

INFORMATION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Submission by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex)
Meeting of 28-29 October 2009

The following communication, received on 23 October 2009, is being circulated at the request of the Codex secretariat.

I. CODEX SESSIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE SPS COMMITTEE (23-24 JUNE 2009)

- The 62nd Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rome, Italy, 23-26 June 2009)
- The 32nd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rome, Italy, 29 June – 4 July 2009)
- The 30th Session of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (Agadir, Morocco, 28 September – 2 October 2009)
- The Third Session of the ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (Jeju, Republic of Korea, 12-16 October 2009)
- The 15th Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (Mexico City, Mexico, 19-23 October 2009)

In particular, the SPS Committee may wish to take note of the following:

1. The 32nd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, among others:
 - adopted 28 new or revised Codex standards or related texts (see Appendix I);
 - approved a number of new work proposals (see Appendix II);
 - noted the status of implementation of the Strategic Plan 2008-2013 of the Codex Alimentarius Commission;
 - agreed on a number of recommendations intended to improve the participation of developing countries, especially as regards capacity building and the Codex Trust Fund; and
 - supported continued cooperation and coordination with international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The full report of the meeting is available at: <http://www.codexalimentarius.net> or at <ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/Alinorm09/al32REPe.pdf>.

2. The 30th Session of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products agreed to forward to the Commission for final adoption the Draft Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (Lobsters and Crabs and relevant Definitions); an amendment to the definition of "clean water" in Section 2.1 General Definitions of the *Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products*; and the Draft Standard for Sturgeon Caviar. The Committee also agreed to forward to the Commission the Proposed Draft Standard for Smoked Fish, Smoke-Flavoured Fish and Smoke-Dried Fish and the Proposed Draft Standard for Fish Sauce, for adoption as a draft standard and further consideration at the next session of the Committee.

3. The Committee further agreed to continue discussion at its next session on: (i) the Proposed Draft Amendment to Section 3.4.5.1 Water of the *Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products*; (ii) the Proposed Draft Standard for Quick Frozen Scallop Adductor Muscle Meat; (iii) the Proposed Draft Revision for the Inclusion of Additional Species in Standards for Fish and Fishery Products; (iv) the Draft List of Methods for the Determination of Biotoxins in the Standard for Raw and Live Bivalve Molluscs; (v) the Proposed Draft Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (Other Sections including Smoked Fish); (vi) the Proposed Draft Standard for Fresh/Live and Frozen Abalone (*Haliotis* spp.); and (vii) the Proposed Draft Amendment to the *Codex Standard for Quick Frozen Fish Sticks* (Nitrogen Factors).

4. The Third Session of the *Ad hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance forwarded the Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance to the Commission for adoption as Draft Guidelines and finalization at its next session in 2010, as the Task Force should hold its final meeting and complete its work in 2010.

II. FORTHCOMING CODEX MEETINGS

- The 31st Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (Düsseldorf, Germany, 2-6 November 2009)
- The 41st Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (San Diego, United States of America, 16-20 November 2009)
- The 63rd Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Geneva, Switzerland, 8-11 December 2009)
- The Ninth Session of the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products (Auckland, New Zealand, 1-5 February 2010)

5. The 31st Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses will consider the List of Methods for Dietary Fibre and the addition or revision of Nutrient Reference Values for Labelling Purposes for inclusion in the *Codex Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling*. The Committee will also consider the proposal for new work on the amendment of the *Codex General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods*; on a Standard for Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Underweight Infant and Young Children; and the revision of the *Codex Guidelines on Formulated Supplementary Foods for Older Infants and Young Children*.

6. The 41st Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene will consider the following proposed drafts: Guidelines for the Control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* spp. in Chicken Meat; an Annex on Leafy Green Vegetables including Leafy Herbs for inclusion in the Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables; a Code of Hygienic Practice for *Vibrio* spp. in Seafood and an Annex on Control Measures for *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and *Vibrio vulnificus* in Molluscan Shellfish; and a Code of Hygienic Practice for Control of Viruses.

APPENDIX I

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

Part 1 – Standards and Related Texts Adopted at Step 8

Standards and Related Texts	Reference	Status
Regional Standard for Gochujang	ALINORM 09/32/15 Appendix II	Adopted with amendment (see Agenda Item 5)
Regional Standard for Ginseng Products	ALINORM 09/32/15 Appendix III	Adopted with amendment (see Agenda Item 5)
Code of Practice for the Reduction of Acrylamide in Foods	ALINORM 09/32/41 Appendix IV	Adopted
Code of Practice for the Reduction of Contamination of Food with Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) from Smoking and Direct Drying Processes	ALINORM 09/32/41 Appendix V	Adopted
Food Additive Provisions of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)	ALINORM 09/32/12 Appendix IV	Adopted (except erythrosine) (see Agenda Item 5)
Amendment to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oil: Inclusion of Rice Bran Oil	ALINORM 09/32/17 Appendix II	Adopted
Guidelines for Settling Disputes on Analytical (Test) Results	ALINORM 09/32/23 Appendix II	Adopted
Guidelines on Analytical Terminology	ALINORM 09/32/23 Appendix III	Adopted
Table of Conditions for Nutrient Contents (Part B: Provisions on Dietary Fibre) to the <i>Guidelines for Use of Nutrition and Health Claims</i> (CAC/GL 23-1997):	ALINORM 09/32/26 Appendix II	Adopted
Provisions on Gum Arabic (Gum acacia) (Section D: Advisory List of Food Additives for Special Nutrient Forms) to the <i>Advisory Lists of Nutrient Compounds for Use in Foods for Special Dietary Uses Intended for Infants and Young Children</i> (CAC/GL 10-1997)	ALINORM 09/32/26 Appendix III	Adopted (as a carrier) (see Agenda Item 5)
Nutritional Risk Analysis Principles and Guidelines for Application to the Work of the Committee on Nutrition and Foods for the Special Dietary Uses	ALINORM 09/32/26 Appendix IV	Adopted
Standard for Jams, Jellies and Marmalades	ALINORM 09/32/27 Appendix II	Adopted with amendment (see Agenda Item 5)

Standards and Related Texts	Reference	Status
Codex Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables (General Provisions)	ALINORM 09/32/27 Appendix III	Adopted
Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides	ALINORM 09/32/24 Appendix II	Adopted
Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs	ALINORM 09/32/31 Appendices II	Adopted
Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of National Regulatory Food Safety Assurance Programmes Associated with the Use of Veterinary Drugs in Food Producing Animals	ALINORM 09/32/31 Appendix V	Adopted

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

Standards and Related Texts	Reference	Status
Regional Standard for Fermented Soybean Paste	ALINORM 09/32/15 Appendix IV	Adopted with amendment (see Agenda Item 5)
Revision to the Preamble of the GSCTF	ALINORM 09/32/41 Appendix III	Adopted
Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Ochratoxin A Contamination in Coffee	ALINORM 09/32/41 Appendix VI	Adopted
Food Additive Provisions of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)	ALINORM 09/32/12 Appendix IV	Adopted (except erythrosine) (see Agenda Item 5)
Amendments to the International Numbering System for Food Additives	ALINORM 09/32/12 Appendix VII	Adopted
Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives arising from the 69 th JECFA meeting	ALINORM 09/32/12 Appendix VIII	Adopted
Microbiological Criteria for <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> in Ready-to-Eat Foods (Annex II to the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> in Ready-to-Eat Foods (CAC/GL 61-2007)	ALINORM 09/32/13 Appendix II	Adopted with amendment (see Agenda Item 5)

Standards and Related Texts	Reference	Status
Microbiological Criteria for Powdered Follow-up Formulae and Formulae for Special Medical Purposes for Young Children (Annex II to the <i>Code of Hygienic Practice for Powdered Formulae for Infants and Young Children</i> (CAC/RCP 66-2008))	ALINORM 09/32/13 Appendix III	Adopted with amendment (see Agenda Item 5)
Generic Model Official Certificate (Annex to <i>Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic Official Certificate</i> (CAC/GL 38-2001))	ALINORM 09/32/30 Appendix II	Adopted
Recommendations on the Scientific Basis of Health Claims (Annex to the <i>Guidelines for Use of Nutrition and Health Claims</i> - CAC/GL 23-1997)	ALINORM 09/32/26 Appendix V	Adopted
Provisions for packing media for certain canned vegetables: Section 3.1.3 (for inclusion in the Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables)	ALINORM 09/32/27 Appendix IV	Adopted
Annexes specific to certain canned vegetables (for inclusion in the Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables)	ALINORM 09/32/27 Appendix V	Adopted
Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides	ALINORM 09/32/24 Appendix III	Adopted with amendment (see Agenda Item 5)
Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs	ALINORM 09/32/31 Appendix III	Adopted

Part 3 - Standards and Related Texts Adopted at Step 5 of the Accelerated Procedure

Standards and Related Texts	Reference	Status
Amendment to the <i>Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods</i> : Annex 2 (conditions for use of rotenone)	ALINORM 09/32/22 Appendix V	Adopted

Part 4 – Other Standards and Related Texts Submitted for Adoption

Standards and Related Texts	Reference	Status
Amendments to Paragraph 10, Sample Preparation in the Sampling Plans for Aflatoxin Contamination in Ready-to-Eat Treenuts and Treenuts Destined for Further Processing: Almonds, Hazelnuts and Pistachios	ALINORM 09/32/41 Appendix II	Adopted

Standards and Related Texts	Reference	Status
Amendment to the Annex to Table 3 of the GSFA	ALINORM 09/32/12 para. 9	Adopted
Amendment to the Name and Descriptors of Food Categories 01.2.1.1, 15.1 and 15.2 of the GSFA	ALINORM 09/32/12 Appendix IX	Adopted
Amendment to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils: replacement of the section on contaminants with the standard language in the <i>Format for Codex Commodity Standards</i>	ALINORM 09/32/17	Adopted
Additives Provisions in the <i>Standard for Fat Spreads and Blended Spreads</i> and other Standards for Fats and Oils	ALINORM 09/32/17 Appendix VII ALINORM 09/32/12 Appendix III	Adopted
Methods of Analysis in Codex Standards at different steps	ALINORM 09/32/23 Appendix IV	Adopted

APPENDIX II

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

Responsible Body	Standard and Related Texts	Reference	Job Code
CCPR	Priority List of Chemicals scheduled for Evaluation and Re-evaluation by JMPR	Priority List of Chemicals scheduled for Evaluation and Re-evaluation by JMPR	Ongoing
CCRVDF	Priority List of Veterinary Drugs for Evaluation or Reevaluation by JECFA	ALINORM 09/32/31, para. 138 and Appendix VI	Ongoing
CCPFV	Revision of the <i>Standards for Canned Bamboo Shoots</i> (CODEX STAN 241-2003) and <i>Canned Mushrooms</i> (CODEX STAN 55-1981) for inclusion as annexes to the Draft Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables	ALINORM 09/32/27, para. 109	N01-2009
CCPFV	Revision of the Standard for Table Olives (CODEX STAN 66-1981)	ALINORM 09/32/27, para. 109	N02-2009
CCPFV	Revision of the Standard for Grated Desiccated Coconut (CODEX STAN 177-1991)	ALINORM 09/32/27, para. 109	N03-2009
CCLAC	Regional Standard for Culantro Coyote	ALINORM 09/32/36, para. 72	N04-2009
CCLAC	Regional Standard for Lucuma	ALINORM 09/32/36, para. 76	N05-2009
CCFICS	Principles and Guidelines for National Food Control Systems	ALINORM 09/32/30, para. 71 and Appendix III	N06-2009
CCFH	Code of Hygienic Practice for Control of Viruses in Food	ALINORM 09/32/13, para. 138 and Appendix V	N07-2009
CCNEA	Regional Standard for Harissa (hot pepper paste)	ALINORM 09/32/40, para. 41	N08-2009
CCNEA	Regional Standard for Halwa Tehenia (halwa shamia)	ALINORM 09/32/40, para. 44	N09-2009
CCCF	Maximum Levels for Fumonisin in Maize and Maize Products and associated Sampling Plans	ALINORM 09/32/41, para. 100 and Appendix VII	N10-2009
CCCF	Code of Practice for the Reduction of Ethyl Carbamate in Stone Fruit Distillates	ALINORM 09/32/41, para. 114 and Appendix VIII	N11-2009
CCCF	Revision of the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Aflatoxins in Tree Nuts (CAC/RCP 59-2005): Additional Measures for Brazil Nuts	ALINORM 09/32/41, para. 122 and Appendix IX	N12-2009
CCCF	Maximum Levels for Melamine in Foods and Feed	ALINORM 09/32/41, para. 125 and Appendix X	N13-2009