discontinuation of this work and had further noted that, if the current work was to be discontinued, the

<sup>29</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/9; CRD4 (Ghana), CRD15 (Mali), CRD21 (Indonesia), CRD23 (Nigeria), CRD25 (Liberia)

<sup>30</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/10-Rev.1

<sup>31</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/11, CX/CAC 19/42/11 Add.1 and CX/CAC 19/42/11 Add.2., CRD5 (India, Senegal, Tanzania), CRD18 (Thailand), CRD21 (Indonesia), CRD25 (Liberia), CRD29 (IOC)

<sup>32</sup> REP18/EXEC2, para 7

<sup>33</sup> CRD29 (from the International Olive Oil Council (IOC))



Commission could consider future work in this area should there be sufficient interest on the part of members and a new work proposal presented.

110. Colombia as the host country of CCS accepted CCEXEC's recommendation to discontinue the work and expressed its willingness to work with other interested members in developing a proposal for new work on this topic.

### Conclusion

111. CAC42:
- i. agreed with the recommendation of CCEXEC77 to discontinue the work on the development of a standard for non-centrifuged dehydrated sugar cane juice and noted that as consequence the CCS would be adjourned *sine die* (see also Agenda Item 18); and
  - ii. acknowledged the interest of Colombia to work with other Members to develop a proposal for new work on this topic that would be subject to Critical Review by CCEXEC prior to further consideration and possible approval by the Commission.

### CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025 (Agenda item 11)<sup>34</sup>

112. The Chairperson of the strategic planning sub-committee of the CCEXEC introduced the item drawing the attention of CAC42 to the revised draft of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 presented in Appendix 2 of the report of CCEXEC77 and proposed that discussions focus on this document.
113. The Chairperson provided an overview of the process that had been undertaken since CAC41 to ensure broad engagement and thorough discussion during the development of the draft and recalled the Commission's earlier comments, welcoming the approach as a model for ensuring transparency and inclusiveness with two circular letters and informal consultations in the margins of CCGP. Expressing appreciation for the contributions from Members and Observers, the Chairperson noted that CCEXEC77 had thoroughly discussed the draft, reconciled all outstanding issues and recommended adoption as revised by CCEXEC77. The Chairperson further noted that the rationale for all changes and decisions was included in the report of CCEXEC77, as well as the terms of reference for a further strategic planning sub-committee to lead the development of a workplan for implementation.
114. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the excellent work of the sub-committee and the CCEXEC and the exemplary process in transparency and inclusiveness, in line with the core values of Codex.
115. Delegations noted that the draft, while not incorporating all proposed changes that had been submitted, represented a well-balanced compromise; included all the essential elements; could be considered as a very good blueprint for Codex work for 2020-2025; and widely supported its adoption as recommended by CCEXEC77.
116. Delegations also expressed the following general comments on the draft:
- i. The real work lies ahead in terms of developing and implementing the workplan for achievement of the strategic goals which will also provide opportunities for new and constructive ways of working.
  - ii. The importance, when developing activities, of clarity of the process for monitoring against the indicators and identification of potential risks that could impact achievement of the strategic goals and appropriate mitigations.
  - iii. The importance of the work of Codex in assisting countries in meeting their SDG objectives, which highlights that Codex work is responding to global needs and facilitates the promotion of Codex work.
  - iv. Many lessons have been learned from the Codex Strategic Plan 2014-2019 and considered in the development of the draft, in particular with regards to having fewer but stronger indicators in the new strategic plan.
  - v. Strategic Goal 3 on the use and impact of Codex standards presents some particular challenges, but it is important to include this goal.
  - vi. The importance of Strategic Goal 2, which encompasses the science-based nature of Codex work, and the need to not only promote sufficient and sustainable funding for scientific advice, but also evaluate the impact of promotion activities.
  - vii. The criticality of Strategic Goal 4 especially for developing countries and the need for new thinking and innovation to support its achievement.

<sup>34</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/12; REP19/EXEC2 (Appendix II, III); CRD6 (India and Dominican Republic); CRD12 (Ecuador); CRD18 (Thailand); CRD21 (Indonesia)

- viii. The importance of the strategic plan also at national level as a policy support tool.
  - ix. The proposed review every two years was an important addition to ensure the strategic plan remains relevant and on track and is a living document.
  - x. The importance of a strong dialogue on implementation starting with engagement with Members through the next round of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee meetings.
117. One delegation noted its concern regarding the inclusion of consumer concerns as a driver for change, noting that this could lead to issues being raised that are not within the Codex mandate. The Chairperson indicated that in recognition of this concern, CCEXEC77 had proposed qualifying this term to refer specifically to consumer concerns related to food safety and quality.
118. Considering the importance of science to Codex work, some delegations indicated a preference for this to be included in the core values. The Chairperson noted that this issue had been extensively discussed by CCEXEC77, which concluded that the importance of science was clearly indicated in the mission statement which was a key statement underpinning the strategic plan.
119. There was general agreement with the Terms of Reference for the sub-committee of the CCEXEC established to lead the development of a work plan for implementation of the strategic plan, and Regional Coordinators and Members expressed their strong willingness to support the next steps. The Chairperson indicated that, in line with the proposed Terms of Reference, CCEXEC would consolidate all proposals received into a single coherent work plan for implementation and present it to CAC43 for its review. An overall evaluation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019 would also be available at that time.
120. The Representative of WHO welcomed the draft new strategic plan and expressed appreciation for its overall direction. The Representative welcomed the inclusion of paragraph 1.4 and indicated that WHO firmly believed that as FAO, WHO, and the Codex Alimentarius, as a joint programme of FAO and WHO, all operate in the UN family, there should be alignment and coherence between the Codex standards and related texts and the policies and the guidelines of the parent organizations so that Member States received consistent and coherent guidance messages.
121. The Observer from OIE expressed appreciation of the specific reference to the OIE in section 1.4 of the draft strategic plan, which acknowledged the importance of the relationship between the OIE and Codex, at both international and national levels, and that one cannot deal with food safety without considering the health of food-producing animals when developing and implementing international standards. The Observer also noted that OIE was in the process of developing its 7<sup>th</sup> strategic plan for 2020-2025 and would continue to ensure inclusion of the importance of collaboration with Codex.

### Conclusions

122. CAC42
- i. adopted the Strategic Plan 2020-2025 (Appendix IX) as proposed by CCEXEC77; and
  - ii. encouraged all Members to participate in the development of the work plan for implementation through the upcoming discussions at the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees and other fora as they arise; and
  - iii. requested CCEXEC79 to present the proposed work plan for implementation of the Strategic Plan 2020-2025 to CAC43.

### CODEX BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MATTERS: PROGRESS REPORT 2018-2019 (Agenda item 12)<sup>35</sup>

123. The Codex Secretariat presented the progress report for 2018-2019 and noted that underspending was unlikely this biennium, given the large number of subsidiary body meetings in 2019. The Codex Secretariat stressed that in addition to the regular contributions of the two parent organizations the Codex system also relied on additional contributions that are not part of the programme budget, ranging from FAO and WHO providing scientific advice and capacity development programmes to Codex Members hosting subsidiary bodies, providing seconded staff to the Codex Secretariat and operating their own Codex structures. The Codex Secretariat further noted that as the budget proposal for 2020-2021 had already been submitted, any new cost-intensive activities foreseen under the Codex Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025, would have to be accommodated under the budget for the biennium 2022 – 2023.
124. Responding to a comment on the importance of the Russian language for the European region, the Codex Secretariat indicated that this issue would be discussed at the upcoming FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO) meeting and encouraged Members concerned to try and to find a solution within the

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<sup>35</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/13

existing rules, noting that the Codex budget usually only supported interpretation in three languages at the Coordinating Committees.

### Conclusions

#### 125. CAC42:

- i. acknowledged the progress made on the work plan and budget for 2018-2019;
- ii. encouraged the Codex Secretariat to continue its close monitoring of expenditures and to consider additional resources needed to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2020-2025 in preparing the work plan and budget proposals for 2022-2023; and
- iii. expressed its appreciation for contributions from host countries and in-kind contributions to the Codex Secretariat from Germany, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

### FAO/WHO SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO CODEX: ACTIVITIES, BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MATTERS (Agenda Item 13)<sup>36</sup>

126. The Representatives of FAO and WHO introduced the document acknowledging the voluntary contributions provided by Codex Members to FAO and WHO, which greatly facilitated the provision of scientific advice to Codex. Specific reference was made to recent meetings, including the JECFA meeting that took place in June 2019; the additional meetings convened in 2018-2019 addressing issues such as ciguatera toxin in fish and carryover of residues of veterinary drugs from feed to food; the efforts to update the risk assessment methodologies of the expert committees and meetings; upcoming meetings on issues such as enzymes and allergens; the first meeting of JEMNU, which will take place on 16-17 July 2019; and the NUGAG meetings which finalized the guideline recommendations on fatty acids, carbohydrates, non-sugar sweeteners and initiated the work on dietary patterns and policy actions for promoting healthy diets, such as nutrition labelling policies and policies to restrict marketing foods and non-alcoholic beverages to children. The attention of CAC42 was also brought to financial and budgetary aspects of the working document, in particular the ongoing resource constraints, the importance of voluntary contributions from Members and the need for Members to continue to raise the issue of sustainable funding for scientific advice at the governing bodies of WHO and FAO.
127. The EU Delegate introduced the discussion paper on sustainable funding of scientific advice highlighting the ongoing concerns on the issue as reiterated by Codex members at CAC41, and the need for action by WHO and FAO. The Delegate emphasized that the number of co-sponsors to this document was an indication of the importance of this issue to the Codex membership.
128. The Delegate highlighted the key recommendations of the paper which were as follows:
  - i. urge FAO and WHO to step up their efforts to ensure sufficient and sustainable funding for the joint FAO/WHO scientific advice programme from the respective regular budgets of the two organizations, taking due account of the guidance set out in the discussion paper;
  - ii. express appreciation for the outcome of recent discussions on this issue in the FAO governing bodies and encourage them to take those discussions forward;
  - iii. encourage WHO to have similar discussions and urge all members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission to invite their representatives in WHO governing bodies to highlight the importance of providing sufficient and sustainable funding for scientific advice from WHO's regular budget, with a view to promoting sound science-based international standards and achieving the common goals of all members of protecting consumer health and ensuring fair trade practices.
129. The Delegate further requested feedback from FAO and WHO on whether, in accordance with Rule X.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Directors-General of FAO and WHO brought the recommendations of CAC41 to the attention of their respective governing bodies for appropriate action.
130. The Representative of FAO indicated that discussions had been ongoing in FAO in a number of governing body meetings including the Committee on Agriculture, the Programme Committee, the FAO Council and the FAO Conference and he expressed appreciation to all the Member Countries who continued to push for and support such discussions. The Representative further noted that a substantial part of the FAO budget for scientific advice was already covered by regular programme budget, which was important in terms of

<sup>36</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/14; CX/CAC 19/42/14Add1, CRD7 (Dominican Republic); CRD8 (Guyana, India, Thailand), CRD16 (Nicaragua), CRD21 (Indonesia)

predictability, but noted that as the organization was currently operating in a zero growth scenario, budget figures had changed very little.

131. The Representative of WHO highlighted the importance of scientific advice, expressed appreciation to all those Members who provided financial support to WHO and explained the current funding structure within WHO, where approximately only 25% of the overall revenue was covered by core funding. The Representative further noted that the World Health Assembly (WHA) had approved the next biennial budget 2020-2021 without any earmarking of core funding for scientific advice. The Representative recognized the importance of continuing the discussion with Member States, who determined the agenda of governing body meetings.
132. Delegations highlighted the importance of timely scientific advice for Codex work and indicated their support for the discussion paper. The need for a sufficient and sustainable sources of funding for scientific advice in the long term was strongly reiterated, with emphasis on the need to have substantive core funding from FAO and WHO. Delegations noted the ongoing discussions in FAO, expressed the hope that they would yield results and highlighted the need for further efforts to ensure this issue be on the agenda of WHO governing bodies. One Delegation also indicated that the current results based budgeting in WHO provided flexibility to allocate sufficient funding to scientific advice and that in the newly adopted Codex Strategic Plan, Strategic Goal 2, included an indicator that measures the level of core funding of the parent organizations allocated to scientific advice.
133. An observer highlighted the importance of protecting the independence and credibility of scientific advice to Codex especially from political and commercial influence.
134. CAC42 noted the broad support for the discussion paper; that it was important that the discussion led to action; that there was a focus on access to core funding; and that the onus for further action was not simply pushed back to Member countries.
135. The Representative of WHO recognized the concerns of Members and indicated that it was a shared responsibility and that the membership and the Secretariat should work together within the governance mechanisms of the Organizations.

### **Conclusions**

136. CAC42:
  - i. acknowledged all the valuable scientific advice work carried out by FAO and WHO;
  - ii. underlined the high importance of the provision of scientific advice by FAO and WHO to Codex;
  - iii. noted the updates in respect of the recommendation of CAC41, in accordance with Rule X.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, which bound the Directors-General of FAO and WHO to bring the Commissions' recommendations having policy, programme or financial implications for FAO and WHO to the attention of their respective governing bodies for appropriate action;
  - iv. thanked the European Union and its co-drafters for the discussion paper which contributed to the Commissions' deliberations;
  - v. supported the recommendations to FAO and WHO included in the discussion paper for the development of a new strategy for sustainable funding from regular budgets for scientific advice in support of Codex activities; and
  - vi. encouraged Codex members to urge their representatives in the FAO and WHO governing bodies to highlight the importance of providing sufficient and sustainable funding for scientific advice to Codex.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO (Agenda Item 14)<sup>37</sup>**

137. The Representatives of WHO and FAO introduced the item highlighting the following issues:
  - i. the First International Food Safety Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 12-13 February 2019, and the International Forum on Food Safety and Trade in Geneva, Switzerland on 23-24 April 2019;
  - ii. the celebration of the first World Food Safety Day, noting that FAO and WHO, as facilitators of the Day, will alternate on hosting the annual observance event;
  - iii. the transformation process in WHO including the creation of a new Division on Science, which should support and facilitate the work on scientific advice and the greater emphasis on providing support to and having an impact at country level;

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<sup>37</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/15

- iv. the holding of an FAO/WHO International consultation in FAO Headquarters on 1-3 July 2019 on sustainable, healthy diets, from which a number of background papers will be forthcoming;
  - v. the WHO work on updating the nutrient requirements for children aged 0-36 months, which will be implemented in a stepwise manner, with preparatory scoping work on the first three priority nutrients being completed by the end of 2019;
  - vi. the acceleration of work towards the elimination of industrially produced *trans*-fatty acids from the global food supply by 2023, which is a priority target of the WHO's 13th General Programme of Work;
  - vii. the results of the recent meetings of the FAO Governing bodies including discussions related to sustainable funding for scientific advice; and
  - viii. the range of ongoing activities related to antimicrobial resistance.
138. The contribution of the Commission and Costa Rica to the establishment of the World Food Safety Day was acknowledged and appreciated. Members also expressed appreciation for the International Food Safety Conference and the International Forum on Food Safety and Trade, highlighting the importance of ensuring that there was follow-up to these two important events.

### Conclusions

139. CAC42:
- i. noted the information presented;
  - ii. congratulated FAO, WHO, Codex Members and Observers and the Codex Secretariat for the successful observance of the first World Food Safety Day and recommended Codex Member countries to make 7 June a yearly celebration to raise food safety awareness and the profile of Codex Alimentarius work; and
  - iii. recognized the efforts of FAO and WHO on the implementation of the two food safety events, in Addis Ababa and Geneva, respectively, and encouraged countries to engage in discussions on the follow-up to these events in the up-coming FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees.

### REPORT OF THE SIDE EVENT ON FAO AND WHO CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES (Agenda Item 15)<sup>38</sup>

140. The representatives of FAO and WHO summarized the key points from the background paper and the side event, highlighting the range of tools developed to support countries in strengthening their national food control systems, in particular the Joint FAO/WHO Food Control System Assessment Tool, the work on genome sequencing and its relevance to the future of food safety, and the upcoming second global meeting of INFOSAN members to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in December 2019. The Representatives noted the appreciation expressed by countries as well as their concerns on the limited amount of resources available to support capacity development at country level.

### Conclusions

141. CAC42:
- i. noted the information provided by FAO and WHO and thanked the organizations for the continued support to develop national capacities in food safety; and
  - ii. expressed appreciation for the recently concluded Joint FAO/WHO Food Control System Assessment Tool and all of the high-quality publications and tools produced by FAO and WHO, and urged the organizations to make their publications available in all the official UN languages to promote their use by all Codex Members.

### REPORT OF THE SIDE EVENT ON THE CODEX TRUST FUND (CTF2) (Agenda item 16)<sup>39</sup>

142. The Codex Trust Fund (CTF) Administrator summarized the information provided in the working documents, highlighting that CTF2 was now providing support to 27 countries whose applications had been accepted for support in the first three rounds. The Administrator reminded countries that Round 4 of the Call for Applications would open on 15 August 2019 and close on 30 November 2019 and called attention to the information, experience, advice and tips that had been shared between panellists and participants in the interactive side event on CTF. The Administrator acknowledged the offer from Senegal to help other countries, which may

<sup>38</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/16; CRD30 (Report of the side event on FAO/WHO capacity development activities)

<sup>39</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/17, CX/CAC 19/42/17 Add.1, CX/CAC 19/42/17 Add. 2 ; CRD27 (Report on the Codex Trust Fund side event)

wish to benefit from CTF support and noted the offer of the United States of America to support the CTF in further developing the metrics to measure CTF impact.

143. Donor countries highlighted the essential role of the CTF in building increased and effective participation in Codex meetings as well as strengthening national Codex structures, and encouraged other countries to support the CTF. Recipient countries extended their appreciation for the support provided by FAO and WHO, with recent beneficiaries confirming their commitment to make optimal use of resources and past beneficiaries offering to provide support to other countries. The Regional Coordinator for the NASWP region noted that countries in that region had yet to benefit from the CTF.

### **Conclusion**

144. CAC42 noted the information provided on the CTF and expressed its appreciation for the work done to support increased and more effective participation in Codex with the support of the Codex Trust Fund.

### **ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTED ON A GEOGRAPHICAL BASIS (Agenda item 17)<sup>40</sup>**

145. CAC42 elected the following persons to hold office from the end of its present Session to the end of the next regular (43rd) Session of the Commission:

#### **Chairperson:**

Mr Guilherme Antonio da Costa Jr. (Brazil)

#### **Vice-Chairpersons:**

Ms Mariam Eid (Lebanon)

Mr Purwiyatno Hariyadi (Indonesia)

Mr Steve Wearne (United Kingdom)

### **Members of the Executive Committee elected on a geographic basis**

146. The Commission elected/re-elected the following members of the Executive Committee on a geographical basis for the period from the end of the current Session (42nd) to the end of the second succeeding regular Session of the Commission, (CAC44, currently scheduled for 2021):

**Africa:** United Republic of Tanzania (elected)

**Asia:** Japan (elected)

**Europe:** Germany (elected)

**Latin America and the Caribbean:** Uruguay (elected)

**Near East:** Egypt (re-elected)

**North America:** United States of America (re-elected)

**South-West Pacific:** Australia (re-elected)

### **Regional Coordinators**

147. The Commission also noted that as the sessions of the six FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees had been postponed by one year to the second half of 2019, the present Coordinators would remain in office until the end of CAC43 (2020). The new Regional Coordinators would be nominated at the upcoming sessions of the Coordinating Committees, be appointed by CAC43, and hold office from the end of that session.

### **DESIGNATION OF COUNTRIES RESPONSIBLE FOR APPOINTING THE CHAIRPERSONS OF CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES (Agenda item 18)<sup>41</sup>**

148. The Commission confirmed the designation of the Host Governments (Appendix VIII) as listed in CX/CAC 19/42/19 and agreed to adjourn *sine die* the Codex Committee on Sugars (CSS).
149. The Commission also thanked the following former Chairpersons for their dedicated work for Codex over many years: Ms Noraini Mohd Othman (CCFO), Mr Alberto Ulises Esteban Marina (CCFFV), Ms Lyzette Lamondin (CCFL), Mr Marôt Hibbey (CCMAS) and Ms Maria Leonisa Ortiz Bolivar (CCS).

<sup>40</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/18 ; CRD12 (Ecuador)

<sup>41</sup> CX/CAC 19/42/19 ; CRD9 (Dominican Republic)

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 19)****Cooperation between the OIV and the Codex Alimentarius Commission<sup>42</sup>**

150. The Observer from OIV, referring to CRD10, recalled that Codex Alimentarius is a key player in ensuring the safety of all foods and recognized the importance of having international standards to facilitate fair practices in food trade. The Observer pointed out that by applying the same principles of accession and equivalent standardization principles as those of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the OIV fulfilled the definitions of the WTO SPS and TBT Agreements concerning the use of international standards. The Observer requested the Commission to consider modalities to facilitate closer cooperation between Codex and OIV.
151. Several delegations expressed appreciation for the information presented by OIV and supported strengthening the cooperation between Codex and OIV.
152. Other delegations, while also welcoming the information provided, noted that proposals for closer cooperation or joint standards between Codex and other IGOs had been made previously in other contexts and had not been accepted by the Commission. The difference in size of membership (188 vs 47 Member Countries) between Codex and OIV was also noted. These delegations felt that the current mechanisms and rules for cooperation with other IGOs contained in the Codex Procedural Manual worked well and that it was in the interest of Codex to remain independent, operating within its mandate while cooperating with others.
153. CAC42:
- i. thanked OIV for the information provided and the proposal as presented in CRD10;
  - ii. acknowledged the interventions made by the Members; and
  - iii. concluded that existing mechanisms for collaboration with IGOs are sufficient and should be fully utilized.

**Importance of Codex standards for the promotion of public health and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)<sup>43</sup>**

154. CAC42 noted the issue raised by the delegation of Saudi Arabia relating to the importance of Codex standards for the promotion of public health and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as provided in CRD31.

**Support for the use of Basic Methacrylate Copolymer (BMC, INS 1205) in food fortification programmes<sup>44</sup>**

155. The delegation of Senegal invited the Commission to support the adoption of the Basic Methacrylate Copolymer (BMC, INS 1205) in the *General Standard for Food Additives* (GSFA), noting that this substance was used in food fortification programmes to prevent malnutrition and improve public health in developing countries.
156. The Codex Secretariat noted that BMC, which is used as a glazing agent and carrier, had been discussed at CCFA51 and was currently at Step 3 in the GSFA. The Secretariat further clarified that the pertinent food-additive provisions would be considered at the Commission at the appropriate time.

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<sup>42</sup> CRD10 (OIV)

<sup>43</sup> CRD31 (Saudi Arabia)

<sup>44</sup> CRD33 (Senegal)

**Appendix I****LIST OF PARTICIPANTS  
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS  
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**Appendix II****LIST OF ADOPTED STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS**

<b>Standards and Related Texts</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Job No.</b>	<b>Status</b>
Alignment of the <i>Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products</i> (CXC 52-2003) with Histamine Control Guidance	REP19/FH Para. 38, Appendix II	-	Adopted
Proposed draft standard for dried or dehydrated garlic	REP19/SCH Para. 47	N04-2017	Adopted
Proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CXS 210-1999): Addition of Palm Oil with a higher content of Oleic Acid (OXG)	REP19/FO Para. 21, Appendix II Part B-1	N10-2015	Adopted
Proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CXS 210-1999): Replacement of acid value with Free Fatty Acid for Virgin Palm Oil and Inclusion of Free Fatty Acid for Crude Palm Kernel Oil	REP19/FO Para. 67, Appendix II Part C-1	N11- 2015	Adopted
Proposed draft revision to the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i> (CXS 210-1999): Inclusion of Almond oil, Flaxseed (linseed) oil; Hazelnut oil; Pistachio oil; and Walnut oil	REP19/FO Para. 88, Appendix II Part C-2	N12- 2017	Adopted
Proposed draft revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999): Amendment to the values of the Refractive Index and Apparent Density of Palm Superolein at 40°C	REP19/FO Para. 60, Appendix II Part A-1	-	Adopted
Proposed draft revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999): Applicability of the fatty acid composition of other oils listed in Table 1 in relation to their corresponding crude form and consequential deletion of an equivalent note for rice bran oil	REP19/FO Para. 137, Appendix II Part A-2	-	Adopted
Proposed draft revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999): Inclusion of Free Fatty acids as quality characteristic criteria for refined rice bran oil	REP19/FO Para. 140, Appendix II Part A-3	-	Adopted
Amendment to the sections of food additives provisions to: CXS 19-1981 (Section 3.3, 3.4 & 3.5); CXS 210-1999 (Section 4.2 & 4.3); and CXS 211- 1999 (Section 4.2 & 4.4); CXS 256-2007 (Section 4.1 & 4.7)	REP19/FO Para. 113 (a) (i) (ii), Appendix III Part AB	-	Adopted
	REP19/FA Para. 26, Appendix III Part A	Ongoing	Adopted
Proposed draft <i>Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives</i> arising from the 86th JECFA meeting	REP19/FA Paras.26(ii), 146(ii) Appendix III Part B, Appendix IX Part B	Ongoing	Adopted

<b>Standards and Related Texts</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Job No.</b>	<b>Status</b>
Draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) (CXS 192- 1995)</i>	REP19/FA Para. 137 (i), Appendix VI Part A	Ongoing	Adopted with amendment (see para. 28)
Revision of the <i>Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives (CXG 36-1989)</i>	REP19/FA Para. 149 (i) Appendix IX, part A	Ongoing	Adopted
Revised food additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the alignment of the thirteen standards for milk and milk products (ripened cheese), two standards for sugars, two standards for natural mineral waters, three standards for cereals, pulses and legumes and three standards for vegetable proteins	REP19/FA Para. 57(ii) a, Appendix VI, part B1-B3	Ongoing	Adopted
Revised food additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the alignment of provisions for ASCORBYL ESTERS (ascorbyl palmitate (INS 304) and ascorbyl stearate (INS 305)) and the Standards for Infant Formula and Formula for Special Dietary Purposes Intended for Infants (CXS 72-1981) and Follow-up Formula (CXS 156-1987)	REP19/FA Para. 57 (ii) b, Appendix VI Part B4	Ongoing	Adopted
Revised food additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the replacement notes to Note 161	REP19/FA Para. 119 (i), Appendix VI Part C	-	Adopted
Insertion of a footnote to the table entitled "References to Commodity Standards for GSFA Table 3 Additives"	REP19/FA Para. 57 (iii), Appendix VI Part B5		Adopted
Revised food additive sections of the thirteen standards for milk and milk products (ripened cheese), i.e. Standards for Cheddar (CXS 263- 1966); Danbo (CXS 264-1966); Edam (CXS 265- 1966); Gouda (CXS 266-1966); Havarti (CXS 267- 1966); Samsø (CXS 268-1966); Emmental (CXS 269-1967); Tilsiter (CXS 270-1968); Saint-Paulin (CXS 271-1968); Provolone (CXS 272-1968); Coulommiers (CXS 274-1969); Camembert (CXS 276-1973); and Brie (CXS 277-1973)	REP19/FA Para. 57 (i)a, Appendix V Part A	ongoing	Adopted
Revised food additive sections of the two standards for sugars and two standards for natural mineral waters, i.e. Standards for Honey (CXS 12- 1981); and Sugars (CXS 212-1999) and Standards for Natural mineral waters (CXS 108- 1981); and Bottled/packageged drinking waters (other than natural mineral waters) (CXS 227- 2001)	REP19/FA Para. 57 (i)b, Appendix V Part B	ongoing	Adopted

Standards and Related Texts	Reference	Job No.	Status
Revised food additive sections of the three standards for cereals, pulses and legumes and three standards for vegetable proteins, i.e. Standards for Wheat flour (CXS 152-1985); Couscous (CXS 202-1995); and Instant noodles (CXS 249-2006); and Wheat protein products including wheat gluten (CXS 163-1987); Vegetable protein products (VPP) (CXS 174- 1989); and Soy protein products (CXS 175-1989)	REP19/FA Para. 57 (i)c, Appendix V Part C	ongoing	Adopted
The revised table on “Justified use” in food additive section in the <i>Standard for Mozzarella</i> (CXS 262- 2006)	REP19/FA Para. 69	-	Adopted
The draft section on moisture in the standard for quinoa	CL 2019/42-CPL Annex 2	N17-2015	Adopted with amendment (see para. 43)
MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) for food and feed proposed by adoption by CCPR51	REP19/PR Para. 145, Appendix II	ongoing	Adopted with amendment (see para. 49)
Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CX/M 4-1989): Miscellaneous commodities not meeting the criteria for crop grouping	REP19/PR Para. 156, Appendix VII	N11-2004 N09-2006	Adopted
Proposed draft revised MLs for lead in selected commodities in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193- 1995)	REP19/CF Para. 44, Appendix II	N04-2014	Adopted
Draft Code of practice for the reduction of 3-monochloropropane1,2-diol esters (3- MCPDEs) and glycidyl esters (GEs) in refined oils and food products made with refined oils	REP19/CF Para. 79, Appendix IV	N23-2017	Adopted
Draft Guidelines for rapid risk analysis following instances of detection of contaminants in food where there is no regulatory level	REP19/CF Para. 87, Appendix V	N24-2017	Adopted
Methods of analysis / performance criteria for provisions in Codex standards	REP19/MAS Para. 9, Appendix II, Part 1	Ongoing	Adopted
Preamble and document structure for the <i>General Standard on Methods of Analysis and Sampling</i> (CXS 234-1999)	REP19/MAS Para. 61, Appendix III	Ongoing	Adopted



**Appendix III****LIST OF DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS ADOPTED AT STEP 5**

<b>Standards and Related Texts</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Job No.</b>	<b>Status</b>
Draft Principles and guidelines for the assessment and use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (vTPA) programmes	REP19/FICS Para. 53, Appendix III	N27-2017	Adopted
Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Food Allergen Management for Food Business Operators	REP19/FH Para. 56, Appendix III	N05-2018	Adopted
Review of <i>the Standard for Follow-up Formula (CXS 156-1987)</i> : Proposed draft Scope, Description and Labelling for follow-up formula for older infants	REP19/NFSDU Para. 57, Appendix III REP19/FL Para 28	N07-2013	Adopted
Proposed draft standard for dried oregano	REP19/SCH Para. 30 (i)	N06-2014	Adopted
Proposed draft standard for dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs — dried or dehydrated ginger	REP19/SCH Para. 39 (i)	N02-2017	Adopted
Proposed draft standard for dried basil	REP19/SCH Para. 66 (i)	N05-2017	Adopted
Proposed draft standard for dried floral parts – dried cloves	REP19/SCH Para. 88 (i)	N08-2017	Adopted
Proposed draft standard for saffron	REP19/SCH Para. 95 (i)	N06-2017	Adopted
Proposed draft ML for cadmium for chocolates containing or declaring <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis	REP19/CF Para. 56, Appendix III	N15-2014	Adopted
Proposed draft guidance for the labelling of non-retail containers	REP19/FL Para. 64, Appendix II	N06-2016	Adopted
Proposed draft Revised <i>Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty (CXG 54-2004)</i>	REP19/MAS Para. 66, Appendix IV	N07-2018	Adopted

**Appendix IV****LIST OF REVOKED STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS**

<b>Standards and Related Texts</b>	<b>Reference</b>
Provisions for monosodium tartrate (INS 335(i)), monopotassium tartrate (INS 336(i)) and dipotassium tartrate (INS 336(ii)) in the <i>Standard for Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children</i> (CXS 74-1981)	REP19/NFSDU Para. 10
Provisions for monosodium tartrate (INS 335(i)) monopotassium tartrate (INS 336(i)), dipotassium tartrate (INS 336(ii)) and sodium sorbate (INS 201) in the Standard for Fat Spreads and Blended Spreads (CXS 256- 2007)	REP19/FO Para. 113 (a) (ii) Appendix III, Part B
CXLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) for food and feed	REP19/PR Para. 145, Appendix III
MLs for lead in selected commodities in the GSCTFF	REP19/CF Para. 44, Appendix II
Methods of analysis for provisions in Codex standards – CXS 234 - 1999	REP19/MAS Para. 9, Appendix II, Part 2

**Appendix V****LIST OF APPROVED NEW WORK**

<b>Codex Body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference and project document</b>	<b>Job No.</b>
CCFICS	The project document for new work on the consolidation of Codex Guidelines related to equivalence	REP19/FICS Para 32 (ii) and (iii) (b), Appendix II	N01-2019
CCFH	The project document for new work on development of guidelines for the control of Shiga toxin-producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> (STEC) in beef, unpasteurized milk and cheese produced from unpasteurized milk, leafy greens, and sprouts	REP19/FH Para 76 CAC19/42/8 – Annex II	N02-2019
CCPR	Proposal for new work to develop Guidelines for compounds of low public health concern that could be exempted from the establishment of CXLs	REP19/PR Para. 206, Appendix IX	N03-2019
	Priority list of pesticides for evaluation by the 2020 JMPR	REP19/PR Para. 250, Appendix X	N04-2019
CCCF	Establishment of MLs for lead in certain food categories	REP19/CF Para. 96, Appendix VI	N05-2019
	Revision of the Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of lead contamination in foods (CXC 56-2004)	REP19/CF Para. 107, Appendix VII	N06-2019
	Development of a Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cocoa beans	REP19/CF Para. 112, Appendix VIII	N07-2019
	Establishment of MLs for aflatoxins in certain cereals and cereal-based products including foods for infants and young children	REP19/CF Para. 155, Appendix IX	N08-2019
CCFL	Proposed draft guidance on internet sales/e-commerce	REP19/FL Para. 91 (a), Appendix III	N09-2019
	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	REP19/FL Para. 98 (a), Appendix IV	N10-2019

**Appendix VI****LIST OF DISCONTINUED WORK**

<b>Codex Body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference</b>
CCNFSDU	NRV-NCD for EPA and DHA long chain omega-3 fatty acids	REP19/NFSDU Para. 94
CCFA	Draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA) (XCS 192-1995)	REP19/FA Para. 137(iii), Appendix VIII
CCPR	MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) in the Step Procedure that were withdrawn (discontinued) by CCPR	REP19/PR Para. 145, Appendix VI
CCS	Draft standard for panela and/or common or vernacular name as known in each country (non – centrifuged sugar)	CX/CAC 19/42/11 Add.2 Appendix II

**Appendix VII****AMENDMENTS TO CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS**

<b>Codex body</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Status</b>
CCCF	Amendment of the ML for wine	REP19/CF, para. 44, Appendix II	Adopted
CCMAS	Editorial amendments of methods of analysis for provisions in Codex Standards	REP19/MAS, para. 16, Appendix II, Part 3	Adopted
CCCPL	Editorial amendments to Codex Standards		Adopted
CCPMPP	Editorial amendments in the scope of <i>Standard for luncheon meat</i> (CXS 89-1981)		Adopted
CCVP	Editorial amendments in annex "Codex Guidelines for testing safety and nutritional quality of vegetable protein products" of the General Guidelines for the utilization of the vegetable protein products (VPP) in foods (CAC/GL 4-1989)		Adopted

**Appendix VIII****CHAIRMANSHIP OF CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES****Established under Rule XI.1(b)(i)**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Subsidiary Body</b>	<b>Member Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
CX 703	Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products	New Zealand	<i>Sine die</i>
CX 708	Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate	Switzerland	<i>Sine die</i>
CX 709	Codex Committee on Fats and Oils	Malaysia	Active
CX 710	Codex Committee on Sugars	Colombia	<i>Sine die</i>
CX 711	Codex Committee on Food Additives	China	Active
CX 712	Codex Committee on Food Hygiene	United States of America	Active
CX 713	Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables	United States of America	Active <sup>1</sup>
CX 714	Codex Committee on Food Labelling	Canada	Active
CX 715	Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling	Hungary	Active
CX 716	Codex Committee on General Principles	France	Active
CX 718	Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues	China	Active
CX 719	Codex Committee on Natural Mineral Waters	Switzerland	<i>Sine die</i>
CX 720	Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses	Germany	Active
CX 722	Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products	Norway	<i>Sine die</i>
CX 723	Codex Committee on Meat Hygiene	New Zealand	<i>Sine die</i>
CX 728	Codex Committee on Vegetable Proteins	Canada	<i>Sine die</i>
CX 729	Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes	United States of America	Active <sup>1</sup>
CX 730	Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods	United States of America	Active
CX 731	Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Mexico	Active
CX 733	Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Certification and Inspection Systems	Australia	Active
CX 735	Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods	The Netherlands	Active
CX 736	Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs	India	Active
CX 804	<i>Ad hoc</i> Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance	Republic of Korea	Active

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<sup>1</sup> Working by correspondence only

**CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2020 – 2025****1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission (the Commission) was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1963. Today, it has 188 Member Countries and 1 Member Organization. In addition, 229 inter-governmental and international non-governmental organizations are accredited as observers.

1.2. The Commission's main work is the development of international food standards, guidelines, and codes of practice to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade. The Commission also promotes the coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

1.3. For food safety and nutrition matters, the Commission, as risk manager, establishes its standards (this generic term includes guidelines, codes of practice and other texts) which may be used by Member Countries or used by the food trade. The Commission establishes these standards using the principles of risk analysis and bases its work on the scientific advice provided by the joint FAO/WHO expert bodies and consultations, for which there needs to be sufficient and sustainable funding. Codex standards may also address issues related to food quality and labelling. With increased globalization and increases in the volumes of food traded internationally, the Commission must also be capable of responding in a timely manner to the impacts of emerging trends and challenges on consumer health protection or fair practices in food trade, and to the extent that steps to address those impacts are amenable to standardization.

1.4. In conducting its work, the Commission takes into account, where appropriate, the relevant policies, strategies and guidelines of FAO and WHO, and of other intergovernmental organizations such as the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), consistent with fulfilling its unique mandate to protect the health of consumers and promote fair practices in the food trade through the development of international food standards.

1.5. International food safety standards established by the Commission are explicitly recognized in the World Trade Organization's Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS Agreement). Codex standards also serve as references under the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO TBT Agreement).

1.6. The purpose of this Strategic Plan is to advance the mandate of the Codex Alimentarius Commission during the period 2020-2025. This document does not supersede, extend, or contradict the interpretation of the Codex mandate, standards or provisions of the *Procedural Manual* adopted or approved by the Commission.

1.7. The 2020-2025 Strategic Plan:

- Presents the mission, vision, goals, objectives and measurable indicators for the Commission.
- Underpins the high priority that continues to be placed on food safety and quality by FAO and WHO and guides the Commission in carrying out its responsibilities and unique mandate to protect consumer health and ensure fair practices in the food trade.
- Informs Members, inter-governmental and international non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders of how the Commission intends to fulfil its mandate and to meet the needs, including emerging issues, and expectations of its Members during the period 2020-2025.

1.8. This Strategic Plan will be supported by a more detailed work plan that includes activities and milestones that permit tracking of progress toward accomplishment of the goals. The relevant elements of the work plan will be developed and maintained by the responsible parties identified for each of the objectives. The Strategic Plan and its supporting work plan will be reviewed by the Commission in 2020 and then every two years subsequently through its six-year timespan, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Procedural Manual*.

1.9. This plan incorporates a new focus on promoting the relevance and use of Codex standards by governments and others to protect the health of consumers and as a reference for ensuring fair practices in the food trade, recognizing the extent to which Codex standards play a fundamental role in trade facilitation.

## 2. DRIVERS OF CHANGE

2.1. The dynamics of the standard-setting activities undertaken by the Commission have changed dramatically since it was established. Not only has the number of Members increased significantly, Codex has also seen more active participation by its Members, in particular by developing countries<sup>1</sup> engaged in the international food standard-setting process. Sitting alongside programmes for technical cooperation, broader inter- and intra-regional cooperation and the activities of regional economic communities, the FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund (CTF1&2) is a key initiative in this regard. It supports Codex Members in building robust and sustainable national capacity to engage in Codex with the ultimate vision of all countries engaging fully and effectively in Codex and benefitting fully from Codex standards.

2.2. The focus and needs of Codex Members are also evolving, for example, as they consider the voluntary United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by world leaders in September 2015<sup>2</sup>. Codex standards can assist Members in their implementation efforts with respect to the SDGs that are directly related to food safety and fair practices in the food trade. In particular, adoption of Codex standards can support the achievement of the following SDGs.

SDG <sup>3</sup>	SDG TARGET <sup>3</sup>	CONTRIBUTION OF CODEX
<b>SDG 2 – ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture</b>	Ensuring sustainable food production systems and implementing resilient agricultural practices	Promoting access to knowledge of good practices and new methods and technologies in agriculture, through Codex standards.
	Ensuring access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food.	The adoption of food safety standards helps reduce risk of death and illness from food that may otherwise contain chemical or (micro)biological agents at levels higher than those provided for in the standards.
	Combating communicable diseases	Codex also provides guidance on nutritional issues, including the development of Nutrient Reference Values (NRVs), product standards for foods for special dietary uses, and other technical information used in the development of labelling standards.
<b>SDG 3 – ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all, at all ages</b>	Reducing by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment	
	Substantially reducing the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals	
	Strengthening the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.	Developing countries are contributing more actively to the international food standard-setting process. CTF supports countries to build strong, solid and sustainable national capacity to engage in Codex and reap the benefits of Codex standards. Codex texts also provide guidelines for Member countries that can be used to build national capacity in risk analysis.
<b>SDG 12 – ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns</b>	Halving per capita global food waste at retail and consumer levels and reducing food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses	Codex standards support the safe and effective production, preservation, inspection, certification and transport of food along the food chain and its appropriate labelling.

<sup>1</sup>Although there is no established convention for the designation of "developed" and "developing" countries or areas in the United Nations system, in 1996 this concept was introduced to the Standard country or area codes for statistical use (known as M49). From 2018, the M49 adopted the same definition as that used in the final report of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). See the list of countries in developing regions at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>

<sup>3</sup> A full description of the SDG goals and Targets is available at: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>



SDG <sup>3</sup>	SDG TARGET <sup>3</sup>	CONTRIBUTION OF CODEX
<b>SDG 17 – revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development</b>	Promoting a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system	Codex standards also support fair practices in the food trade, which in turn supports food security and economic growth. The standards are considered by the WTO as the international reference for the safety and quality of food traded internationally.

2.3. The environment in which Codex operates continues to evolve. Food and food ingredients are among the most traded commodities internationally. Changes in the global feed and food supply chain system, resource optimization efforts, food security and safety concerns, innovations in food science and technology, climate change, water scarcity, and consumer concerns relating to food safety and quality<sup>4</sup> represent some of the drivers of change that may introduce new opportunities and challenges. The Commission must maintain a steady focus on its mandate. It must be sufficiently capable of being proactive, flexible and responding in a timely manner to emerging issues that impact on food safety and quality with the aim of protecting consumer health and ensuring fair practices in the food trade.

### 3. CODEX VISION AND MISSION

#### ***Codex Vision Statement***

3.1. “Where the world comes together to create food safety and quality standards to protect everyone everywhere.”

#### ***Codex Mission Statement***

3.2. “Protect consumer health and promote fair practices in the food trade by setting international, science-based food safety and quality standards.”

### 4. CODEX CORE VALUES

4.1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission re-commits itself to the following core values, which will guide its work to fulfil its strategic vision;

- Collaboration
- Inclusiveness
- Consensus building<sup>5</sup>
- Transparency

### 5. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

5.1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission commits itself to work towards achievement of the following five goals:

1. Address current, emerging and critical issues in a timely manner
2. Develop standards based on science and Codex risk-analysis principles
3. Increase impact through the recognition and use of Codex standards
4. Facilitate the participation of all Codex members throughout the standard setting process
5. Enhance work management systems and practices that support the efficient and effective achievement of all strategic plan goals.

5.2. The objectives under each of the goals for the period 2020-2025, the parties responsible for achievement of the objectives, the expected outcomes and the indicators against which progress will be monitored are as follows:

<sup>4</sup> The consideration of other factors in the Codex standard setting process is governed by the *Statements of Principle Concerning the Role of Science in the Codex Decision-Making Process and the Extent to Which Other Factors are Taken into Account*.

<sup>5</sup> Consensus should be based on the *Measures to Facilitate Consensus* included in the Procedural Manual.

**Goal 1: Address current, emerging and critical issues in a timely manner**

*The focus and needs of Codex Members are evolving, as is the environment in which Codex operates. Codex will need to be proactive and flexible and to respond in a timely manner to the opportunities and challenges that result.*

**Objectives**

- 1.1 Identify needs and emerging issues.
- 1.2 Prioritize needs and emerging issues.

5.3. The primary responsibility for achieving these objectives lies with Codex subsidiary bodies and the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

**Measuring progress towards and achievement of Goal 1 objectives for the period 2020-2025**

Objective	Outcome	Indicators
<b>1.1 Identify needs and emerging issues.</b>	Improved ability of Codex to develop standards relevant to the needs of its members	The number of emerging issues identified by subsidiary bodies. ( <i>Meeting reports</i> <sup>6</sup> )
<b>1.2 Prioritize needs and emerging issues.</b>	Timely Codex response to emerging issues and the needs of members	Proportion of identified, prioritized emerging issues that lead to proposals for new work ( <i>Meeting reports</i> )  Time taken from the identification of new issues to the submission of proposals for new work to the Executive Committee ( <i>Meeting reports</i> )  Time taken for prioritized emerging issues to result in revised or new Codex texts ( <i>Meeting reports</i> )  Committees documenting their approach to work prioritization based on criteria for establishment of work priorities in the Procedural Manual

**Goal 2: Develop standards based on science and Codex risk-analysis principles**

5.4. . *Members and those engaged in the food trade who use Codex standards value the strong scientific basis of Codex, which is currently threatened by unsustainable resourcing. Codex must prioritize the securing of independent, timely and high-quality scientific advice, identifying the steps that each actor – Members, the FAO, and WHO – can take to ensure, support and advocate for the delivery of timely scientific advice to Codex through a fully and sustainably funded program. Furthermore, globally representative data are needed for scientific advice to be comprehensive and for Codex standards to be relevant to the global food supply. This will require, among other things, capacity building in developing countries that is specific to robust data generation, scientific analysis, and overall increased capacity to conduct such work.*

**Objectives**

- 2.1 Use scientific advice consistently in line with Codex risk-analysis principles.
- 2.2 Promote the submission and use of globally representative data in developing and reviewing Codex standards.
- 2.3 Promote sufficient and sustainable funding for expert bodies that deliver scientific advice.

5.5. The primary responsibility for achieving objective 2.1 lies with Codex Subsidiary bodies. The responsibility for objective 2.2 is shared between Codex Subsidiary bodies and Codex Member countries. The responsibility for objective 2.3 lies with the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Executive Committee and Member countries.

**Measuring progress towards and achievement of goal 2 objectives for the period 2020-2025**

Objective	Outcome	Indicator
<b>2.1 Use scientific advice consistently in line with Codex</b>	Scientific advice is taken into account consistently and in line with Codex risk analysis	Proportion of texts considered by CCEXEC, as part of its work to monitor the progress of standards development, for which reports by subsidiary body Chairs indicate how

<sup>6</sup> Potential data sources to facilitate measurement of progress against the indicators have been identified to the extent possible and are included in parenthesis after each of the indicators)

Objective	Outcome	Indicator
<b>risk analysis principles</b>	principles by all relevant committees during the standard setting process	scientific advice was used and any other legitimate factors were considered in developing Codex texts. ( <i>Reports from Chairs of subsidiary bodies to CCEXEC</i> )
<b>2.2 Promote the submission and use of globally representative data in developing and reviewing Codex standards</b>	Codex standards are developed with reference to globally representative data	Proportion and regional distribution of Codex members who contribute to calls for data from working groups and Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committees/Meetings. ( <i>EWG forums, reports of pWGs and data from the expert committee secretariats</i> )
<b>2.3 Promote sufficient and sustainable funding for expert bodies that deliver scientific advice</b>	FAO and WHO expert bodies are providing scientific advice within time frames agreed between committees and FAO/WHO, and these time frames allow standard development to progress in a timely manner	Extent of and any changes in sufficient core funding for scientific advice within FAO and WHO ( <i>Reports on budget from FAO and WHO</i> )  Proportion of scientific advice provided within established timeframes ( <i>FAO/WHO papers on scientific advice and meeting reports</i> )

### Goal 3: Increase impact through the recognition and use of Codex standards

5.6. *Communications that drive greater awareness, understanding, and recognition of available, harmonized standards are essential to the effectiveness of Codex. Even in the absence of adoption of Codex standards into national legislation, the greater use of Codex standards by the food trade and other actors can contribute to consumer health protection and ensuring fair practices in the food trade.*

#### Objectives

3.1 Raise the awareness of Codex standards.

3.2 Support initiatives to enable the understanding and implementation/application of Codex standards.

3.3. Recognise and promote the use and impact of Codex standards.

5.7. Raising awareness and promotion of the use of Codex standards is the responsibility of all Member countries and Observers of Codex. The Codex Secretariat also has responsibility to raise awareness and assess the impact of Codex standards.

#### Measuring progress towards and achievement of goal 3 objectives for the period 2020-2025

Objective	Outcome	Indicators
<b>3.1 Raise the awareness of Codex standards</b>	Codex Members are proactively promoting the use of Codex standards	Number of country contributions to the Codex regional and observer webpages reflecting events/activities that raise awareness on Codex standards ( <i>Codex regional and observer webpages</i> )  Number of activities in the Codex communications work plan that explicitly address the visibility of Codex standards and extent of implementation ( <i>Annual report to CCEXEC</i> )
<b>3.2 Support initiatives to enable the understanding and implementation/application of Codex standards</b>	Increased use of Codex standards in the development of national food standards and regulations.  Increased use of Codex standards by the food trade	Proportion of Member countries participating in national or regional capacity development initiatives to encourage and facilitate practical use of Codex standards have been undertaken ( <i>Circular Letter or reports from Regional Coordinating Committees</i> )  Proportion of specified Codex standards adopted or used by Codex Members ( <i>Biennial regional survey on use of specific Codex texts</i> ) Proportion of specified Codex standards adopted or used by relevant Codex Observers ( <i>Survey to observers</i> )

<b>3.3. Recognise and promote the impact of Codex standards</b>	Having a mechanism/tool to measure the impact of Codex standards developed and piloted	Progress on the development of a mechanism to measure impact of Codex standards ( <i>Annual progress report</i> )
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**Goal 4: Facilitate the participation of all Codex members throughout the standard setting process**

5.8. *Members’ abilities to participate actively in the development of Codex texts still varies widely and is dependent on the capacity and sustainability of national Codex systems. While the responsibility for these systems resides with Members, there is a role for support that will help to close gaps in capabilities as much as possible over the life of this Strategic Plan. Sources of funding and a broad range of formal and informal capacity building, partnering, and technical knowledge sharing activities will all play important roles in strengthening the capacity of Members for sustainable, active participation in Codex activities, supporting all Members in maintaining national systems and expanding the potential for co-hosting of committees, consistent with our value of inclusiveness.*

**Objectives**

- 4.1 Enable sustainable national Codex structures in all Codex Member countries.
- 4.2 Increase sustainable and active participation of all Codex Members.
- 4.3 Reduce barriers to active participation by developing countries.

5.9. *FAO and WHO also are responsible for providing support to developing countries and to facilitate their effective participation through the Codex Trust Fund and other funding sources. Member countries supplement this through their support for, and participation in, formal and informal capacity building, partnering, and knowledge sharing activities*

**Measuring progress towards and achievement of goal 4 objectives for the period 2020-2025**

Objective	Outcome	Indicators
<b>4.1. Enable sustainable national Codex structures in all Codex Member countries</b>	Participation by all Codex Member countries in the work of Codex Committees and working groups	Proportion of countries with effective capacity in their: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Codex Contact Point, structure and processes</li> <li>2. Consultation structures (e.g., national Codex Committees) and processes</li> <li>3. Management of Codex work</li> </ol> <i>(Results of application of the Codex diagnostic tool by Members)</i>  Sustainable resource allocation for the above, which may be reflected in national legislation and/or organization structures ( <i>Reports by Member countries</i> )  <i>Additional indicator for CTF recipient countries:</i>  Proportion of CTF2 recipient countries sustaining national Codex systems and related activities once the funding ends ( <i>EWG forum and OCS</i> )
<b>4.2 Increase sustainable and active participation of all Codex members</b>	Sustained, active participation in the work of Codex Committees and working groups	Proportion of countries with a sustained or increased: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution to EWGs</li> <li>• Chairing of EWGs</li> <li>• Response to Circular Letters</li> </ul> <i>(EWG forum and OCS)</i>
<b>4.3 Reduce barriers to active participation by developing countries.</b>	Capacity building, partnering, and knowledge sharing activities are effective in building active participation by developing countries	Documented discussions from the regional coordinating committees (RCC) or related meetings on barriers and potential solutions to participation by developing countries ( <i>Reports of RCCs and related meetings</i> )  Increase in reports of mentorship and experience sharing on Codex issues between countries ( <i>Reports by members and/or RCC reports</i> )

**Goal 5: Enhance work management systems and practices that support the efficient and effective achievement of all strategic plan goals**

5.10. *The continuing review and improvement of Codex work management systems and practices will help align these to the achievement of all strategic plan goals. Improvements to work flows, proposal prioritization, and input/comment management will support participation by Members with significant resource constraints and enhance inclusiveness in the standard-setting process. The effective development of Codex texts depends heavily on the resources contributed by host countries of subsidiary bodies and their working groups, particularly their chairpersons and secretariats. Enhancing and maintaining capacity is critical to the successful management of the work of Codex.*

**Objectives**

5.1 Develop and maintain efficient and effective work management practices and systems.

5.2 Enhance the capacities of committee and working group chairpersons, regional coordinators and host country secretariats to support the work of Codex.

5.11. The Codex Secretariat, host country secretariats, chairpersons of committees and working groups and regional coordinators have the primary responsibility to achieve these objectives.

**Measuring progress towards and achievement of goal 5 objectives for the period 2020-2025**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<b>5.1 Develop and maintain efficient and effective work management practices and systems.</b>	Codex work processes and procedures support the effective and efficient operation of Codex standard setting bodies	Of the recommendations of regular review of Codex work management that are adopted by CAC, the proportion that are implemented ( <i>Annual reports to CCEXEC</i> )
	The efficient design of agendas and use of time in meetings of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, its Executive Committee and Subsidiary bodies maximises the time allocated to the development of Codex texts	Proportion of meeting documents distributed in a timely manner consistent with the Codex <i>Procedural Manual</i> or timeframes established by committees ( <i>Meeting webpages</i> )  Proportion of sessions where all agenda items were covered within the allotted Committee meeting time and work was completed by the project deadline ( <i>Agendas and meeting reports</i> )
<b>5.2 Enhance the capacities of committee and working group chairpersons, regional coordinators and host country secretariats to support the work of Codex.</b>	Subsidiary body meetings and working groups are effectively and efficiently chaired and conducted	Proportion of chairs and host countries of subsidiary bodies and working groups taking part in training and/or in the development of tools and guidance.  ( <i>Available guidance and workshop reports</i> )  Satisfaction ratings on meeting efficiency, role of chairs and host and Codex secretariats ( <i>Post meeting surveys</i> )