

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of  
the United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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REP11/CAC

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

*Thirty-fourth Session*

*International Conference Centre, Geneva, Switzerland*

*4 - 9 July 2011*

## REPORT

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### The Commission:

- a) Adopted an amendment to the Procedural Manual (terms of reference of the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables);
- b) Adopted 31 new or revised Codex standards or related texts or amendments to these texts and many new or revised provisions for additives and MRLs for pesticides and veterinary drugs;
- c) Adopted 8 Codex draft standards or related texts and several MRLs for pesticides at Step 5;
- d) Approved several proposals for new work or discontinuation of work, and revoked several standards and related texts;
- e) Considered the matters referred by its subsidiary bodies or pending from earlier sessions;
- f) Noted the Codex budget and expenditures for 2010-2011 and the proposed budget for 2012-2013, including FAO/WHO related activities; expressed its thanks to FAO and WHO for their support to the Codex programme and related activities and to host governments for their contributions; and invited FAO, WHO and member countries to give high priority and provide support to scientific advice in food safety;
- g) Noted the status of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2008-2013 and the preparation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019;
- h) Made some recommendations on the proposals to respond to the Codex Trust Fund Mid-term Review;
- i) Supported continued cooperation and coordination with international governmental and non-governmental organizations;
- j) Elected as **Chairperson** Mr Sanjay Dave (India), as **Vice-Chairpersons** Mr Samuel Godefroy (Canada), Mrs Awilo Ochieng Pernet (Switzerland), and Professor Samuel Sefa Dedeh (Ghana); and as **Members of the Executive Committee elected on a geographical basis**: Australia, China, France, Jamaica, Kenya, Tunisia, and United States of America;
- k) Appointed the following regional **Coordinators**: Cameroon (Africa), Japan (Asia), Poland (Europe), Costa Rica (Latin America and the Caribbean), Lebanon (Near East), Papua New Guinea (North America and South-West Pacific); and
- l) Designated the host governments of Codex subsidiary bodies and agreed to dissolve the *Ad hoc* Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance.

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## INTRODUCTION

1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission held its Thirty-fourth Session in Geneva, Switzerland from 4 to 9 July 2011. Ms Karen Hulebak (United States of America), Chairperson of the Commission presided over the Session, assisted by the Vice-Chairpersons, Mr Knud Ostergaard (Denmark), Mr Sanjay Dave (India) and Mr Ben Manyindo (Uganda). The Session was attended by 625 delegates from 145 Member countries and 1 Member Organization, and 34 international governmental and non-governmental organizations, including UN agencies. A list of participants, including the Secretariat, is given in Appendix I to this report.
2. The meeting was opened by Dr Maged Younes, Director of Food Safety and Zoonoses, WHO, who welcomed delegates on behalf of the Director-General of WHO, Dr Margaret Chan. He pointed out that recent food safety emergencies, such as the contamination of food with radioactive substances in Japan, the outbreak of EHEC in Germany, or the intentional contamination of food and beverages with phthalates had illustrated how globalised the food market has become and how rapidly incidents in one country or part of the world can impact others. These events demonstrated the need for international standards first and foremost to protect consumers, but also to allow fair trade practices. Dr Younes recalled that during emergencies, the INFOSAN network played a critical role and demonstrated the importance of rapid information sharing and communication. He noted that the extensive WHO reform focused on WHO core business including setting standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation, and reasserted WHO's commitment to support Codex work, its scientific foundation and related capacity building activities, including the Codex Trust Fund, jointly with FAO.
3. The Representative of FAO, Mr Samuel Jutzi, Director, Animal Production and Health Division and Acting Director, Nutrition and Consumer Protection Division, stressed the importance of Codex standards to provide guidance to governments in order to ensure food safety throughout the food chain, and their special relevance in cases of food safety crisis, recalling how FAO and WHO cooperate closely in emergency situations through INFOSAN and EMPRES Food Safety. Mr Jutzi recalled the continuous efforts of FAO and WHO to improve the capacity of countries to establish or improve their food safety systems and the importance of the Codex Trust Fund to enhance participation in the Codex process. He emphasised the critical importance of scientific advice as the basis of Codex work on food safety standards. Mr Jutzi indicated that the new Director-General elect of FAO, Mr Graziano Da Silva, was well aware of the importance of Codex work for member countries, and that in the next biennium, FAO would continue to give high priority to the Codex programme and related activities.
4. The Chairperson recalled that the global crisis and high food prices had increased poverty and malnutrition worldwide and highlighted the role of international standards in this perspective. She pointed out that the Commission should meet the needs of its members, establishing relevant standards on a scientific basis in order to avoid the proliferation of private standards. Recalling that many standards were based on the risk assessment provided by FAO/WHO, she emphasised the need to retain this approach and cautioned against focusing on national considerations, noting that if Codex standards were not based on risk assessment, that would negatively affect their status under WTO.
5. At the invitation of the Chairperson, the Observer of WTO recalled the status of Codex standards in the framework of the SPS Agreement and the legal obligations of WTO members, and noted that some concern was expressed in the SPS Committee on the failure to adopt standards or the fact that standards might not be based on science. As international standards were presumed to be in conformity with the provisions of the Agreement, Codex standards should be based on a scientific risk assessment and should not be more trade restrictive than necessary. The Observer recalled that governments could choose to base their requirements on scientific evidence and risk assessments other than those relied on by Codex, but stressed the importance of Codex standards for ensuring consumers' health and ensuring fair trade practices at the international level.

### Division of Competence

6. The Commission noted the division of competence between the European Union and its Member States, according to paragraph 5, Rule II, of the Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, as presented in document CRD 1.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda Item 1)<sup>1</sup>**

7. The Commission adopted the Provisional Agenda as its Agenda for the session. The Commission agreed to discuss the replies from Coordinating Committees presented under Agenda Item 10 in CX/CAC 11/34/10 under Agenda Item 9 when discussing the proposals for discontinuation of work.

**REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON ON THE 65<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Agenda Item 2)<sup>2</sup>**

8. In accordance with Rule V.7 of the Rules of Procedure, the Chairperson reported to the Commission on the outcome of the 65<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and noted that the Committee had developed excellent experience and efficiency in the exercise of its functions, especially the critical review of standards development and new work proposals.

9. The Commission was informed that the Executive Committee, while considering budgetary and financial matters, had decided that it did not need to meet systematically between the sessions of the Commission. It had considered the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2008-2013 and the development of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019 and agreed to consider a revised draft at its next session in February 2012. It was noted that the recommendations made by the Executive Committee on specific questions would be considered under the relevant Agenda Items.

**REPORTS OF FAO/WHO REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEES (Agenda Item 3)<sup>3</sup>****FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)**

10. The Coordinator for Africa (Ghana) informed the Committee that the 19<sup>th</sup> CCAFRICA had discussed several matters including the implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2008-2013; guidance on the new proposed Strategic Plan; the implementation of the strategic plan for CCAFRICA and other items complementary to the work of Codex, such as the Codex Trust Fund and also exchanged information on national food control systems. The Coordinator expressed its appreciation to FAO and WHO, and the Codex Trust Fund, amongst others, for their support to countries in the Africa region.

**FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)**

11. The Coordinator for Asia (Indonesia) informed the Commission that the 17<sup>th</sup> CCASIA had finalized two regional standards for adoption at Step 8 and Step 5/8, which would be considered by the Commission in later agenda items. The Session also considered the Strategic Plan 2008 – 2013, the preparation of the Strategic Plan 2013 – 2018 and Strategic Plan for CCASIA, and nominated Japan as new regional coordinator.

**FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO)**

12. The Coordinator for Europe (Poland) informed the Commission that the 27<sup>th</sup> CCEURO, while considering the preparation of the new Strategic Plan, had proposed an amendment to Goal 2 to reflect that risk management was not only based on science, that other legitimate factors should be better defined and that guidance was necessary on their application. The Committee had expressed the views that working groups should remain open to all members and observers, and its opposition to the adoption of MRLs for ractopamine as currently proposed. It had proposed new work on the revision of the Regional Standard for Fresh Fungus Chanterelles and on a standard for ayran. Poland had been nominated as Coordinator for a second term and other countries had expressed interest in co-hosting the Committee. Prior to the Committee, a workshop on *Food Safety Risk Analysis: developing national food safety systems and Codex standards* was organised by FAO, WHO and Poland with the support of the Codex Trust Fund, and all relevant information was available on the website of the CCEURO [www.cceuro.pl](http://www.cceuro.pl).

**FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC)**

13. The Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico) gave a summary of the main points discussed at the 17<sup>th</sup> CCLAC, e.g. consideration of regional standards, that it was not necessary to discuss

<sup>1</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/1

<sup>2</sup> REP 11/EXEC

<sup>3</sup> REP11/AFRICA, REP11/ASIA, REP11/EURO, REP11/LAC, REP11/NEA, REP11/NASWP

further guidance on traceability, impact of food safety private standards, need for an international standard for processed cheese, consideration of the three objectives of the FAO/WHO Trust Fund for enhanced participation in Codex, need for capacity building to strengthen national food control systems and national structures for Codex matters, support for the development of a worldwide standard for “panela” and nomination of Costa Rica as the next Coordinator for the Latin America and the Caribbean region. Further details on the consideration of these and other matters would be given under the relevant agenda items.

#### **FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNEA)**

14. The Coordinator for the Near East (Tunisia) informed the Commission that the 6<sup>th</sup> CCNEA had emphasized to need for timely availability of documents and standards in the Arabic language to allow members to prepare comments within the required timeframe. The Committee had discussed issues referred to it by the Commission such as the impact of private standards; the need for a standard for processed cheese; the implementation of the existing standards; and the development of the new strategic plan. The Committee had finalised one regional code of practice and two standards which would be discussed under Agenda Item 4. The Committee had noted the interest of Lebanon to serve as new coordinator.

#### **FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific (CCNASWP)**

15. The Coordinator for North America and the South West Pacific (Tonga) gave a summary of the main points discussed at the 11<sup>th</sup> CCNASWP, e.g. appreciation to FAO and WHO for the technical assistance and scientific advice and priority areas for future capacity development activities; support to shift the emphasis of the Codex Trust Fund from Objective 1 “Widen participation” to Objectives 2 and 3 “Strengthening overall participation” and “Enhance scientific / technical participation” while ensuring that “graduate” countries continue to participate in Codex meetings; review of the status of implementation of the current Strategic Plan for the CCNASWP and the process for preparing the new one. The CCNASWP also noted recent developments and current status of food control systems, training and capacity building activities, priority areas for implementation of the regional strategic plan; and use of Codex standards in the region. The CCNASWP also agreed to consider at its next session a revised discussion paper on kava and unanimously recommended to the Commission that Papua New Guinea be appointed as the next Coordinator for North America and the South West Pacific.

#### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL (Agenda Item 4) <sup>4</sup>** **Proposed Amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables**

16. The Commission recalled that it had requested the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables to review its Terms of Reference to consider the inclusion of fruit and vegetable juices in view of the dissolution of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Fruit and Vegetable Juices and within the framework of the review of the structures and mandates of Codex committee and task forces.

17. Many delegations and observers supported the inclusion of fruit and vegetable juices and nectars in the Terms of Reference of the Committee with the exclusion of the reference to “*related products*” as this term was ambiguous and would open up the scope of the work of the Committee to products that might fall outside of what could be understood as a processed fruit or vegetable, for instance, composite products in which fruit juice could be used as an ingredient that were already covered by horizontal Codex texts addressing multi-ingredient foods. A proposal to refer to “fruit and vegetable juices and nectars and *their products*” was not accepted as this was felt to have the same meaning as “*related products*”.

18. The Delegation of Brazil supported the amendment as proposed by the Committee and indicated that the removal of the term “*related products*” might limit the work of the Committee on products that were currently or might be available in future on the market e.g. extracts of tropical fruits, pulpy/juice-based beverages, etc.

19. The Delegation of the United States of America, speaking as Chair of the Committee explained that, in considering the recommendation of the Commission to include fruit and vegetable juices, the Committee took the relevant part of the Terms of Reference of the Task Force on Fruit and Vegetable Juices which referred to “fruit and vegetable juices *and related products*” and incorporated into its mandate in order to be

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<sup>4</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/2. CX/CAC 11/34/2-Add.1 (Comments of Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, ICBA and ICGMA). CX/CAC 11/34/2-Add.2 (Comments from EU and IFU)

able to carry out future work on issues covered by the Task Force. He further explained that, at the time the Task Force was active, the “*related products*” referred only to nectars and, as the proposed amendment already took into account this product, there might be no need to include “*related products*” in the revised Terms of Reference.

20. Based on the above considerations, the Commission agreed to adopt the amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables with the exception of the reference to “*related products*”. The Delegation of Brazil expressed its reservation on this exclusion.

**DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS AT STEP 8 OF THE PROCEDURE (INCLUDING THOSE SUBMITTED AT STEP 5 WITH A RECOMMENDATION TO OMIT STEPS 6 AND 7 AND AT STEP 5 OF THE ACCELERATED PROCEDURE) (Agenda Item 5)<sup>5</sup>**

21. Taking into consideration the recommendation of the 65<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCEXEC in performing the critical review, the Commission adopted the Draft Standards and Related Texts submitted by its subsidiary bodies at Step 8 (including those submitted at Step 5 with a recommendation to omit Steps 6 and 7), as well as other standards and related texts submitted for adoption, as presented in Appendix III to this report. The standards and related texts were adopted as endorsed by the relevant committees as regards provisions for food additives, food hygiene, food labelling and methods of analysis and sampling including editorial changes.

22. The following paragraphs provide additional information on the comments made and the decisions taken on certain items.

**Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods**

***Draft MRLs for narasin (pig tissues) and tilmicosin (chicken and turkey tissues)<sup>6</sup>***

23. The Delegations of Norway and Switzerland expressed concern as to the non-therapeutic use of veterinary drugs in food producing animals and, in connection to narasin, the potential risk of increasing antimicrobial resistance. This concern was shared by one Observer. Several delegations supported adoption of the MRLs as it was based on the scientific risk assessment carried out by JECFA.

24. The Commission adopted the draft MRLs for narasin in pig tissues and for tilmicosin in chicken and turkey tissues, as recommended by the CCRVDF. The Delegations of Croatia, Egypt, European Union, Iran, Norway and Switzerland expressed their reservation to the adoption of the MRLs for narasin. The Delegations of Croatia, Egypt and Iran expressed their reservation to the adoption of the MRLs for tilmicosin.

***Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)***

***Draft Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance<sup>7</sup>***

25. The Delegation of the United States of America expressed their thanks to the Republic of Korea for the efforts in chairing the Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance, which produced the draft Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance. The Delegation noted that this was another example where Codex members had overcome differences to reach consensus and had produced a science-based document that supported the concept that risk assessment is central to making determinations on food safety issues and the selection of risk management options. The Delegation strongly supported risk assessment as the basis for risk management decisions.

26. The Commission adopted the draft Guidelines and congratulated the Republic of Korea for the excellent organization of work and the timely completion of the task assigned to the Task Force.

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<sup>5</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/3, CX/CAC 11/34/3-Add.1, CX/CAC 11/34/3-Add.2 (summary of “Friends of the Chair”), CX/CAC 11/34/3-Add.3, CX/CAC 11/34/4 (comments of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt, European Union, Iran, Mexico, Norway, Peru, United States of America and IFAH), CRD 2 (unsolicited comments on ractopamine of Brazil, Dominican Republic, Guinea Bissau, Jamaica, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Suriname), CRD 3 (comments of Egypt), CRD 4 (comments of Malaysia), CRD 5 (comments of ALA), CRD 6 (comments of Norway), CRD 7 (comments of Nigeria), CRD 8 (comments of Mexico), CRD 9 (comments of Brazil), CRD 10 (comments of Indonesia), CRD 11 (comments of the European Union), CRD 12 (comments of India), CRD 13 (comments of Philippines), CRD 14 (comments of Liberia), CRD 16 (comments of Japan), CRD 18 (comments of Thailand), CRD 19 (comments of China).

<sup>6</sup> REP11/RVDF para.49, Appendix II

<sup>7</sup> REP11/AMR para.80, Appendix II

**Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)*****Proposed Draft Standard for Desiccated Coconut (revision of CODEX STAN 177-1991)<sup>8</sup>***

27. The Chair of the Committee indicated that the Committee on Food Labelling had not endorsed the term “reduced oil desiccated coconut”, the name of the product for desiccated coconut from which oil had been partially extracted, as the term “reduced” could be understood as a nutrient claim or as a modification of the standardized common name which could mislead consumers. In order to match the provisions in the Standard with the decision of CCFL, there was a need to adjust two provisions of the Standard namely the definition of the product (section 2.1.2) and oil content (section 3.1.4c) as indicated in CRD 9 while maintaining the scope covering the two products i.e. desiccated coconut and desiccated coconut from which oil had been partially extracted.

28. Based on this explanation, the Commission agreed to adopt the Standard at Step 5/8 with the amendments as indicated above.

***Proposed Draft Annex on Certain Mushrooms (revision of CODEX STAN 55-1981) (for inclusion in the Codex Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables)<sup>9</sup>***

29. The Delegation of Egypt indicated that it applied a maximum level of 10 g/kg for monosodium glutamate as opposed to good manufacturing practice as indicated in the Annex and endorsed by the Committee on Food Additives.

30. The Delegation of the European Union expressed its reservation on the use of monosodium glutamate as flavour enhancer in canned mushrooms in regular pack (brine) as it could mask poor quality of the raw material and could lead to misleading consumers as to the nature of the product and also expressed its reservation on the colouring agent caramel IV due to safety concerns. The Delegations of Norway and Switzerland also expressed their reservation on the use of colours as they could mask poor quality of the raw material and there was no technological justification for their use. The Delegation of Kenya expressed its reservation on the use of monosodium glutamate as flavour enhancer in canned mushrooms.

31. The Commission therefore adopted the Annex at Step 5/8 with the reservations as indicated above.

***Proposed Draft Standard for Canned Bamboo Shoots (revision of CODEX STAN 241-2003)<sup>10</sup>***

32. The Commission noted that methods of analysis for mineral impurities should be removed as there was no corresponding provision in the Standard. In addition, methods of analysis for contaminants (lead and cadmium) should be removed as there were no provisions for maximum levels for these contaminants in canned foods in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed. Also methods of analysis for tin should be removed subject to further consultation as regards the methods of analysis proposed between the Committees on Methods of Analysis and Sampling and on Processed Fruits and Vegetables.

33. Based on the above considerations, the Commission adopted the Standard at Step 5/8 with the amendment to the methods of analysis section.

**Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC)*****Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Culantro Coyote<sup>11</sup>***

34. The Delegation of Colombia expressed its reservation on the absence of provisions for excessive external moisture, which could give rise to higher percentages of moisture in the final product (section 2.1) and might therefore affect the safety of the product. The Delegation also expressed its reservation on external moisture for broken/split leaves in class II (section 2.2) which was higher than those usually applying in Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables and might therefore affect the quality of the product.

35. The Delegation of Costa Rica, as leading country of the working group on the development of this Standard in the CCLAC, explained that these concerns were clarified at the last session of the Committee where members of the region present at that session agreed, with the reservation of Colombia, to forward the Standard for final adoption by the Commission.

<sup>8</sup> REP11/PFV, para. 45, Appendix III

<sup>9</sup> REP11/PFV, para. 84, Appendix IV.

<sup>10</sup> REP11/PFV, para. 95, Appendix V.

<sup>11</sup> REP11/LAC, para. 60, Appendix II.

36. The Commission adopted the Standard at Step 5/8, noting the reservation of Colombia.

***Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Lucuma***<sup>12</sup>

37. The Delegation of Colombia expressed its reservation on the combination of sizing and quality classes (section 3) and the number of seeds as a quality parameter to determine the different quality classes (section 2.2). The Delegation further commented on certain provisions that should be aligned with the format usually applying across Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables.

38. The Commission adopted the Standard at Step 5/8, noting the reservation of Colombia.

**Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)**

***Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Chilli Sauce***<sup>13</sup>

39. The Commission adopted the proposed draft regional standard at Step 5/8 with the omission of Steps 6 and 7, with the amendments proposed by the CCFA<sup>14</sup> and the CCFL<sup>15</sup>.

**Food Hygiene (CCFH)**

***Proposed Draft Guideline for the Control of Campylobacter and Salmonella spp in Chicken Meat***<sup>16</sup>

40. The Commission adopted the Proposed Draft Guideline and noted that the science-based Guidelines together with the web-based tool developed by FAO/WHO would provide valuable guidance to countries to ensure safe production of chicken. The Delegation of the European Union welcomed the finalization of the Guidelines and thanked all delegations for their openness which allowed an agreement to be reached on the use of chemical decontaminants. It is the European Union's view that according to this agreement, the competent authority responsible at any step of the food chain, including in the country of consumption, can request that the substances used for decontamination are submitted for their approval.

***Proposed Draft Revision of the Recommended International Code of Hygienic Practice for Collecting, Processing and Marketing of Natural Mineral Waters (CAC/RCP 33-1985)***<sup>17</sup>

41. The Commission adopted the proposed draft revision with editorial amendments. The Commission further noted that subsequent to this adoption, Section 4.4 Microbiological Criteria of the Standard for Natural Mineral Waters (CODEX STAN 108-1981) would be amended to replace the current microbiological requirements with a reference to the revised Code (see Agenda Item 8).

**Fats and Oils (CCFO)**

***Draft Amendment to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils: Inclusion of Palm Kernel Olein and Palm Kernel Stearin***<sup>18</sup>

42. The Delegation of Egypt expressed the view that the reference to crude oils should be clarified as the standard was intended to cover edible oils.

43. The Delegation of Malaysia, speaking as Chair of the Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO), clarified that the term "crude" is used in relation to many oils obtained through mechanical procedures described in Section 2.2.2 of the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils, and recalled that the Committee had unanimously agreed to forward the draft amendment for adoption.

44. The Commission adopted the Draft Amendment as proposed by the CCFO and noted the reservation of the Delegation of Egypt.

***Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk: Draft Criteria to Assess the Acceptability of Substances for Inclusion in a List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes***<sup>19</sup>

45. The Delegation of Colombia proposed that the third criterion should read "The substance should not be or contain a known food allergen" deleting the second part of the sentence "unless the identified food

<sup>12</sup> REP11/LAC, para. 67, Appendix III

<sup>13</sup> REP11/ASIA, para. 76, Appendix III

<sup>14</sup> REP11/FA, paras 33, 34 and Appendix II

<sup>15</sup> REP11/FL, para. 19

<sup>16</sup> REP11/FH, para. 63, Appendix III

<sup>17</sup> REP11/FH, para. 116, Appendix V

<sup>18</sup> REP 11/FO, para. 30, Appendix II

<sup>19</sup> REP 11/FO, para. 40, Appendix III

allergen can be adequately removed by subsequent processing of the fat or oil for its intended use” as it was not clear what process would be used to remove the allergen.

46. The Commission adopted the Draft Criteria as proposed by the CCFO and noted the reservation of the Delegation of Colombia.

***Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk: Draft and Proposed Draft Lists of Acceptable Previous Cargoes***<sup>20</sup>

47. The Delegation of the United States expressed its opposition to the adoption of the Draft and Proposed Draft Lists and proposed to return them to the Committee on Fats and Oils for the following reasons; the Committee had worked for almost 20 years without achieving consensus on the development of the lists; at the last CCFO session, the discussion in the in-session working group and the plenary reflected deep division among delegates and indicated that consensus could not be reached; the lack of criteria for the evaluation of substances has been a significant problem in finalising the lists; for this reason, the FAO/WHO Technical Meeting developed criteria which were used to elaborate the final criteria just adopted at the present session, however, the proposed list of substances does not meet these criteria, and in particular the second criterion, as they lack an ADI or the existing ADI is limited only to flavour use and is not applicable to contaminants from previous cargoes; this raises concern because the basis for developing criteria was to use them to evaluate the substances for inclusion in the lists. The Delegation pointed out that failure to adopt these lists would not disadvantage countries lacking the resources to perform their own safety assessment, since lists of acceptable cargoes are already effectively maintained by several organisations and publicly available. The Delegation indicated that should the Commission adopt the lists, the CCFO should be requested to take up as an immediate priority a review of all the substances against the criteria.

48. Several delegations supported this view and expressed concern with the maintenance of the lists and the fact that several substances on the lists did not meet the criteria which had just been adopted.

49. The Delegation of Malaysia, speaking as Chair of the Committee on Fats and Oils, recalled that there had been ample opportunity for countries to discuss this issue, that the points raised by the United States were thoroughly discussed and that many delegations supported the advancement of the lists for the following reasons: they would benefit especially developing countries as they lack the technical competence and resources to develop their own lists; these substances were currently used as acceptable previous cargoes in fats and oils trade and recognised as safe; national trade lists are developed only with input at national level as compared to a Codex list developed at the international level; and the absence of international harmonisation could result in barriers to trade. The Delegation also recalled that the CCFO had been given the mandate of developing the lists of acceptable previous cargoes when the Code of Practice was adopted with the Lists of Banned Immediate Previous Cargoes (1999) and that the 62<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Executive Committee had recommended that the CCFO should complete its work by 2011, and therefore strongly supported the adoption of the lists.

50. Many delegations supported the adoption of the lists for the above reasons. It was noted that very limited changes had been made to existing lists developed by other bodies over the years and therefore it was not expected that frequent updates would be needed. It was also noted that the Code specified that the list was subject to review and possible amendments to take into account scientific developments (Note (3) to the Draft Lists.

51. The Representative of WHO recalled that it was not possible for JECFA to evaluate all substances on the lists, and proposed that the Committee should use the criteria to assess the acceptability of the substances, with the understanding that if concerns were identified, specific advice could be requested on a case-by-case basis to FAO/WHO with the support of adequate data.

52. The Commission adopted the Draft List at Step 8 and the Proposed Draft List at Step 5/8 and directed the Committee on Fats and Oils to review the lists against the criteria adopted at the present session as a matter of priority, to identify the most critical substances for review by JECFA, taking into account the limitations of JECFA resources and the availability of data.

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<sup>20</sup> REP 11/FO, para. 47, Appendix IV

## Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

### *Methods of Analysis in Codex Standards at Different Steps*<sup>21</sup>

53. The Commission adopted the methods of analysis as proposed with the amendments proposed by Argentina<sup>22</sup>.

54. The Delegation of Colombia requested to include some methods of analysis for natural mineral waters. The Chair of the CCMAS clarified that some of the proposed methods which met the criteria had been included and any methods could be used if they met the criteria.

## Food Additives (CCFA)

### *Draft and Proposed Draft Food Additive Provisions of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)*<sup>23</sup>

55. The Commission noted that a number of delegations supported the deletion of note 16 “For use in glaze, coatings or decorations for fruit, vegetables, meat or fish” in the provision for carotenoids in food category 9.1.1 “Fresh fish” because, in their views, this use could mislead consumers. In this regard, the Commission also noted the concern expressed by the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products that glazings with colours were used to falsify fresh fish and to mislead the consumer about the freshness of fish and fishery products.<sup>24</sup>

56. The Delegation of the United States of America, supported by Australia, supported the retention of note 16 and clarified that these will not be used for injecting colours into the products but were used for surface coating. They recalled the recommendations of the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Committee, endorsed by the 28<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission, that “*the GSFA should be the single authoritative reference point for food additives and this should be made clear in all commodity standards*”<sup>25</sup>. The Delegation of Norway, speaking as Chair of the CCFFP, recalled that food additive provisions in commodity standards should be considered as regards technological justification in the relevant committees, that these additives were considered in the CCFFP and, as no technological justification was found, the Committee had recommended that the note be deleted.

57. The Delegation of the European Union proposed to replace notes O1 “Excluding pasta containing vegetables” and note P “For use in pasta made from *Triticum aestivum*, and for use in noodles” with note P1 “For use in noodles only” in the provision for beta-carotenes, vegetable in food category 06.4.2 “Dried pastas and noodles and like products”. This proposal was supported by other delegations which noted that it was consistent with the approach for the use of other colours in this food category.

58. The Commission adopted the draft and proposed draft food additive provisions as proposed by the CCFA with the following amendments:

- Deletion of note 16 “For use in glaze, coatings or decorations for fruit, vegetables, meat or fish” in the provision for carotenoids in food category 9.1.1 “Fresh fish” (note 4 “for decoration, stamping, marking or branding the product” associated with the provision was retained); and
- Replacement of notes O1 and P with note P1” in the provision for beta-carotenes, vegetable in food category 06.4.2 “Dried pastas and noodles and like products”.

59. The Commission noted the reservations of: Brazil for the provision of caramel IV in food category 11.6 “Table-top sweeteners including those containing high-intensity sweeteners”; Chile for the provision for sulfites in food category 4.1.1.2 “Surface-treated fresh fruit” and all provisions for erythrosine; Cuba for the provision for sulfites in food category 14.2.7 “Aromatised alcoholic beverages (e.g. beer, wine and spirituous cooler-type beverages, low alcoholic refreshers) and all provisions for erythrosine; Egypt for the provisions for lauric arginate ethyl ester; European Union for the provisions for canthaxanthin, caramel III, caramel IV, lauric arginate ethyl ester and steviol glycosides; Norway as to the provisions for canthaxanthin, lauric arginate ethyl ester and steviol glycosides; Republic of Korea for the provisions for carotenoids in food categories 09.1.1 “fresh fish” and 09.1.2 “Fresh mollusks, crustaceans and echinoderms”; and Switzerland for the provisions for steviol glycosides and for the provisions of canthaxanthin in fresh produce.

<sup>21</sup> REP11/MAS, para 25-51, Appendix III

<sup>22</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/4 p.15

<sup>23</sup> REP11/FA para.75, Appendix III

<sup>24</sup> REP11/FFP, para.166

<sup>25</sup> ALINORM 05/28/3A, para. 56

60. The Commission further noted the reservation of the Delegations of Australia and the United States of America to the deletion of note 16 to the provision for carotenoids in food category 9.1.1 “Fresh fish”.

***Amendments to food additive provisions for antioxidants and preservatives of food category 04.1.2.2 “dried fruits” of the GSFA<sup>26</sup>***

61. The Commission adopted the amendments to the food additive provisions for antioxidants and preservatives of food category 04.1.2.2 “Dried fruits” of the GSFA and revised note 135 to read “Except for use in dried apricots at 2000 mg/kg, bleached raisins at 1500 mg/kg, desiccated coconut at 200 mg/kg and coconut from which oil has been partially extracted at 50 mg/kg”.

**Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)**

***Proposed Draft Maximum Levels for Melamine in Food (Liquid Infant Formula)<sup>27</sup>***

62. A number of delegations and one Observer, while supporting the proposed draft ML, expressed their objection or reservation to the note on the exemption from the ML, which read “*The maximum level does not apply to liquid infant formula for which it can be proven that the level of melamine higher than 0.15 mg/kg is the consequence of migration from food contact materials taking into account any nationally authorized migration limit*”. These delegations were of the view that the level for melamine in a sensitive product such as liquid infant formula should be kept as low as possible and that the note could allow for excessive levels of melamine. The Chair of the Committee on Contaminants in Foods indicated that the intention of the ML was to differentiate between adulterated product and those products which could contain melamine through possible migration from packaging materials. It was also indicated that the note took into account this unavoidable migration from packaging material into the product, that these migration levels would be negligible and not pose a risk to human health; and that it would be subject to national legislation. However, due to the continued reservation and concern with the note, the Commission agreed to adopt the ML at Step 5, to advance to Step 6 for comments and discussion in the Committee on Contaminants in Foods.

**Pesticide Residues (CCPR)**

***Draft and Proposed Draft Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides<sup>28</sup>***

63. The Commission adopted the draft MRLs at Step 8 noting the reservation of the European Union and Norway on the use of haloxyfop (194) and fluopicolide (235) in a number of agricultural commodities due to chronic and acute intake concerns respectively for the reasons provided for in CX/CAC 11/34/4-Add.1 and CRD 6.

64. The Commission adopted proposed draft MRLs at Step 5/8 noting the reservation of the European Union and Norway on a number of group MRLs for different combinations of pesticides/agricultural commodities for the reasons provided for in CX/CAC 11/34/4-Add.1 and CRD 6.

65. The Commission also adopted proposed draft MRLs for spices at Step 5/8 with the exception of proposed MRLs for omethoate (055) in “fruit or berry (028B)” and “root or rhizome (028D)” which were adopted at Step 5 only as the CCPR had previously decided to withdraw all MRLs for this compound.

66. In this regard, the WHO JMPR Secretariat clarified that the Codex MRLs for omethoate for agricultural commodities had been withdrawn by the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCPR due to lack of support by the producing company which did not allow a re-evaluation of omethoate residues, based on residue trial studies. However, the MRLs for spices were developed based on monitoring data, and since this was a special case that had not been encountered previously, it was advisable to seek the advice of CCPR on how to handle the proposed omethoate MRLs for spices before proceeding with the final adoption of these MRLs.

**Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)**

***Draft Standard for Fish Sauce<sup>29</sup>***

67. The Commission adopted the Draft Standard with editorial corrections to the INS numbers for Benzoates and Sorbates and noted the reservation expressed by the European Union to the use of Caramel III-ammonia caramel (INS 150c) for safety reasons.

<sup>26</sup> REP11/FA para. 26

<sup>27</sup> REP11/CF, para. 33, Appendix III

<sup>28</sup> REP11/PR, paras 31-81, Appendix II and Appendix III

<sup>29</sup> REP11/FFP, para. 36, Appendix III

***Proposed Draft Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (section on smoked fish and relevant definitions)***<sup>30</sup>

68. The Commission adopted the section on smoked fish and relevant definitions with editorial amendments as proposed by Norway and the European Union in their written comments (CX/CAC11/34/4-Add.1).

***Proposed Draft Amendment to Section 3.4.5.1 Water of the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products***<sup>31</sup>

69. The Commission adopted the proposed draft amendment to section 3.4.5.1. The European Union welcomed the amendment and thanked delegations for their openness which allowed an agreement to be reached on the use of higher concentrations of chlorine in water than in potable water for the purpose of decontamination of fish and fishery products. It is the European Union's view that according to this agreement, the competent authority responsible at any step of the food chain, including in the country of consumption, can request that the substances used for decontamination are submitted for their approval.

**Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)**

***Draft Standard for Tree Tomatoes***<sup>32</sup>

70. The Commission adopted the Standard at Step 8 with an editorial amendment to the table on sizing by diameter (section 3, table A) to change the range of size code E from "35- 45" to "45- 35" for consistency.

***Proposed Draft Standard for Chilli Peppers***<sup>33</sup>

71. The Commission adopted the Standard at Step 5/8 with the following amendments: the reference to bulk transportation was deleted for consistency with the previous decision of the Committee to delete provisions concerning transportation in bulk throughout the Standard as not appropriate to this product (section 4) and to provide for voluntary labelling of the level of pungency of the chilli pepper in retail and non retail containers (sections 6.1.1 and 6.2.2) as not all countries would have the capacity to implement this provision since they did not have adequate data to classify varieties according to the level of pungency and no reference methods of analysis were identified in the Standard for this purpose.

72. The Representative of the UNECE indicated that the UNECE would be pleased to see the Standard for Chilli Peppers adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission at Step 5/8. This Standard had been under discussion at the UNECE for several years. In May 2011, the UNECE Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables converted the text of the Codex Standard into the UNECE Standard Layout, reviewed it and submitted it to the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards for adoption as a Recommendation for a trial period of one year. The trial period would allow countries to clarify some technical provisions, e.g. 2 and 3% allowances for skin defects for classes I and II, to check the botanical names of the species covered by the Standard, with a view to harmonizing the UNECE text with that of Codex, as well as to verifying the methods for testing pungency. Based on the feedback that would be received from countries, the Recommendation would be revisited by the Specialized Section in May 2012 with a view to its adoption as a Standard by the Working Party in 2012. The results of the discussion at the Specialized Section would be presented to the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for consideration.

**Food Labelling (CCFL)**

***Draft Revision of the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling: List of Nutrients that are always declared on a Voluntary or Mandatory Basis***<sup>34</sup>

73. The Delegation of Malaysia maintained the position that trans-fatty acids should be labelled together with fats and saturated fats in Section 3.2.1.2 of the Guidelines, which was the appropriate way of labelling fats and fatty acids to provide consumers information on the actual fatty acid profile of foods. The Delegation did not support the adoption of the Draft Revision with regard to the labelling of trans fatty acids only as a footnote in Section 3.2.1.4. The Delegation stated further that the negative health impacts of trans-fatty acids had been well established as could be seen from the fact that the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity called to reduce the intake of trans-fatty acids. The Delegation was of the opinion that several issues

<sup>30</sup> REP11/FFP, para. 70, Appendix V

<sup>31</sup> REP11/FFP, para. 75, Appendix VI

<sup>32</sup> REP11/FFV, para. 70, Appendix III

<sup>33</sup> REP11/FFV, para. 92, Appendix IV

<sup>34</sup> REP11/FL, para. 31, Appendix II

pertaining to trans-fatty acids remained unresolved, as the 39<sup>th</sup> CCFL had discussed, among others, the possible review of the definition of trans fatty acids by the Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses, and the establishment of nutrient content claims related to trans fatty acids. The Delegation recalled that the 39<sup>th</sup> CCFL was informed that the WHO was undertaking a review of trans fatty acids this year (see REP11/FL, para. 190). In view of these pending discussions and review the Delegation proposed that the Commission should defer the adoption of trans fatty acid labelling, and return it to the CCFL and hold the discussion regarding the declaration of trans fatty acids at Step 7 for further deliberations, pending the outcomes of the reviews mentioned.

74. One Observer supported the position of Malaysia.

75. The Representative of WHO clarified the reference made by the delegation of Malaysia regarding the WHO's on-going work and informed the Commission that the systematic reviews currently being undertaken by WHO is not on trans fatty acids, but on the health effects of the levels and threshold of total fat. Therefore, WHO's on-going review on total fat is not related to trans fatty acids.

76. The Delegation of Canada, speaking as Chair of the CCFL, informed the Commission that the issue had been discussed extensively in the CCFL and that the Committee had taken into account the information presented by WHO at the session as well as the intervention and reservation of Malaysia but recognized that trans fatty acids were not a public health concern in all jurisdictions and thus had agreed to add a footnote on trans fatty acids.

77. The Delegation of the European Union said that presently no new information was available but the issue could be reconsidered in the future in light of new elements.

78. The Commission adopted the proposed draft amendment at Steps 5/8 and noted the reservation from Malaysia.

***Proposed Draft Compilation of Codex Texts Relevant to Labelling of Foods Derived from Modern Biotechnology***<sup>35</sup>

79. The Delegation of Canada speaking as Chair of the CCFL said that several delegations had noted that there was the opportunity to clarify the footnote that had been included to the words “modern biotechnology” in the title of the document by adding at the beginning the words “For a definition of ‘modern biotechnology’”.

80. Several delegations strongly supported the adoption of the proposed draft including the editorial amendment proposed by the Chair and also commended the Chair for his efforts to find a consensus on this issue, which had been discussed in the CCFL for many years. The success had shown that open and transparent facilitation was a good way to build consensus.

81. The Chairperson of the Commission also acknowledged the success of facilitation, which had helped to bring delegations together on this difficult issue. The Chair of the CCFL said that success would not have been possible if the delegations had not been prepared to try a new and different approach to reach consensus.

82. The Commission adopted the *Proposed Draft Compilation of Codex Texts Relevant to Labelling of Foods Derived from Modern Biotechnology* at Steps 5/8.

**Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNEA)**

***Proposed Draft Regional Code of Practice for Street Vended Foods (Near East)***<sup>36</sup>

83. The Commission noted that the Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) had not yet endorsed the Code, as had been the practice for codes developed by other regions.

84. The Commission decided to adopt the Code at Step 5, hold it at Step 8 and submit it for endorsement to the CCFH, and if the CCFH did not have major comments, the Code could be adopted at Step 8 at the 35<sup>th</sup> CAC, without having to be returned to the CCNEA.

<sup>35</sup> REP11/FL, para. 156, Appendix III

<sup>36</sup> REP11/NEA, paras. 62 - 72, Appendix II

***Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Harissa (red hot pepper paste)***<sup>37</sup>

85. The Commission agreed with the recommendation of the Executive Committee and adopted the Proposed Draft Standard at Steps 5/8 without the methods of analysis. The standard will be sent for endorsement to CCMAS and CCFL.

***Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Halwa Tehenia***<sup>38</sup>

86. The Commission agreed with the recommendation of the Executive Committee and adopted the Proposed Draft Standard at Steps 5/8 without the methods of analysis. The standard will be sent for endorsement to CCFA, CCMAS and CCFL.

87. The Delegation of Egypt, while supporting the standard, entered a reservation on its adoption at Step 5/8, preferring adoption at Step 5 only to allow for further consultations.

**Standards and Related Texts Held at the Commission at Step 8*****Draft MRLs for Bovine Somatotropin***<sup>39</sup>

88. Some delegations raised concern as to the delay to take a decision regarding the MRLs for bovine somatotropin, which have been held at Step 8 since the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Commission (1999).

89. The Commission agreed to consider the draft MRLs for bovine somatotropin at its next session. In order to facilitate its discussion, following the interventions of Chile and Cuba on the long period during which no had been taken, the Commission requested the Codex Secretariat to prepare a paper, which would describe the history of the development and discussion of the MRLs in Codex, including a summary of the JECFA evaluation.

***Draft MRLs for Ractopamine***<sup>40</sup>

90. The Chairperson recalled that at the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of the Commission it had not been possible to reach consensus on the draft MRLs for ractopamine and that the Commission had accepted the proposal of the Chairperson to serve as facilitator to a discussion on possible solutions through a technique, used in FAO, WTO and other UN organizations, to establish an informal group called "Friends of the Chair" (FOTC). The FOTC comprised 11 members: Brazil, China, Canada, European Union, Ghana, Japan, Mexico, Norway, South Africa, Tunisia, and the United States of America, and 2 observers: IFAH and CI.

91. The Chairperson further noted that, as indicated in document CX/CAC 11/34/4-Add.3, the FOTC had met several times and had established an agreement for the way to work. However, despite open and frank discussion, the FOTC had been unable to reach a consensus but made two proposals, which left the Commission in the same position as it was at its 33<sup>rd</sup> session.

92. The Chairperson also explained that a delegation raised a question on the transparency in the way the FOTC had operated even though she had striven to ensure transparency throughout the process.

93. Several delegations appreciated the efforts of the FOTC to find solutions. The Delegation of Ghana, which participated in the FOTC, expressed their appreciation for the process, which had brought to light critical issues concerning Codex and regretted that the discussion had not resulted in a resolution. Other delegations expressed their appreciation for the efforts of the FOTC. The Delegation of the European Union stated its view that they had participated constructively and positively in the FOTC but noted that, after a promising start, it was their view that a number of irregularities in the conduct of the process had appeared and that transparency and that neutrality had not always been ensured. Another delegation, while in principle in favour of using the FOTC to reach consensus, was of the view that it should be used in accordance with the Codex guidance, should be unbiased and that Codex work should be open, transparent and inclusive.

94. The Commission had an extensive discussion on the adoption of the draft MRLs for ractopamine, which mirrored positions and arguments at its 33<sup>rd</sup> Session, with a number of delegations supporting the adoption of the draft MRLs and a number of other delegations supporting discontinuation of work or proposing to hold the draft MRLs at Step 8.

<sup>37</sup> REP11/NEA, paras. 73 - 75, Appendix III.

<sup>38</sup> REP11/NEA, paras. 76 - 79, Appendix IV

<sup>39</sup> ALINORM 95/31, Appendix II

<sup>40</sup> ALINORM 08/31/31 para. 47 and Appendix II

95. The delegations which supported the adoption of the draft MRLs emphasized that JECFA had reviewed the MRLs three times and fulfilled its task by considering all available data and noted that these MRLs could be reviewed in the future in the light of new scientific data. It was also pointed out that the draft MRLs were based on JECFA risk assessment, as prescribed in the *Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods* included in the Procedural Manual, and that the concern of China regarding residues in lung was not within the scope of the draft MRLs currently under discussion. These delegations also underlined the conclusion of JECFA that these MRLs were compliant with the ADI and safe and reiterated their confidence in the science-based work of JECFA, and expressed concern about the precedent that could be set, undermining the work of JECFA and risk assessment.

96. These delegations further highlighted their concerns on the long delay to adopt the MRLs based on non-scientific factors and stressed the need for Codex to base its decisions on science, in view of the status of Codex standards under the WTO SPS Agreement. They recalled that many countries used Codex standards as the basis for their national legislation and that failure to adopt the MRLs for ractopamine could negatively impact on food security as the establishment of MRLs for ractopamine would allow the safe use of new technologies to meet the increasing demand for food production foreseen by FAO. It was also stated by many delegations that all Codex steps had been followed in the elaboration of the MRL for ractopamine.

97. The Delegation of the United States of America noted that no government would be required to permit the use of ractopamine but would be able to allow imports, confident that the imported meats are safe for consumers when the exporting country has produced the food according to Codex standards.

98. The delegations which opposed to the adoption of the draft MRLs continued to be concerned with the safety of ractopamine, as there were still unanswered safety questions, particularly with respect to the residues in lung tissue and scientific concerns linked to the use of ractopamine, which required further studies. It was noted that many countries did not allow the use of veterinary drugs solely for growth promotion, without any therapeutic purposes and that Codex, as risk management body, should base its decision not only on science but also take into account other factors, such as consumer concerns. They further noted that it was essential for Codex to base its decision on a broad consensus not to undermine its credibility.

99. The Delegation of the European Union underlined that they highly respected the work of JECFA but could not ignore the opinion provided by EFSA, which is at the basis of their food safety system, established according to the principles of risk analysis. The Delegation of China pointed out that they were the largest producer and consumers of pork; it was further pointed out that China and the European Union represented together 70% of the pork production in the world and that more than 70% of the pork was consumed in these countries; therefore, adopting a standard without the support of these two major actors would undermine the credibility of Codex.

100. The Delegation of China referred to their experiment findings on residues in pig lungs and voiced their concern with the safety of ractopamine, especially their concern with the risks related to residues in lung tissue and other offal tissues. Therefore, China expressed the view that if the relevant risk assessment is completed and safety issues are fully addressed, the adoption of ractopamine MRLs could be considered.

101. The WHO JECFA Secretary recalled that JECFA had evaluated an extensive toxicological database, including human studies at its 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting (2004) and established an ADI 0-1 µg/kg bw. Extensive residue data were also assessed and formed the base for the MRLs recommended for tissues of pig and cattle (i.e. muscle, liver, kidney and fat), as requested by the CCRVDF. At the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting (2006), JECFA reviewed the establishment of the ADI on request of the 15<sup>th</sup> CCRVDF and confirmed the scientific basis and soundness of its previous decision.

102. The analysis conducted by JECFA in 2010 of additional residue studies in pigs, submitted by the People's Republic of China, confirmed the previously recommended MRLs. Estimated dietary exposure taking the food basket and standard tissues into account led to about 50% of the safe intake level (the ADI). Data on residues in non-standard tissues, including lungs, from these new studies were also evaluated. However, it was noted that residues in these tissues were not routinely measured and were not available from the previous studies assessed at the 62<sup>nd</sup> and 66<sup>th</sup> meetings of JECFA. The JECFA Secretary further noted that, when consumed, lung and other non standard tissues generally replaced the standard tissues (e.g. muscle meat) and were not added to the daily consumption of products of animal origin. Even if residue levels in lung were higher than in the other tissues, based on the estimated dietary exposure, they did not indicate a health concern.

103. The JECFA Secretariat emphasized that JECFA's mandate was to evaluate residues in foods when veterinary drugs were used in accordance with good veterinary practice, i.e. used as recommended, while residues due to misuse could not be considered. Setting an MRL was one aspect of risk management, but the important responsibility of Governments was to put appropriate control and surveillance measures in place.

104. The JECFA Secretariat further clarified that EFSA had not undertaken a risk assessment by considering the original raw data, but had undertaken a review of the JECFA assessment based on the published JECFA evaluation.

105. The Chairperson noted that the extensive debate had essentially presented three main options on the way to proceed, i.e.: (i) continue to hold the draft MRLs at Step 8; (ii) discontinue work on the draft MRLs; and (iii) vote on the adoption of the draft MRLs. The Chairperson clarified that, in case of voting, the question to be answered was whether every effort had been made to achieve consensus.

106. The Delegation of the United States of America called for a roll call vote on the adoption of the draft MRLs for ractopamine.

107. The Chairperson raised the question whether every effort had been made to reach consensus before proceeding with such a vote, as required by the Rule XII.2 of the Rules of the Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

108. The discussion which followed showed that delegations were divided among (i) delegations which considered that all efforts had been made to achieve consensus, that Codex was based on science and it was necessary to take a decision at the present session and, therefore, supported proceeding with a vote; (ii) delegations which opposed the adoption of the draft MRLs and proposed discontinuation of work; and (iii) delegations which were prepared to adopt the draft MRLs in substance but did not agree with proceeding with a vote considering that not every effort had been made to reach consensus and that a vote would undermine the credibility of Codex and the MRLs under discussion.

109. The Chairperson said that her observation was that more delegations felt that there were still possibilities to find consensus. In this context, the FAO Legal Counsel clarified that the determination whether or not the requirements of Rule XII.2 had been met rests with the Chairperson. He specified, however, that the Commission could overrule the Chairperson.

110. Following some further debate and in the apparent absence of consensus on whether the requirements of Rule XII.2 had been met, the Chairperson proposed to vote on the following question: *Do you want to proceed with a vote on adoption of the MRLs for ractopamine at this session of the Commission?* (Vote 1). The FAO Legal Counsel clarified that voting would be conducted either by a show of hands, a roll-call vote, if requested by a Member, or a secret ballot, if so determined by the Commission.

111. A number of delegations wished that the vote be conducted by secret ballot. However, in the absence of consensus on the manner of voting, the Commission carried out a roll-call vote to decide on how to conduct Vote 1.

112. It was noted that, as the European Union was competent to vote on this matter on behalf of its Member States (see CRD1), the European Union cast 27 votes, one for each of the European Union Member States present at the session (at the starting of the voting the presence of the 27 European Union Member States was confirmed by the Secretariat).

**Votes in favour:** Angola, Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Turkey, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia.

**Votes against:** Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bhutan, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Egypt, Georgia, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mali, Morocco, Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Tajikistan, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, European Union (27 votes).

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Abstaining:</b> | Ethiopia, Gabon, Jordan, Malaysia, Namibia, Uruguay.                            |
| <b>Tally:</b>      | 117 votes cast, 63 in favour, 54 against, 6 abstentions (majority required 59). |
| <b>Result:</b>     | Vote 1 should be conducted by secret ballot.                                    |

113. In view of the above result, the Commission proceeded with Vote 1 by secret ballot. The presence of the 27 European Union Member States was verified again by the Secretariat.

114. The result of the secret ballot was:

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| <b>Ballots:</b>           | 136 |
| <b>Returned ballots</b>   | 136 |
| <b>Defective ballots:</b> | 0   |
| <b>Valid ballots:</b>     | 136 |
| <b>Abstentions:</b>       | 9   |
| <b>Votes cast:</b>        | 127 |
| <b>Simple majority:</b>   | 64  |
| <b>Votes in favour:</b>   | 59  |
| <b>Votes against:</b>     | 68  |

**Result:** The Commission would not proceed with a vote on the adoption of the draft MRLs for ractopamine at the present session.

### *Conclusions*

115. Following the result of the vote, the draft MRLs for ractopamine in bovine and pig tissues were retained at Step 8.

### **PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS AT STEP 5 (Agenda Item 6)<sup>41</sup>**

116. The Commission adopted at Step 5 the Proposed Draft Standards and Related Texts submitted by its subsidiary bodies, as presented in Appendix IV to this report, and advanced them to Step 6.

117. The following paragraphs provide additional information on the comments made and the decisions taken on certain items.

### **Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)**

#### ***Proposed Draft Standard for Quick Frozen Scallop Adductor Muscle Meat<sup>42</sup>***

118. The Delegation of the United States of America while not opposed to the adoption of the proposed draft standard at Step 5, proposed that the Commission request the Committee on Fish and Fishery Products to exclude scallops with roe attached from the scope. The Delegation expressed the view that these scallops should best be dealt with in terms of the Standard for Live and Raw Bivalve Molluscs due to the specific risks associated with these products, in particular biotoxins. However, there was no agreement to this proposal as it was clarified that the CCFFP had considered this matter and had concluded that scallop meat with roe attached did not necessarily pose an additional risk from biotoxins. Appropriate measures from the Standard for Live and Raw Bivalve Molluscs could be transferred to the standard for scallop meat for the control of biotoxins. It was further noted that the Executive Committee had recommended that the CCFFP

<sup>41</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/5, CX/CAC 11/34/6 (comments of Philippines and Costa Rica), CRD 7 (comments of Nigeria), CRD 10 (comment of Indonesia), CRD 15 (comments of Cameroon)

<sup>42</sup> REP 11/FFP, Appendix VII

should complete this work as soon as possible and that reopening discussion on the scope could postpone the target date for its completion.

119. The Commission therefore agreed to adopt the Proposed Draft Standard at Step 5.

#### **REVOCATION OF EXISTING CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS (Agenda Item 7)<sup>43</sup>**

120. The Commission agreed to revoke from the Codex Alimentarius all texts proposed, as presented in CX/CAC 11/34/7. The list of texts approved for revocation is summarized in Appendix V to this report. The paragraphs below provide additional information on the comments made and decision taken on the following matter:

##### **Revocation of CODEX STAN 229-1993 – Analysis of Pesticide Residues: Recommended Methods**

121. The Delegation of India did not support the revocation of CODEX STAN 229-1993 but to maintain and update the Standard regularly by identifying internationally validated methods that could be used as Codex reference methods for enforcement of Codex MRLs for pesticides. The Delegation noted that methods of analysis were an integral part of the Codex MRL setting process and in this regard, the Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCPR clearly stated that “*if no methods of analysis are available for enforcing MRLs for a specific compound, no MRLs will be established by CCPR*”. The Delegation recognized that, although electronic compilations of analytical regulatory methods and validation data collection such as the repository list of the IAEA website could provide for more flexibility in the updating of methods of analysis as opposed to hard copy documents, analytical methods identified under the Codex procedure would ensure that they were not more stringent than necessary for testing MRLs in comparison with highly new developed technologies that might arise as a result of the continuous updating of the list which might in turn limit wider availability and application of methods of analysis by Codex members, in particular developing countries. In this regard, the Delegation requested clarification as to the status of the IAEA list under the WTO.

122. The Commission noted that the Terms of Reference of the CCPR provided for the consideration of methods of analysis and sampling for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed that could be adopted by the Commission as reference Codex methods for international trade. The Commission further noted that the CCPR had decided not to maintain a list of analytical methods but to keep existing validated methods on the IAEA website and that the purpose of maintaining such a list was to provide a platform for comments and sharing experience regarding the methods but that the list should be considered as a resource list and was never meant to be a list of preferred or obligatory methods for Codex purposes. Based on this, the Committee had agreed to revoke CODEX STAN 229-1993 and that the IAEA would continue to support the maintenance of the web-based method database. The Commission further noted that, with the revocation of CODEX STAN 229-1993, there would be no Codex reference methods that could be recommended to governments for enforcement of Codex MRLs.

123. Several delegations supported the retention of CODEX STAN 229-1993 as the only reference available for analytical methods for the determination of pesticide residues developed within the Codex framework. It was noted that the IAEA website as a repository of methods of analysis could not have the same status as being listed in a Codex document while recognizing the usefulness of such information from the IAEA. Other delegations indicated that the CCPR had already considered this issue thoroughly and had recommended revocation of the Standard while keeping the IAEA web-based method database as a resource list of methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues. A delegation suggested that this issue could be addressed in the framework of the document being developed by the Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS) on principles for the use of sampling and testing in international food trade. However, the Commission noted that this document was intended to address general issues but not how to establish reference methods for pesticide residues which falls within the mandate of the CCPR and not of the CCMAS.

124. Based on the above considerations, the Commission agreed to retain CODEX STAN 229-1993. However in view of the difficulties that might arise in practice for the regular updating of analytical methods, the Commission also agreed to request the CCPR to look into the possibility to develop criteria that should be met by methods suitable for use as analytical methods to support the determination of MRLs for pesticides in food and feed that would enable countries to choose their own validated methods based on criteria developed within the Codex framework.

<sup>43</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/7. CRD 12 (comments from India)

### **Revocation of the Standard for Canned Mushrooms (CODEX STAN 55-1981)**

125. In view of the adoption of the Annex on Certain Mushrooms (see Agenda Item 5) that would supersede CODEX STAN 55-1981, the Commission revoked the Standard for Canned Mushrooms.

### **AMENDMENTS TO CODEX STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS (Agenda Item 8)<sup>44</sup>**

126. The Commission noted that this item related to the ongoing work of the Codex Secretariat to ensure consistency throughout Codex texts.

127. The Commission adopted the following amendments as presented in the working document and its addendum 1:

- Editorial amendments to the titles of codes of practice and guidelines;
- Amendments presented by the Codex Committees on Contaminants in Foods; Food Labelling; Fish and Fishery Products; Fresh Fruits and Vegetables; Veterinary Drugs in Food; and Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses;
- Consequential amendment to footnote 8 of the *Principles for the Risk Analysis of Foods derived from Modern Biotechnology (CAC/GL 44-2003)*
- Editorial amendments to the *Codex Standard for Honey (CODEX STAN 12-1981)*

128. The Commission agreed to replace the existing section 4.4 of the *Standard for Natural Mineral Waters (CODEX STAN 108-1981)* with the following text: "During marketing, natural mineral waters shall conform to the microbiological criteria as defined in Annex I of the Code of Hygienic Practice for Collecting, Processing and Marketing of Natural Mineral Waters."

129. The Commission agreed to request the Committee on Food Additives to consider the need to revoke or revise the following texts: *Information on the Use of Food Additives in Foods (CAC/MISC 1-1989)*; and *Guidelines for Simple Evaluation of Food Additive Intake (CAC/GL 03-1989)*.

130. The Commission noted that the section on contaminants in the *Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* had been amended and agreed to the revision of the section on contaminants in all other standards for fats and oils to include the standard text in the Format of Commodity Standards in the Procedural Manual.

### **PROPOSALS FOR THE ELABORATION OF NEW STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS AND FOR THE DISCONTINUATION OF WORK (Agenda Item 9)<sup>45</sup>**

#### **ELABORATION OF NEW STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS**

131. The Commission approved the elaboration of new standards and related texts summarized in Appendix VI. The following paragraphs provide additional information on comments made and decisions taken on the following items:

#### **FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)/ Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)**

##### ***(Regional) Standard for Durian<sup>46</sup>***

132. The Commission recalled that the CCASIA had proposed to develop a regional standard for durian but since the project document indicated there was worldwide trade in this commodity, the Executive Committee had proposed to allocate this work to the CCFFV. In this regard, the Commission noted that the agenda of the Committee would allow taking up new work on this product.

133. The Commission approved new work on a standard for durian and requested the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables to consider this task at its next session. However, if the CCFFV (September 2012) considered that the development of a worldwide standard for durian was not possible, work could be continued as a regional standard in the CCASIA (November 2012).

<sup>44</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/8 and -/Add.1; CRD 15 (comments of Cameroon)

<sup>45</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/9, CX/CAC 11/34/9-Add.1, CX/CAC 11/34/9-Add.2, CRD 4 (comments of Malaysia), CRD 10 (comments of Indonesia), CRD 12 (comments of India), CRD 15 (comments of Cameroon), CRD 16 (comments of Japan), CRD 17 (comments of Switzerland)

<sup>46</sup> REP11/ASIA, para. 142, Appendix V

134. The Delegation of Thailand informed the Commission that it would prepare a proposed draft Standard for Durian for consideration by the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFV in 2012.

### **Food Hygiene (CCFH)**

#### ***Guidelines for Control of Specific Zoonotic Parasites in Meat: Trichinella spiralis and Cysticercus bovis***<sup>47</sup>

135. The Delegation of the United States of America informed the Commission that it did not support the proposal for new work put to the CCFH Working Group for Establishment of Priorities and believed that as a general rule Codex Committees, in particular CCFH, should prioritize their work to issues of the highest public health concern. The Delegation did not believe that the parasites covered by the proposed new work rose to that level and proposed that the new work wait until the OIE completes its work on *Trichinella* (see Agenda Item 13). The Delegation proposed that a more general guidance document on foodborne parasites which will provide a framework for annexes on specific parasite/commodity combinations be developed taking into account the work of the FAO/WHO.

136. Several delegations supported the approval of new work pointing out that:

- The new work was part of a more general project aimed at global guidance on parasites in food;
- The risk-based approach for the control of these chosen parasites, although of low public health relevance, would help to target controls on the most relevant hazards;
- CCFH had a rigorous prioritization process and in accordance with this process, the new work proposal had been accompanied by a risk profile and was thoroughly discussed in the working group on priorities;
- There was no current need for scientific advice or risk assessment for this work as a lot of data was already available, for example from International Commission for Trichinellosis; and
- The work could be developed in parallel and in collaboration with that of OIE as OIE deals with on-farm measures while the Codex work would start at slaughter which would ensure that there is no overlap or duplication.

137. The Commission therefore agreed to approve the new work and recommended that it be risk-based, that the prioritization list being prepared by FAO and WHO should be reviewed and that the work of OIE be monitored to ensure that there is no duplication of work.

138. The Representative of OIE indicated that it would work closely with the CCFH in its elaboration of the Guidelines.

### **Food Hygiene (CCFH)**

#### ***Annex on Melons to the Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CAC/RCP 53-2003)***<sup>48</sup>

139. The Commission approved the new work and noted the concerns of many Spanish-speaking countries with the difficulties to participate in this work through the physical working group established by the CCFH which had not provided for Spanish as a working language. Many producers of melons were from Latin American countries and it was therefore necessary for them to contribute to the development of the work. It was clarified that the physical working group was established in accordance with the *Guidelines for Physical Working Groups* and that the proposed draft Annex would be circulated for comments in English, French and Spanish and discussed at the 43<sup>rd</sup> CCFH. The Secretariat recalled the recommendation of the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the Commission regarding the holding the physical working groups<sup>49</sup> and that other strategies should be considered such as holding physical working groups immediately prior to sessions rather than inter-session to allow for wider participation.

### **Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)**

#### ***Maximum Levels for Arsenic in Rice***<sup>50</sup>

140. The Delegation of Japan, referring to their comments in CRD 16, expressed the view that it was premature to elaborate MLs for arsenic in rice and that members should be requested to submit data,

<sup>47</sup> REP11/FH, para. 137, Appendix VI

<sup>48</sup> REP11/FH, para. 142, Appendix VII

<sup>49</sup> ALINORM 03/41

<sup>50</sup> REP 11/CF, para. 64, Appendix IV

especially occurrence data of inorganic arsenic. While it was not opposing the starting of new work, the Delegation further pointed out that should the Commission approve the new work the MLs should be established according to the relevant Codex principles and policies.

141. It was clarified that this matter had been thoroughly discussed in the CCCF, including the need for further data, but that it was agreed that there was a need for work to proceed. It was also explained that China as the lead country of the new work had been requested to develop a paper to explain whether the MLs would be for total or inorganic arsenic. Several delegations highlighted the importance of establishing MLs for arsenic in rice for this important commodity.

142. The Commission therefore approved the new work.

#### **FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC)/Sugars (CCS)**

##### ***Standard for “Panela”***<sup>51</sup>

143. The Commission noted that the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCLAC had supported a proposal from Colombia for the elaboration of a worldwide standard for “panela” and that the Executive Committee had recommended approval of the development of a worldwide standard for this product in the Committee on Sugars. The Commission further noted that the CCS was presently adjourned *sine die* and that the United Kingdom, host country of this Committee, had stated that it would not be in a position to hold the presidency for the CCS if the Committee became active again.

144. The Delegation of Colombia expressed its willingness to host the Committee with the understanding that the country would hold the secretariat of the CCS only for the time envisaged for completion of the standard as set out in the project document and working by correspondence only. The Delegation also requested the support of the Codex Secretariat to carry out this work in the most efficient way (see Agenda Item 16). A number of delegations supported the proposal of Colombia. One delegation noted the possible need for additional work on other sugar products in the future. The Delegation of the United Kingdom thanked the Delegation of Colombia for its willingness to take on this work.

145. The Commission further noted that the elaboration of the standard would follow the uniform procedure for the elaboration of Codex standards and related texts as laid down in the Procedural Manual which equally applied to active committees working by correspondence only.

#### **FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)**

##### ***Regional Standard for Laver Products***<sup>52</sup>

146. The Delegation of China did not support the development of a regional standard for laver products because there was no consensus at the CCASIA session to start the work and China had the highest production and export volume in the world and was not aware of any major problems in their trade. The Delegation also noted that the processing technologies, ingredients and consumers’ preference varied among countries thus making it difficult to have a single unified standard; considering that a significant number of products were exported to countries outside the region a regional standard might cause problems in trade. The Delegation of Indonesia, speaking as the Coordinator of Asia, recalled that there had been consensus in the CCASIA on the proposal for new work on a regional standard for laver products. The Delegation of China requested to participate in the new standard-setting process for laver products.

147. After some discussion, the Commission approved new work on the regional standard for laver products, noting that the CCFFP recommended developing a regional standard for the products. The Commission noted that the Republic of Korea would invite all interested countries in the region to prepare a first draft for circulation at Step 3 and discussion in the next CCASIA.

#### **Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)**

##### ***Criteria/Parameters for screening methods for biotoxins in the Standard for Live and Raw Bivalve Molluscs***<sup>53</sup>

148. It was noted that the project document under section 2 Relevance and Timeliness which explained the rationale for the new work used the mouse bioassay as an example of a method that would not fit the

<sup>51</sup> REP11/LAC, para.135

<sup>52</sup> REP 11/ASIA, para. 144 and REP 11/FFP para. 176

<sup>53</sup> REP 11/FFP, paras 119-121

criteria for reference and confirmatory methods, work currently underway in the CCFFP. It was recognized that it was premature to cite methods for both the current work on criteria for reference and confirmatory methods as well as for the proposed new work on criteria for screening methods as the criteria were still under development. It was therefore agreed that the focus of the new work should be on the development of the criteria without pre-empting which methods, for example the mouse bioassay, may or may not meet the criteria for either the reference or screening methods. With this understanding, the Commission removed the reference to the mouse bioassay method and approved the new work.

#### **DISCONTINUATION OF WORK**

149. The Commission approved discontinuation of work summarized in Appendix VII. The following paragraphs provide additional information on comments made and decisions taken on the following items:

#### **Fats and Oils (CCFO)**

##### ***Amendment to the Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils: Linolenic Acid Level***<sup>54</sup>

150. The Delegation of Malaysia, speaking as the chair of the Committee on Fats and Oils, said that CCFO had not reached consensus on this issue in spite of great efforts and had agreed to discontinue work as recommended by the 62nd Session of CCEXEC. The Commission noted that CCFO would reconsider the issue if new data became available.

151. The Commission agreed to discontinue the work.

#### **Food Additives (CCFA)**

##### ***Draft and Proposed Draft Food Additive Provisions of the GSFA***<sup>55</sup>

152. The Delegation of Malaysia, referring to their written comments in CRD 4, proposed to return the provision for carotenoids in food category 02.1.2 “Vegetable oils and fats” to the CCFA for further consideration noting that carotenoids were technologically justified in such products, e.g. vanaspati. The Delegation further noted that the food additive provisions of the *Standard for Edible Fats and Oils Not Covered by Individual Standards* (CODEX STAN 19-1981) also included carotenoids.

153. The Commission agreed to the proposal and approved discontinuation of work on all other draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the GSFA, as proposed by the CCFA, and returned the provision for carotenoids in food category 02.1.2 to the CCFA for further consideration.

#### **Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) / Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP)**

##### ***Proposed Draft Standard for Processed Cheese***<sup>56</sup>

154. The Commission recalled that at its 33<sup>rd</sup> Session it had agreed to defer decision on discontinuation of work on the proposed draft Standard for Processed Cheese and to request the interested Coordinating Committees to discuss the necessity and the scope of regional standards and report their findings at the present Session<sup>57</sup>. The Commission noted that CCEURO, CCNASWP and CCASIA had supported discontinuation of the work whereas CCAFRICA, CCNEA (with the exception of one country) and CCLAC had supported to continue regional or international work on a Standard for Processed Cheese.

155. The Commission further recalled that the Executive Committee had recommended suspending work on this matter for three years and that during this time countries could collect information on the difficulties that they were facing in trade of these processed cheese products and provide the information to the Secretariat for consideration at the CCEXEC in 2015<sup>58</sup>.

156. A number of delegations and one observer were in favour of discontinuing work and recalled that the CCMMP had failed to develop a single standard encompassing all varieties of processed cheese. These delegations were of the view that further work was not justified since it did not fulfil some of the criteria for the establishment of work priority applicable to commodities. Several delegations also underlined that they were not aware of any trade problems at the international level. These delegations also considered that the

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<sup>54</sup> REP 11/FO, para. 59

<sup>55</sup> REP11/FA, paras 75, 83 and Appendix IV

<sup>56</sup> ALNORM 10/31/11, para. 41 and ALNORM 10/33/REP para. 93

<sup>57</sup> ALNORM 10/33/REP, para. 93

<sup>58</sup> REP11/EXEC, para. 53

development of regional standards was not justified as these products were globally traded and could result in barriers to trade.

157. Other delegations were in favour of continuation of work. In their view the standard was needed to define quality and safety characteristics of these widely consumed products, to facilitate and regulate their trade and give guidance to industry. Further delays in developing such a standard could result in quality and safety problems in the trade of these products.

158. The Chairperson of the Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP) recalled that the CCMMP had employed all means to develop a standard which could encompass the wide variety of processed cheese currently traded but had failed due to the difficulties to agree on their composition. He clarified that issues related to the safety of these products were outside the scope of the standard, as these were more appropriately dealt with in other Codex texts, such as the *Code of Hygienic Practice for Milk and Milk Products* (CAC/RCP 57-2004). The Chairperson further said that, since these products were globally traded, the development of regional standards could result in impediments to trade. He recommended that those calling for further work should take into account all previous work and analysis carried out by the CCMMP and suggested, as a possible way forward, to narrow the scope of the standard. The Chairperson confirmed the availability of New Zealand to reactivate the CCMMP should the Commission agree on the need to further work on this matter.

159. The Commission agreed to suspend the decision on discontinuation of work on a standard on processed cheese until its next session and requested the Codex Secretariat to prepare, in close consultation with the Chairperson of the CCMMP, a Circular Letter to explore the possibility of further work. The Circular Letter would seek detailed information on trade problems associated with these products and responses to questions on the potential scope, content and technical specifications that might pertain to these products to facilitate further discussion on new standards covering processed cheese. The information gathered through this process would then be analysed and submitted to the Executive Committee and the Commission in 2012 for further discussion on the feasibility of new work in this area.

#### **MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMISSION BY CODEX COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES (Agenda Item 10)<sup>59</sup>**

160. The Commission noted several matters arising from the reports of Codex Committees, including those matters arising from the previous session of the Commission. The following paragraphs provide additional information on the comments made and decisions taken on certain items.

##### **Matters Related to Requests from the Commission**

###### ***Development of guidelines for traceability/ product tracing***

161. The Commission recalled that at its 32<sup>nd</sup> Session it had endorsed the recommendation of the 17<sup>th</sup> CCFICS that the need for further guidance on traceability be discussed by the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees<sup>60</sup> (ALINORM 09/32/30, para. 74). The Commission referred the views of the coordinating committees on this matter to the CCFICS and recognised that Members may submit proposals for new work directly to the Committee. One delegation noted, with reference to the recommendations of the Coordinating Committee for Europe, that the guidance on traceability could also be addressed in the ongoing CCFICS work on National Food Control Systems.

###### ***Private standards***

162. The Commission recalled that the issue of private standards had been discussed at its 32<sup>nd</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> sessions and at the 2010/11 sessions of the six FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees.

163. The Observer of the WTO informed the Commission that the SPS Committee had been discussing the issue of SPS-related private standards since 2005 but that there was no consensus between WTO members on whether this issue fell under the SPS Agreement. Developing country members had initially raised the issue and the main examples identified were of supermarket chains setting MRLs for pesticides that were more restrictive than Codex or national requirements. The SPS Committee had formed an *ad hoc* Working Group, which had elaborated recommendations, five of which had been agreed by the SPS Committee in March 2011, namely:

<sup>59</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/10, CRD 12 (comments of India), CRD 15 (comments of Cameroon).

<sup>60</sup> ALINORM 09/32/REP, para. 196

- To develop a working definition of SPS-related private standards, and limit any discussions to these;
- For the SPS Committee and the three standard setting organizations (i.e. Codex, IPPC and OIE) to inform each other regularly about the work they are doing in the area;
- For the WTO Secretariat to inform the SPS Committee of relevant developments in other WTO councils and committees;
- For member governments to sensitize relevant private sector bodies in their countries regarding the concerns raised in the SPS Committee and the importance of the international standards of Codex Alimentarius, OIE and IPPC; and
- For the SPS Committee to explore co-operation with the three standard-setting organizations in developing information material underlining the importance of international SPS standards.

164. The Observer also informed the Commission that additional actions were still under discussion in the SPS Committee but no consensus had been reached so far.

165. One Delegation stated that, in the face of the challenge of private standards, Codex had to show that it was capable to fulfil its role to set science-based international food standards, otherwise private standards would quickly fill the gap left by Codex.

166. The Chair concluded that Codex would continue to work closely with WTO, IPPC and OIE on this matter and also invite private standard-setting organizations to participate as observers in Codex meetings.

167. The Commission recalled that strict procedures were in place to grant Observer status with Codex to international non-governmental organizations and that the mandate of the Commission included “promoting coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non governmental organizations”.

## **FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MATTERS (Agenda Item 11)<sup>61</sup>**

### **Budget 2010-2011**

168. The Chairperson informed the Commission of the discussions held at the Executive Committee on financial and budgetary matters. The Secretariat introduced the combined accounts for 2010-2011, the detailed expenditures for 2010, and a business plan prepared on the basis of the format proposed earlier in the Executive Committee (CX/EXEC 10/64/3). The Secretariat indicated that the business plan would be further elaborated when the figures for the entire biennium became available.

169. In reply to questions on the late availability of some documents, the Secretariat noted that the budget paper had been delayed due to the late availability of some data and the timing of the FAO Conference (25 June-2 July). As several documents were based on the outcome of committees and the last Codex session was held only one month before the CCEXEC, this left limited time for preparation and translation of documents. Delays in translation were largely due to the timing of the FAO Conference and Council concurrently with the CCEXEC and Commission, and the resulting heavy workload on the FAO translation services. As regards the proposal to monitor the date of the distribution of documents, this would be considered in the framework of the new website.

170. As regards the difficulties in the translation of documents in Arabic, the Secretariat indicated that it would be very useful to benefit from the assistance of Arabic-speaking countries to facilitate adequate translation, for example providing comments on terminology, if possible through coordination at the regional level.

171. The Commission noted the appreciation of Russian-speaking countries for the provision of Russian interpretation and the request to provide also translation of documents, but noted that translation into Russian was not feasible in view of current resources at this stage. As regards publications, many standards or thematic publications were available in Arabic, Chinese and Russian and their updating was underway.

172. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the stability of the budget, recognised the general issue of availability of documents in all languages, noted practical and resources issues and the efforts made by the Secretariat to improve language coverage as far as possible.

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<sup>61</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/11

**Budget 2012-2013**

173. The Representative of FAO indicated that the FAO Conference, which was moved from the end of the biennium to mid-year of the second year of the biennium, approved a resolution on the budgetary appropriation for the next biennium, and that compared with the proposal for 2012-13 Programme of Work and Budget for Codex, the real level of support should not change. Conference has, however, decided that the Organization should identify efficiency savings to a level of 3.4% out of 1 billion USD. However, the Resolution also indicates that such efficiency savings should occur primarily in administration and operations, and gives explicit instructions which aim at protecting the delivery of technical programmes such as Codex, and therefore FAO's support to Codex is expected to be reconfirmed at the planned level in the Programme of Work for the next biennium. The Representative informed the Commission that the Conference "*stressed the need to provide adequate funding for standard-setting bodies, in particular the International Plant Protection Convention and Codex Alimentarius Commission (CODEX).... The Conference also noted the need to broaden participation of FAO Members in CODEX*" and recalled that, as mentioned in the opening session, the FAO Director-General elect, Mr. José Graziano da Silva, indicated his support for Codex as the world's leading, science-based food standards body, in the face of the proliferation of private standards.

174. The Representative indicated that FAO would like to reiterate its unease at the fact that the two parent Organisations continue to fund the operations of the Commission and its related activities in a very uneven fashion, with FAO providing 85% of the Commission's budget, and FAO is confident that it will be possible for WHO to redress this situation so as to reflect better the very obvious complementarity and synergies of the two agencies in their support of the Codex mission.

175. The Representative of WHO confirmed the full commitment of the Organisation to supporting the work of the Codex Alimentarius and its secretariat. He recalled that the level of funding for Codex in WHO was stable, that in WHO only 20% of funding was from the Regular Budget, 80% from voluntary contributions, 85% of which was from designated funds, and that budget allocations to different areas of work were decided upon by member states through the WHO governing bodies. He also noted that member states considered the allocation to different UN agencies on the basis of their mandates and respective areas of activities. It was understood that standard-setting activities in FAO relate to quality and safety aspects whereas in WHO the focus is on human health aspects, therefore more emphasis was placed on these activities in the framework of FAO and funding was provided accordingly. As regards scientific advice, the budget was equitably shared by FAO and WHO, and the Trust Fund, while being a joint project, was entirely administered by WHO. The Representative highlighted the contribution of regional WHO offices in terms of scientific advice and capacity building also in matters related to standard-setting and other Codex activities, which did not appear in the Codex budget but also contributed to its work.

176. The Delegation of Cameroon requested the Commission to provide guidance on the way forward in dealing with the issue of efficiency savings, as requested by the just concluded FAO Conference in its resolution on the 2012-2013 budget appropriation, considering that the refining of the adopted budget would take place at the FAO Council in November 2011.

177. In reply to a question on the level of efficiency savings, the Representative of FAO indicated that it was too early to know how these savings would be applied to specific programmes but that FAO generally made all efforts to ensure the best use of resources and to improve efficiency, for example through the use of information technology.

178. In addition to efficiency savings, the Commission noted that the FAO Conference resolution on budget appropriation stated that technical programmes including the Codex Alimentarius Commission shall be protected. The Commission welcomed this resolution and urged member countries to continue to support the normative work of the two parent organisations contributing to Codex work, and to consider further support to technical programmes through voluntary contribution.

179. Some delegations expressed the view that if savings were made in the Codex budget, they should be reinvested in Codex activities, taking into account increased demands on the Codex programme.

**Scientific Advice**

180. The Representative of FAO, referring to the paragraphs 33-35 in document CX/CAC 11/34/11, highlighted the available regular budget resources for scientific advice for the biennium 2010-2011 and indicated that for part of the activities implemented extra-budgetary resources had also been made available.

It was foreseen that a slightly reduced regular budget would be forthcoming for the biennium 2012-2013 taking into account efficiency savings, as required by the FAO Conference. To implement the programme of requests for scientific advice from Codex during 2012-2013 in FAO, additional extra-budgetary resources would be needed.

181. The Representative of WHO indicated that voluntary contribution from member countries represented 75% of WHO budget for scientific advice, that WHO benefited from two secondments from member countries, and that support had been provided by several member countries in 2010, including funding for convening *ad hoc* expert consultations on emerging issues.

182. The Delegation of the United States of America expressed its strong support for scientific advice and, while noting the need for more funding on a short term basis, informed the Commission that the Committee on Pesticide Residues had considered various issues related to the funding, frequency of meetings, availability of expertise in JPMR in order to find means of increasing its outputs without compromising the integrity of the scientific process, and urged Codex members to inform their representatives to FAO and WHO about the need for adequate funding for scientific advice.

183. The Delegation of Poland, speaking on behalf of the Member States of the European Union present at the session, stressed the importance of FAO/WHO expert committees and consultations, and encouraged FAO and WHO to address the issue of funding at a high level in order to find structural solutions to ensure the functioning and independence of JECFA, JPMR and JEMRA. The Delegation pointed out that it was preferable to strengthen existing specialised bodies rather than establishing new ones, and also encouraged member countries to support scientific advice.

184. The Commission noted the budget structure of both organisations, recognised the importance of continuing efficiency savings in the FAO and WHO budget for Codex and scientific advice, expressed its thanks to FAO and WHO and member countries for their support to Codex and invited FAO, WHO and member countries to give high priority and provide support to scientific advice in food safety.

#### **STRATEGIC PLANNING OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (Agenda Item 12)<sup>62</sup>**

185. The Commission noted the discussion that had been held on the monitoring of the Codex Strategic Plan 2008-2013 at the 65<sup>th</sup> CCEXEC<sup>63</sup>.

186. One delegation requested clarification on how activity 3.5 would be implemented to adopt approaches proven to facilitate speedy advancement of texts in the Codex step procedure by subsidiary bodies not currently using such approaches as such approaches were not written in the procedures.

187. The Commission recalled that the 63<sup>rd</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup> CCEXEC had discussed an analysis on the speed of the Codex standard setting process and the 64<sup>th</sup> Session had concluded that the analysis had helped to identify work-management approaches of Codex Committees that facilitate advancement of texts in the Codex step process and thus activity 3.4 of the strategic plan could be considered as completed, and CCEXEC had recommended to Codex Committees to consider adopting the good practices identified as above in line with activity 3.5.<sup>64</sup>

#### **Preparation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019**

188. The Commission noted that the 65<sup>th</sup> CCEXEC had extensively discussed the development of the forthcoming Strategic Plan 2014-2019<sup>65</sup> on the basis of a draft prepared by the Chair and the Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission<sup>66</sup>. The Commission noted further that as a way forward the Executive Committee had agreed that, based on this draft and the discussion at the session, the Executive Committee would develop a revised draft strategic plan. The Member for North America (United States) would collect and compile comments from Executive Committee members and the revised draft would be presented at the 66<sup>th</sup> CCEXEC for further discussion.

189. Following questions on the status of the draft document and at what stage of the process all members of the Commission would have the possibility to comment on the text, the Chairperson clarified that it was

<sup>62</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/12

<sup>63</sup> REP11/EXEC, paras 66-80

<sup>64</sup> ALINORM 10/33/3A, paras 113 and 114

<sup>65</sup> REP11/EXEC, paras 81-122

<sup>66</sup> CX/EXEC 11/65/4

expected that after the 66<sup>th</sup> CCEXEC a circular letter containing the draft would be sent to all members for comments. The Chairperson also mentioned that the new Strategic Plan had to be adopted by the Commission.

## **RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (Agenda Item 13)<sup>67</sup>**

### **A. Relations between the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other International Intergovernmental Organizations**

#### ***World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)<sup>68</sup>***

190. The Observer from the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), referring to information in CAC/34 INF/2, made a brief presentation.

191. The Observer noted that revisions to the OIE Basic Texts, including amendments to the General Rules were adopted at the General Session in May 2011. These amendments provide for the adoption of standards on the basis of consensus and, if consensus cannot be obtained, on the basis of a two-thirds majority vote. They also contain provisions addressing potential conflict of interest for members of OIE expert working groups; and provisions concerning the protection of legitimate confidentiality.

192. The Observer noted that ongoing collaboration between Codex and OIE was essential given current understanding of the contribution of animal health at the production level to the safety of the food chain “from farm to fork”.

193. The Observer noted that the OIE continued to work to strengthen the capacities of Members to meet the OIE standards relevant to animal health and zoonotic diseases, including by following the ‘OIE PVS Pathway’. In this regard, the OIE encouraged Codex to take into account both the OIE standards and the PVS Pathway procedures in developing recommendations on the requirements for national inspection services for food of animal origin.

194. The Observer reiterated the OIE’s wish to continue strengthening the relationship with Codex, including through the proposed joint development by the OIE and Codex of standards relevant to safe foods of animal origin, where appropriate, and looked forward to further discussion on this matter at the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on General Principles (CCGP), and would continue to work with the Codex Secretariat on this matter.

195. The Observer reported that OIE was establishing mechanisms for coordination with global private standard setting bodies to help gain an understanding of the implications of private standards and to encourage these bodies to avoid conflicts with official standards.

196. The Observer reported that work was well under way to revise the *Terrestrial Code* chapter on trichinellosis, which will include recommendations on the management of this pathogen in animals in order to avoid risks to human health. He urged Codex to take full account of the OIE work when developing the guidelines for the control of *Trichinella spiralis* in meat and declared that joint work on this issue would be very welcome.

197. The Observer concluded by confirming the strong commitment of OIE Members for closer collaboration for the benefit of both Codex and OIE Members.

198. The Delegation of Japan commented that coherent and transparent procedures should be in place for successful collaboration among SPS sister organizations and that OIE needed clear written procedures and risk analysis principles to enhance the transparency of its work. Japan’s expectations were that OIE develop a uniform procedure for standard elaboration.

199. The Commission noted that the issue of joint standards would be discussed at the next session of the CCGP. The Commission congratulated the Observer from OIE for the comprehensive and informative report and supported continued close collaboration between Codex and OIE.

#### ***World Trade Organization (WTO)<sup>69</sup>***

<sup>67</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/13

<sup>68</sup> CAC/34 INF/2 (Communication from OIE – report on activities relevant to Codex work)

200. The Observer of the WTO, referring to the report in CAC/34 INF/3, informed the Commission about the following issues:

- The status of food safety related trade concerns in the SPS Committee;
- The four regional SPS workshops, the special SPS workshop on coordination at national and regional levels and the advanced SPS course planned for 2011;
- The launch of the new online SPS Notification Submission System (NSS), allowing members to fill out and submit SPS notifications online;
- The third Review of the Operation and Implementation of the SPS Agreement where members had agreed to prioritize, among other issues, the cooperation between the SPS Committee and the three standard-setting organizations with recommendations drawn from the 2009 workshop on this topic such as: joint work on cross-cutting issues, consideration on how to ensure equivalence among standards on related products, soliciting more information at the strategic planning phase of the three organizations, and identifying ways to ensure coordination of the national entities responsible for the three organizations and those responsible for SPS matters;
- The five proposed actions, agreed by the SPS Committee in March 2011 to define the scope of the discussions on SPS-related private standards and promote information exchange among various entities with a stake in the evolution of SPS-related private standards. In October 2011 the SPS Committee would discuss the implementation of the agreed actions and possible other actions on which up to now there had been no consensus; and
- The status of existing dispute settlement panels dealing with issues of interest to the Commission.

***International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)***<sup>70</sup>

201. The Representative of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture<sup>71</sup> reported on relevant matters of interest to Codex, including the control of food contaminants, the use of ionizing radiation and the management of nuclear and radiological emergencies.

202. In relation to the Japanese nuclear emergency, the Representative noted that various FAO divisions work in partnership with the IAEA through the Joint FAO/IAEA Division (Vienna) in preparing for and responding to nuclear or radiological emergencies affecting food and agriculture, including the application of FAO capabilities as a critical counterpart in defining and implementing agricultural countermeasures and remediation strategies in response to such events.<sup>72</sup>

203. The Representative reported on recent and on-going activities of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division, including: staffing the FAO Desk in the IAEA Incident and Emergency Centre; participation in video/teleconferences through the Inter Agency Committee on Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies (IACRNE); collaboration in the preparation of joint FAO/IAEA/WHO “questions and answers” related to food safety and the application of international standards; participation in a Joint FAO/IAEA Food Safety Assessment Mission to Japan; and promoting knowledge and information sharing on radioactive contamination affecting food and agriculture.

204. The Representative further reported on other matters related to food safety, which included recently convened Coordinated Research Projects on the Implementation of Nuclear Techniques to Improve Food Traceability and on the Development of Irradiated Foods for Immunocompromised Patients and Other Potential Target Groups.

205. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division continued to cooperate with the CCPR and CCRVDF on issues related to methods of analysis and sampling for contaminants and also with FAO and WFP in relation to the control of mycotoxins in foods.

<sup>69</sup> CAC/34 INF/3 (Report on the activities of the WTO/SPS Committee and other relevant WTO activities from January 2010 through March 2011)

<sup>70</sup> CAC/34 INF/7 (Activities of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture relevant to Codex work)

<sup>71</sup> <http://www-naweb.iaea.org/nafa/index.html>

<sup>72</sup> For additional details, please see the Feature Articles in the July 2010 and July 2011 editions of the Food and Environmental Protection Newsletter

206. The Delegation of Japan expressed their appreciation to the assistance and support provided by IAEA and other international organizations in emergency response to the Nuclear Power Plant accident.

***International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV)***<sup>73</sup>

207. The Observer from the International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV) recalled that OIV is an intergovernmental organisation of a scientific and technical nature with recognised expertise in the fields of vines, wine and wine-based beverages, table grapes and raisins and other vine-based products, that the cooperation between OIV and Codex had produced very positive results in several areas. OIV contributed very actively in the work of the CCCF in the development of the *Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Ochratoxin A Contamination in Wine* (CAC/RCP 63-2007) and was participating in the work on the revision of certain limits and in particular lead in wines.

208. In the CCFA, OIV was actively involved in the review of the foods category system in particular the “grape wines” category to be differentiated from the “Wines other than grape” category, and currently participates in the work on the *General Standard for Food Additives* (GSFA) for the “grape wine” category and its sub-categories.

209. In the CCFFV OIV was involved in the development of the *Standard for Table Grapes* (CODEX STAN 255-2007) and more particularly the sections relating to the maturity and minimum weights for bunches. In 2008, OIV Member States adopted by consensus a standard on the minimum maturity requirements for table grapes (VITI 1-2008). OIV intends to pursue this cooperation concerning certain provisions in the Codex standard for table grapes. OIV’s work on a specific standard for raisins may also constitute, when adopted, a scientific and technical contribution to the Codex work.

210. OIV also took into account several principles or Codex texts in its own programme of work, such as the role of science in developing standards, the principles established by the CCFICS on traceability, when developing the OIV draft resolution regarding traceability guidelines in the vine and wine sector, and the Codex principles and definitions on biotechnologies when drafting certain OIV definitions specific to the vine and wine sector with regards biotechnologies.

211. The Observer also expressed interest in cooperating with FAO on issues of common interest, and concluded that these examples demonstrates the interest that the OIV has in Codex work and the need for the two organisations to coordinate and cooperate in fields of common interest.

**B. Relations between the Codex Alimentarius Commission and International Non-governmental Organizations**

***International Organization for Standardization (ISO)***<sup>74</sup>

212. The Observer of ISO, Secretary of the ISO Technical Committee on Food Products, ISO/TC 34, on behalf of ISO Deputy Secretary-General, M. Kevin Mac Kinley, recalled that ISO had developed more than 800 standards in the food sector. ISO International Standards are developed according to principles stipulated by the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade, especially transparency, openness, impartiality and consensus. ISO offers technical assistance to developing countries to support participation in its technical work, attendance at ISO meetings, and capacity-building to use and implement ISO standards, and consumers participate in ISO work.

213. The Observer noted that ISO and Codex have a long history of cooperation and complementary work, as outlined in CAC/34 INF/6, Codex being a valued partner for ISO in the field of food safety, where ISO seeks to develop standards that complement the work of the CAC and facilitate its implementation. IN the perspective of such essential collaboration, ISO is organizing a regional workshop on fisheries and aquaculture in September 2011 in Indonesia that will involve FAO, the Codex Secretariat, OIE and the industry forum - GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative). ISO could be a linkage or a bridge with the global food industry.

214. ISO/TC 34 “Food Products” and its Subcommittee on food safety management systems continue to harmonize industry pre-requisite programmes, in coordination with CAC (*see* para 26 of INF/6). The next plenary meeting of ISO/TC 34 will be organized in Kenya in April 2012, with a special seminar dedicated to African developing countries.

<sup>73</sup> CAC/34 INF/5 (Communication from OIV)

<sup>74</sup> CAC/34 INF/6 (Communication from ISO – report of activities relevant to Codex work)

215. The Observer also informed the Commission that ISO and OIE just signed an agreement on cooperation and liaison work in areas of common interest.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO (Agenda Item 14)<sup>75</sup>**

**FAO/WHO PROJECT AND TRUST FUND FOR ENHANCED PARTICIPATION IN CODEX (Agenda Item 14a))**

216. The Commission noted that the Annual Report and Progress Report were for information purposes only. The Representative of WHO recalled that the last session of the Commission had considered the Mid-Term Review of the Codex Trust Fund (CTF) and put forward several questions for consideration by Coordinating Committees, following which WHO and FAO had prepared a management response (CX/CAC 11/34/14-Add.1) and proposals to respond to Mid-term Review recommendations (CX/CAC 11/34/14-Add.2). The Representative invited the Commission to consider these proposals according to the three Trust Fund Objectives.

**Objective 1 - Widening participation in Codex**

217. The Representative of WHO recalled that the Trust Fund secretariat had studied the problems faced by several countries to sustain participation, whether they were still eligible or not and noted some common characteristics among these countries. WHO invited the Commission to consider whether Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing State (SIDS) should get extra support; whether graduate countries that cannot sustain some participation should be brought back in; and whether the proposals put forward for this purpose were adequate.

218. Some delegations indicated that their priority was Objective 1 and expressed their appreciation to the CTF for recognising that there were still problems to ensure participation for many countries.

219. Some delegations expressed the view that the criteria were not adequate and should be revised as they were based on some international indicators but did not take into account the real situation in the countries, and it should be clarified what criteria would be applied for additional support of graduated countries.

220. Some delegations proposed that in order to decide on additional support, the CTF should consider the quality of participation, whether the countries concerned had participated effectively and such participation had resulted in actual benefits and progress at the national level. The Representative of WHO indicated that the situations would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the effectiveness and impact of previous participation.

221. One delegation pointed out that difficulties in participation at the national level may arise from division of competence and budgetary procedures within the responsible ministries, and such difficulties should be taken into account when considering additional support.

222. Several delegations supported additional funding for LDCs and SIDS and it was also noted that the options proposed were complementary as support should be considered on a case-by case basis when countries encountered difficulties, whether they were eligible or not.

223. The Commission agreed with the proposals for additional support to LDCs, SIDS and graduated countries that cannot sustain participation, and with the process put forward for this purpose in the working document, noting that the criteria and mechanisms should be clear and transparent.

**Objective 2 - Strengthening participation in Codex**

224. Some delegations pointed out that Objective 1 and 2 were linked and that the achievement of Objective 2 would take more time, and that these objectives should remain the first priority, while recognising that Objective 3 was also important.

225. Several delegations noted that the Trust Fund had greatly benefited many countries and those who had gained sufficient experience could assist other countries, and there was general support for mechanisms such as mentoring, twinning, regional cooperation and South-South cooperation.

226. In the discussion, it was pointed out that the following conditions were essential to achieve Objective 2: long term sustainability of participation; exchange of information and coordination between CTF and

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<sup>75</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/14, CX/CAC 11/34/14-Add.1, CX/CAC 11/34/14-Add.2

other training and development activities of FAO, WHO, regional and member countries' initiatives; and commitment by decision makers at a political level.

227. Several delegations noted that Objective 2 was closely linked to Objective 1 as delegates had to be well prepared to benefit from participation in Codex meetings, and also should prioritise the meetings that were of more importance for them to attend; for this purpose national Codex committees should be strengthened and regional trainings were also very useful.

228. One delegation indicated that emphasis should remain on Objective 1 and that donor countries were accountable at the national level for their contribution to the Trust Fund and therefore it was important to ensure transparency and to evaluate how the Trust Fund had actually benefited recipient countries, in order to decide on future funding.

229. The Commission agreed to support the following action to achieve Objective 2: to ensure coordination and information sharing between Trust Fund, FAO, WHO, regional organisations and member countries on training activities; to promote mentoring, twinning and South-South cooperation; to sensitise leadership to the importance of Codex work so that decision makers recognise the importance of Codex work and allocate resources accordingly; and to measure the impact of participation at the national level.

### **Objective 3 - Enhancing technical and scientific input to Codex**

230. Some delegations pointed out that the support of the Trust Fund was a good opportunity to take advantage of the expertise available in academic institutions in developing countries at the national or regional level in order to identify experts and sources of data that could be used to provide scientific advice.

231. The following issues were put forward in the discussion on the use of such expertise: the need for interaction between scientific experts and regulators at the national level, which was necessary both to develop national standards or to participate in the Codex process; the challenges to access data, which may be unpublished; organisational and funding issues; and gaps in the areas of expertise covered.

232. One delegation pointed out that while several countries had largely achieved Objectives 1 and 2, Objective 3 remained more difficult and should be considered in a long term perspective, and supported the activities proposed in the working document. Another delegation supported focusing on Objective 2 according to the needs of the regions concerned rather than Objective 3, which should preferably be addressed through other FAO and WHO activities.

233. In reply to a question on the possibility of using regional centres of excellence to enhance scientific input, the Representative of WHO indicated that there were several networks of centres of excellence, especially the WHO collaborating centres and the GEMS/Foods network; clarified that centres of excellence did not provide direct input in the FAO/WHO scientific advice process; and noted the role of regional WHO offices to facilitate such linkages at the regional level. The Representative also stressed the importance of disseminating at the national level the calls for data and calls for experts which were distributed in the preparation of expert consultations.

234. The Representative of FAO stressed the importance of making best use of existing scientific institutes and universities at national level to ensure that available data is effectively used in standard and food safety programming activities as well as in relevant international expert meeting within the FAO/WHO programme on the provision of scientific advice. Building adequate national capacity to strengthen scientific activities and data generation covers a broad range of issues, and efforts should be made to prevent doubling and ensure synergies with FAO and WHO programmes leading to the most effective use of the available CTF funds.

235. The Commission agreed with the mechanisms proposed under Objective 3 for support to data generation, including support to scientific institutions and experts in developing countries and facilitating access to data.

236. As a general conclusion the Commission expressed its thanks to the Codex Trust Fund, FAO, WHO and donor countries and supported the proposals put forward under Objectives 1, 2 and 3 as detailed above.

**OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO (Agenda Item 14b))<sup>76</sup>****Provision of Scientific Advice**

237. The Representatives of WHO and FAO introduced the document CX/CAC 11/34/15 which was divided into 3 parts, namely recent FAO/WHO expert meetings, other related initiatives underway in FAO and WHO and status of requests for FAO/WHO scientific advice. The outcomes of some recently held scientific expert meetings to address requests brought forth by a number of Codex Committees and jointly organized by FAO and WHO were highlighted. Recent publications were noted as well as upcoming meetings.

238. The Representative of WHO, while referring to paragraphs 17, 18 and 19 of the document, highlighted the on-going work of the WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group (NUGAG) which was established in order to respond to the required new guideline development process implemented in WHO and ensure that WHO guidelines are developed in ways consistent with best practice and are based on available scientific evidence. NUGAG has, therefore, replaced the old mechanism for developing nutrition guidelines and recommendations through ad hoc expert consultations. The Commission was also informed of the work on nutrient profiling and on-going country field-testing of the guiding principle manual.

239. The Representative of FAO, further informed the Commission regarding the work carried out by FAO and WHO in relation to the web-based support tools to be instrumental for countries in the implementation of the adopted guideline on the control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* in poultry products. In addition, in relation to the requests of CCFH to FAO and WHO to take up new work on the risks of parasites in foods, the Commission was reminded of the deadline for submission of data to assist in the future risk assessment activities of JEMRA on this matter.

240. The Commission further noted the information provided in relation to the recently carried out pilot baseline survey on the quality and utility of the food safety scientific advice provided by FAO and WHO to certain Codex committees and that a follow-up of this survey would be undertaken later this year to gather further information on possible improvements that could be considered in the work on implementation of scientific advice activities.

241. Additional information was provided on activities of the newly created program on prevention, preparedness and response to food safety emergencies, EMPRES Food Safety, in support of the Food Chain Crisis Management and FAO.

242. The JECFA Secretariat drew attention to the increasingly difficult financial situation in FAO and in particular in WHO that also affects the provision of scientific advice. It was pointed out that the current financial situation in FAO and WHO does not permit to address many of the future scientific advice requests adopted by the Commission at this session.

243. Finally it was emphasized that the scientific advice program is not part of Codex, but a separate activity that is closely linked to the Codex standard-setting process. Moreover, the importance of distributing and responding to calls for data and calls for experts that are frequently published by FAO and WHO in advance of expert meetings was emphasized.

**Capacity building**

244. The Representative of FAO on behalf of FAO and WHO explained that the document CX/CAC 11/34/15-Add.1 provided the full list of current and planned FAO and WHO capacity building projects including those activities undertaken by both Organizations which complement the work of Codex or support it at national, regional and international level.

**ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSONS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Agenda Item 15)<sup>77</sup>**

245. The Commission elected the following persons to hold office from the end of its present Session to the end of the next regular (35<sup>th</sup>) Session of the Commission.

<sup>76</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/15 and CX/CAC 11/34/15-Add.1

<sup>77</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/16

**Chairperson:** Mr Sanjay DAVE (India)  
**Vice-Chairpersons:** Mr Samuel GODEFROY (Canada)  
 Mrs Awilo OCHIENG PERNET (Switzerland)  
 Prof Samuel SEFA-DEDEH (Ghana)

246. The Commission elected the following Members of the Executive Committee on a geographic basis for the period from the end of the current session to the end of the second succeeding regular session of the Commission:

Africa: Kenya

Asia: China

Europe: France

Latin America & the Caribbean: Jamaica

Near East: Tunisia

North America: The United States of America

South-West Pacific: Australia

247. In accordance with Rule IV.2 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, and on the basis of the nominations made by the Coordinating Committees, the following Members of the Commission were appointed as Coordinators to hold office from the end of the Thirty-fourth Session of the Commission until the end of the regular session of the Commission held in 2013.

Africa: Cameroon

Asia: Japan

Europe: Poland

Latin America & the Caribbean: Costa Rica

Near East: Lebanon

North America & South-West Pacific: Papua New Guinea

#### **DESIGNATION OF COUNTRIES RESPONSIBLE FOR APPOINTING THE CHAIRPERSON OF CODEX COMMITTEES AND AD HOC TASK FORCES (Agenda Item 16)<sup>78</sup>**

248. The Commission recalled its earlier decision on Colombia to host the Committee on Sugars (see Agenda Item 9) and further noted that the Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance had completed its work (see Agenda Item 5) and would be dissolved and confirmed the designation of the Host Governments as listed in the Appendix VIII to this report.

249. The Delegation of Poland, coordinator for Europe informed the Commission that in line with the decision to encourage co-hosting of Committees, that the next session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe would be co-hosted with Georgia.

250. The Commission further noted the interest of Panama to co-host with Switzerland the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Animal Feeding.

<sup>78</sup> CX/CAC 11/34/17.

251. The Delegation of Kenya informed the Commission of the difficulties in obtaining visas to attend the Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling in Hungary and encouraged hosts to facilitate access of delegates to the Committee meetings.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item 17)**

##### **Future work on nanotechnology**

252. The Delegation of Egypt enquired on the possibility to establish a Task Force to address food produced using nanotechnology in order to assess the potential risk posed by these foods.

253. In response to the request from the delegation of Egypt, FAO and WHO provided information on recent and upcoming activities in the field of nanotechnology. The Commission was informed that FAO and WHO held an expert meeting in June 2009 on the potential food safety implications of the emerging nanotechnology applications in food and agriculture. In addition, FAO had collaborated with the Government of Brazil in organizing an international conference in June 2010 to review nanotechnology applications in the food and agriculture sectors with emphasis on applications of particular interest to developing countries. Given the broad scope of use of these technologies and due to the many ongoing activities in other bodies, it was suggested that it would be necessary to better define the scope of any work to be carried out in the Codex framework. FAO and WHO would continue the work in relation to development on decision tree approaches for assessment of nanotechnology applications in the food sector when the ongoing work in other entities had been finalized, to avoid duplication of efforts.

##### **Revision of the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables**

254. The Delegation of Colombia referred to its proposal to consider the revision of the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV) and the recommendation of the 65<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee by which the Commission should recommend to the CCFFV to consider its Terms of Reference and after completion send them to the Committee on General Principles for review.

255. The Delegation of the European Union noted that the Terms of Reference of the UNECE Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards established that the Working Party shall cooperate with the CCFFV in order to ensure that the consultation process worked reciprocally. In this regard, the consultative process with the UNECE, as set out in the Terms of Reference of the CCFFV, could greatly facilitate the work of the Committee by providing a positive input to the standards development in the CCFFV, in particular the consideration of UNECE standards. If Codex members had concerns about the consultative process with the UNECE, the Commission could clarify the issue as follows: “The ultimate goal of the consultation process between Codex and the UNECE should be the development of harmonized standards to ensure fair trade practices. However, this does not mean that Codex standards should be identical to UNECE standards as certain level of divergence might be in practice unavoidable to accommodate the needs of Codex mandate and broader membership”.

256. The Delegation of Mexico, speaking as Chair of the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, requested that, if the Terms of Reference were to be discussed at the next session of the CCFFV, the Codex Secretariat should prepare a background document on the history and linkages between the CCFFV and the UNECE in order to assist the Committee to make an informed decision.

257. The Commission agreed to recommend to the CCFFV to consider its Terms of Reference and that result of its consideration could be forwarded to the CCGP for review if necessary.

##### **Date and Place of Next Session**

258. The Commission noted that its 35<sup>th</sup> Session would be held in Rome, Italy, from 2 to 7 July 2012, subject to further confirmation.

## APPENDIX 1

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**APPENDIX II****AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURAL MANUAL**

The following amendments were adopted by the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

| <b>Codex Committee</b> | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Reference</b>  |
|------------------------|---|---|
| CCPFV                  | Amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables | REP 11/PFV, Appendix II<br>(adopted with an amendment.<br>See para. 20) |

**Proposed Amendment to the Terms of Reference of the  
Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables**

To elaborate worldwide standards and related texts for all types of processed fruits and vegetables, including but not limited to canned, dried and frozen products as well as fruit and vegetable juices and nectars.

## APPENDIX III

LISTS OF STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS ADOPTED BY THE THIRTY-FOURTH  
SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

## Part 1 – Standards and Related Texts Adopted at Step 8

| Standards and Related Texts   | Reference                | Status   |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| MRLs for narasin (pig tissues) and tilmicosin (chicken and turkey tissues)  | REP11/RVDF, Appendix III | Adopted  |
| Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance  | REP11/AMR, Appendix II   | Adopted  |
| Annex to the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling: General Principles for Establishing Nutrient Reference Values of Vitamins and Minerals for General Population                             | REP11/NFSDU, Appendix II | Adopted  |
| Regional Standard for Edible Sago Flour   | REP11/ASIA, Appendix II  | Adopted  |
| Amendment to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils: Inclusion of Palm Kernel Olein and Palm Kernel Stearin  | REP11/FO, Appendix II    | Adopted  |
| Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk: Criteria to Assess the Acceptability of Substances for Inclusion in a List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes | REP11/FO, Appendix III   | Adopted  |
| Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes   | REP11/FO, Appendix IV    | Adopted  |
| Revised Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty   | REP11/MAS, Appendix II   | Adopted  |
| Food Additive Provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA)   | REP11/FA, Appendix III   | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides   | REP11/PR, Appendix II    | Adopted  |
| Standard for Fish Sauce   | REP11/FFP, Appendix III  | Adopted  |
| Standard for Tree Tomatoes  | REP11/FFV, Appendix III  | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Revision of the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling: List of Nutrients that are always declared on a Voluntary or Mandatory Basis   | REP11/FL, Appendix II    | Adopted  |

**Part 2 – Standards and Related Texts Adopted at Step 5/8 (with omission of Step 6 and 7)**

| <b>Standards and Related Texts</b>   | <b>Reference</b>         | <b>Status</b>                                    |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| Standard for Desiccated Coconut (revision of CODEX STAN 177-1991)  | REP11/PFV, Appendix III  | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Annex on Certain Mushrooms (revision of CODEX STAN 55-1981)( <i>For inclusion in the Codex Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables</i> )                  | REP11/PFV, Appendix IV   | Adopted  |
| Standard for Canned Bamboo Shoots (revision of CODEX STAN 241-2003)  | REP11/PFV, Appendix V    | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Regional Standard for Culantro Coyote  | REP11/LAC, Appendix II   | Adopted  |
| Regional Standard for Lucuma   | REP11/LAC, Appendix III  | Adopted  |
| Regional Standard for Chilli Sauce   | REP11/ASIA, Appendix III | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Guideline for the Control of <i>Campylobacter</i> and <i>Salmonella</i> spp in Chicken Meat  | REP11/FH, Appendix III   | Adopted  |
| Revision of the Recommended International Code of Hygienic Practice for Collecting, Processing and Marketing of Natural Mineral Waters (CAC/RCP 33-1985) | REP11/FH, Appendix V     | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes                                      | REP11/FO, Appendix V     | Adopted  |
| Food Additive Provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA)  | REP11/FA, Appendix III   | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Revision of the Food Category System of the GSFA (food categories 05.1, 05.2 and 05.4)   | REP11/FA, Appendix VIII  | Adopted  |
| Amendments to the <i>International Numbering System for Food Additives</i>   | REP11/FA, Appendix XII   | Adopted  |
| Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives   | REP11/FA, Appendix XIII  | Adopted  |
| Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Ethyl Carbamate Contamination in Stone Fruit Distillates  | REP11/CF, Appendix II    | Adopted  |
| Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides  | REP11/PR, Appendix III   | Adopted with an exception<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Revision of the Guidelines on the Estimation of Uncertainty of Results for the Determination of Pesticide Residues (Annex to CAC/GL 59-2006)             | REP11/PR, Appendix X     | Adopted  |

| <b>Standards and Related Texts</b>   | <b>Reference</b>        | <b>Status</b>   |
|--|-------------------------|---|
| Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (section on smoked fish and relevant definitions) | REP11/FFP, Appendix V   | Adopted with amendments<br>(See Agenda Item 5)                            |
| Amendment to Section 3.4.5.1 Water of the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products         | REP11/FFP, Appendix VI  | Adopted   |
| Amendment to the Standard for Quick Frozen Fish Sticks   | REP11/FFP, Appendix XI  | Adopted   |
| Standard for Chilli Peppers  | REP11/FFV, Appendix IV  | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5)                          |
| Compilation of Codex Texts Relevant to Labelling of Foods Derived from Modern Biotechnology      | REP11/FL, Appendix III  | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5)                          |
| Regional Standard for Harissa  | REP11/NEA, Appendix III | Adopted<br>(except the section of Methods of Analysis, See Agenda Item 5) |
| Regional Standard for Halwa tehenia  | REP11/NEA, Appendix IV  | Adopted<br>(except the section of Methods of Analysis, See Agenda Item 5) |

### **Part 3 – Other Standards and Related Texts Submitted for Adoption**

| <b>Standards and Related Texts</b>  | <b>Reference</b>        | <b>Status</b>                                    |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| Amendments to Food Additive Provisions for Antioxidants and Preservatives of Food Category 04.1.2.2 “dried fruits” of the GSFA  | REP11/FA, para. 26      | Adopted with an amendment<br>(See Agenda Item 5) |
| Revision of Section 4 “Carry-over of Food Additives” into food of the Preamble to the GSFA  | REP11/FA, Appendix IX   | Adopted  |
| Amendment to “Explanatory notes on the lay-out of the INS” Section 1 of the <i>Class Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives</i> (CAC/GL 36-1989) | REP11/FA, para. 148     | Adopted  |
| Methods of Analysis in Codex Standards at different steps   | REP11/MAS, Appendix III | Adopted with amendments<br>(See Agenda Item 5)   |
| Amendment to the Preamble of Section 6, Aquaculture Products of the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products  | REP11/FFP, Appendix II  | Adopted  |

## APPENDIX IV

**LIST OF DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS ADOPTED AT STEP 5 BY THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

| <b>Standards and Related Texts</b>   | <b>Reference</b>  |
|--|---|
| Draft Revision of the <i>Standard for Food Grade Salt</i> (CODEX STAN 150-1985)  | REP11/FA, Appendix XI   |
| Draft Maximum Levels for Melamine in Foods ( <i>Liquid Infant Formula</i> )  | REP11/CF, Appendix III<br>(See Agenda Item 5)                 |
| Draft Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides  | REP11/PR, Appendix IV   |
| Draft Revision of the Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds – <i>Assorted Tropical and Sub-tropical Fruits – Edible Peel; Assorted Tropical and Sub-tropical Fruits – Inedible Peel</i> | REP11/PR, Appendix VIII                                       |
| Draft Standard for Quick Frozen Scallop Adductor Muscle Meat   | REP11/FFP, Appendix VII                                       |
| Draft Standard for Fresh/Live and Frozen Abalone   | REP11/FFP, Appendix X   |
| Draft Standard for Pomegranate   | REP11/FFV, Appendix V   |
| Draft Definition of Nutrient Reference Values  | REP11/FL, Appendix IV   |
| Draft Regional Code of Practice for Street Vended Foods (Near East)  | REP11/NEA, Appendix II<br>(Held at Step 8, see Agenda Item 5) |

**APPENDIX V****LIST OF STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS REVOKED BY THE THIRTY-FOURTH  
SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

| <b>Standard and Related Texts</b>   | <b>Reference</b>                          |
|---|---|
| Food Additive Provisions of the GSFA  | REP11/FA, paras 83 and 88,<br>Appendix IV |
| MRLs for pesticide/commodity combinations   | REP11/PR, Appendix V                      |
| CAC/RCP 25-1979 – Recommended International Code of Hygienic Practice for Smoked Fish | REP11/FFP, para. 70                       |
| CODEX STAN 55-1981 - Codex Standard for Canned Mushrooms                              | REP11/PFV, para. 84                       |

## APPENDIX VI

## LIST OF DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS APPROVED AS NEW WORK BY THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

| Responsible Body                       | Standard and Related Texts  | Reference                | Job Code |
|--|---|--------------------------|----------|
| CCRVDF                                 | Performance criteria for multi-residue analytical methods for veterinary drug residue analyses (Appendix to the <i>Guidelines for the design and implementation of national regulatory food safety assurance programmes associated with the use of veterinary drugs in food producing animals</i> (CAC/GL 71-2009)) | REP11/RVDF, Appendix V   | N01-2011 |
| CCRVDF                                 | Priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA  | REP11/RVDF, Appendix VI  | ongoing  |
| CCEURO                                 | Regional Standard for Fresh Fungus “Chanterelle”  | REP11/EURO, Appendix II  | N02-2011 |
| CCEURO                                 | Regional Standard for Ayran   | REP11/EURO, Appendix III | N03-2011 |
| CCNFSDU                                | Inclusion of a New Part B for Underweight Children in the <i>Standard for Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children</i> (CODEX STAN 74-1981)  | REP11/NFSDU, Appendix V  | N04-2011 |
| CCASIA                                 | Regional Standard for Tempe   | REP11/ASIA, Appendix IV  | N05-2011 |
| CCFFV<br>CCASIA<br>(See Agenda Item 9) | (Regional) Standard for Durian  | REP11/ASIA, Appendix V   | N06-2011 |
| CCFH                                   | Guidelines for Control of Specific Zoonotic Parasites in Meat: <i>Trichinella spiralis</i> and <i>Cysticercus bovis</i>   | REP11/FH, Appendix VI    | N07-2011 |
| CCFH                                   | Annex on Melons to the <i>Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables</i> (CAC/RCP 53-2003)   | REP11/FH, Appendix VII   | N08-2011 |
| CCFO                                   | Standard for Fish Oils  | REP11/FO, Appendix VI    | N09-2011 |
| CCFO                                   | Amendment to parameters for rice bran oil in the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i>   | REP11/FO, Appendix VII   | N10-2011 |
| CCMAS                                  | Principles for the Use of Sampling and Testing in International Food Trade  | REP11/MAS, Appendix IV   | N11-2011 |
| CCCF                                   | Maximum Levels for Arsenic in Rice  | REP11/CF, Appendix IV    | N12-2011 |
| CCS                                    | Standard for “Panela”   | REP11/LAC, para. 135     | N13-2011 |

| <b>Responsible Body</b> | <b>Standard and Related Texts</b>   | <b>Reference</b>   | <b>Job Code</b> |
|-------------------------|---|--|-----------------|
| CCASIA                  | Regional Standard for Laver Products  | REP11/ASIA,<br>para. 144 and<br>REP 11/FFP, para.<br>176 | N14-2011        |
| CCFFP                   | Criteria/Parameters for screening methods for biotoxins in the Standard for Live and Raw Bivalve Molluscs                             | REP11/FFP,<br>paras 119-121                              | N15-2011        |
| CCFFP                   | Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (section on sturgeon cavier)   | REP11/FFP<br>para. 178                                   | N16-2011        |
| CCFFV                   | Standard for Golden Passion Fruit (problem in Spanish text)   | REP11/FFV<br>para. 143                                   | N17-2011        |
| CCFL                    | Inclusion of new substances into the Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods | REP11/FL,<br>Appendix VI                                 | N18-2011        |
| CCPFV                   | Standard for Certain Quick Frozen Vegetables  | REP11/PFV,<br>paras 116-117                              | N19-2011        |
| CCPFV                   | Standard for Certain Canned Fruits  | REP11/PFV,<br>paras 116-117                              | N20-2011        |
| CCPR                    | Priority List for the Establishment of MRLs for Pesticides  | REP11/PR,<br>Appendix XI                                 | Ongoing         |
| CCNEA                   | Regional Standard for Doogh   | REP11/NEA,<br>paras 80-82                                | N21-2011        |
| CCMAS                   | Definitions and Criteria for Proprietary Methods in Codex Standards for Inclusion in the Procedural Manual                            | REP11/MAS,<br>para. 78                                   | Procedure       |

## APPENDIX VII

LIST OF WORK DISCONTINUED BY THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE CODEX  
ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

| Responsible Body | Standard and Related Texts  | Reference                             |
|------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| CCFO             | Amendment to the Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils: linolenic acid level  | REP 11/FO, para. 59                   |
| CCFA             | Draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the GSFA (except for provision of carotenoids in food category 02.1.2 vegetable oils and fats)   | REP11/FA, paras 75 and 83, Appendix V |
| CCFL             | Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: Definitions (Labelling of Foods and Food Ingredients Obtained through Certain Techniques of Genetic Modification / Genetic Engineering) | REP11/FL, para. 122                   |

## APPENDIX VIII

## CHAIRMANSHIP OF CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES

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                  | Active          |
| 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          |
| 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                    | Active          |
| 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  | <i>Sine die</i> |
| 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          |
| <b><i>Ad hoc</i> Intergovernmental Task Force</b> |  |                           |                 |
| CX 803  | <i>Ad hoc</i> Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Animal Feeding             | Switzerland               | Active          |

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Subsidiary Bodies Established under Rule XI.1(b)(ii)

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| <b>Code</b> | <b>Subsidiary Body</b>  | <b>Member Responsible</b>                                |
|-------------|---|--|
| CX 706      | FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe                                   | Coordinator for Europe                                   |
| CX 707      | FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa                                   | Coordinator for Africa                                   |
| CX 725      | FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean          | Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean          |
| CX 727      | FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia                                     | Coordinator for Asia                                     |
| CX 732      | FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific | Coordinator for North America and the South West Pacific |
| CX 734      | FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Near East                            | Coordinator for the Near East                            |

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