

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 2

CX/MAS 16/37/2  
December 2015

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS SAMPLING

Thirty-seventh<sup>th</sup> Session  
Budapest, Hungary, 22 – 26 February 2016

### MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES

#### A. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 38<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

##### MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

###### *Standards Related Texts Adopted<sup>1</sup>*

1. The Commission **adopted** the methods of analysis and sampling in Codex standards.
2. The Commission **adopted** the *Principles for the Use of Sampling and Testing in International Food Trade – Explanatory notes (Revision of CAC/GL 83-2013)* with amendments to remove footnote 2 as recommended by CCEXEC70.

###### *Methods for determination of marine biotoxins<sup>2</sup>*

3. The Commission **adopted** the methods contained in section I-8.6.2 Biological and functional methods to determine paralytic shellfish toxicity in the *Standard for Live and Raw Bivalve Molluscs* as endorsed and amended by CCMAS.
4. The Commission further encouraged CCMAS to complete with urgency the work on development of criteria for biological methods and the development of a preamble to CODEX STAN 234 that would assist in clarifying the use of Type IV methods for the purposes of control, inspection and regulation as expressed in the report of CCMAS (REP15/MAS, paragraph 56).
5. The Committee **is invited to note** the above information from the Commission.

##### MATTERS FOR ACTION

###### *Conversion factor<sup>3</sup>*

6. The Commission asked CCMAS to assess the appropriateness of the use of the conversion factor of 5.71 to determine protein content in soybean products in general (while recognising 5.71 had been endorsed by CCMAS34 for the determination of protein content in the Regional Standard for Tempe, as proposed by CCASIA).
7. The Committee **is invited to consider** the request from the Commission.

<sup>1</sup> REP15/CAC, Appendix III

<sup>2</sup> REP15/CAC, para 128

<sup>3</sup> REP15/CAC, para 20

## B. OTHER MATTERS

### MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

#### COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES (CCGP29)

##### *Principles for the Use of Sampling and Testing in International Food Trade – practical examples<sup>4</sup>*

8. CCGP29 noted that this matter had been referred to the FAO and WHO Legal offices.

##### *Review and Update of Methods in Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling<sup>5</sup>*

9. CCGP29 agreed to reply to CCMAS that the amendment to the Procedural Manual to indicate a single reference for methods of analysis was possible but that CCMAS should prepare the proposed amendments for endorsement after completion of the work on the revision of CODEX STAN 234-1999.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CCEXEC70)<sup>6</sup>

##### *Principles for the Use of Sampling and Testing in International Food Trade – Explanatory notes*

8. CCEXEC70 recommended to the Commission the removal of the footnote 2 (reference to a CCMAS Information Document on practical examples on the selection of appropriate sampling (under development)). CCMAS had requested advice from CCGP on whether there would be legal implications in having such a reference. CCGP in turn had referred this matter to the legal offices of WHO and FAO. The legal advice from FAO and WHO was that it was not appropriate to reference Information Documents; as such texts were not adopted texts of Codex.

9. The legal office also clarified that this advice was not restricted to the work currently under discussion, but also extended to referencing Information Documents in other Codex texts and that the development of Information Documents should be in line with the Guidance on Information Documents as developed by the CCGP. The Representative of WHO legal office further clarified that any information essential to a standard or other Codex text should rather be integrated into such text than contained in an information document.

10. The Committee **is invited to note** the above information.

#### COMMITTEE ON FISH AND FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS (CCFFP34)<sup>7</sup>

##### *Sampling plans in standards for fish and fishery products*

11. The Committee agreed to include in relevant standards for fish and fishery products the sampling plans as proposed by CCMAS35, except for the sampling plans for parasites, which were not considered appropriate with respect to the acceptance number and acceptable quality limit (AQL), as per table 10 of the *General Guidance on Sampling* (CAC/GL 50-2003).

12. The Committee **is invited to note** the above information.

### MATTERS FOR ACTION

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CCEXEC70)<sup>8</sup>

##### *Work Management*

13. CCEXEC70 requested all Committees to consider the need to develop an approach for the management of their work similar to that used by CCFH (while recognizing the differences in topics, working procedures, etc. among various committees).

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<sup>4</sup> REP15/GP, para 28

<sup>5</sup> REP15/GP, para 29

<sup>6</sup> REP15/EXEC, paras 8-10

<sup>7</sup> REP16/FFP, paras 8-9

<sup>8</sup> REP15/EXEC, para 22

14. The Committee **is invited to consider** the request from CCEXEC.

#### **COMMITTEE ON FISH AND FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS (CCFFP34)<sup>9</sup>**

##### ***Sampling plans in standards for fish and fishery products***

15. The Committee noted that CAC/GL 50-2003 was difficult to understand and use, and proposed that CCMAS consider improving the user-friendliness of the Guideline.

16. The Committee **is invited to consider** the request from CCFFP.

#### **COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES (CCNFSDU37)**

##### ***Examination of “ELISA G12” as a potential additional method for inclusion in Standard for Foods for Special Dietary Use for Persons Intolerant to Gluten (CODEX STAN 118-1979)<sup>10</sup>***

17. The Committee noted the reply from CCMAS in particular with respect to validation of the R5 and G12 methods, based on the two matrices, maize and rice, but questioned: which method to adopt for mixed matrices; the comparability of the two methods (if different results emerge) and the implications for “gluten-free” labelling.

18. The Committee decided to seek further clarification from CCMAS with the following request as outlined below.

- Taking into account that the thresholds in CODEX STAN 118-1979 were established on the basis of the results given by the ELISA R5 Method, can CCMAS confirm that the results of the two methods (R5 and G12) are fully comparable for all products covered by the standard, in particular:
  - products manufactured from ingredients naturally free of gluten (e.g. buckwheat, millet, amaranth, quinoa, etc.);
  - products manufactured from gluten-containing ingredients (e.g. partially hydrolysed wheat protein, wheat starch, malt extract, glucose syrups, etc.);
  - products based on oats; and
  - liquid matrices.

##### ***Review of the Standard for Follow-Up Formula (CODEX STAN 156-1987)<sup>11</sup>***

###### ***Essential Composition and Quality Factors (for older infants 6-12 months) (Section 3)***

19. The Committee agreed to request CCMAS to provide advice on the accuracy and appropriateness of 5.71 as the nitrogen factor for soy protein isolates used in formula for infants and young children and to take into account the amino acid profile of the isolate.

20. The Committee **is invited to consider** the requests from CCNFSDU.

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<sup>9</sup> REP16/FFP, paras 8-9

<sup>10</sup> REP16/NFSDU, paras 10

<sup>11</sup> REP16/NFSDU, paras 57