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CODEX SESSIONS DURING THE PERIOD

CCFA 49 Macao SAR, CHINA – 20th to 24th March, 2017

The Committee forwarded for adoption to the CAC40, various revised food additives provisions of the GSFA related to the alignment of the standards for frozen fish products and that of certain Commodity Standards pertaining to Processed Fruits and vegetables and certain Draft and Proposed draft food additive provisions of the General Standard for Food Additives.

Provisions for gold (INS 175) and silver (INS 174) have been included in the Priority List for JECFA evaluation. The Committee will continue work on Alignment of the food additive provisions of commodity standards and relevant provisions of the GSFA; revised approach to listing commodity standards in Table 3 of the GSFA and guidance for commodity committees on the alignment; Food additive provisions of the GSFA, Revision of the Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives through respective electronic working groups formed during the Committee meeting.

Discussion on the use of nitrates (INS 251, 252) and nitrites (INS 249, 250), on the use of the terms “unprocessed” and “plain” in the GSFA, and future strategies of GSFA will take place in the next session of CCFA.



Indian delegation at CCFA49

CCCF 11 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – 03rd to 07th April, 2017

The Committee agreed to forward to the CAC40 for adoption, various MLs for lead and arsenic in fish oils, Proposed draft and draft MLs for lead in selected processed fruits and vegetables, Proposed draft COP for the prevention and reduction of arsenic contamination in rice, revised annex on ergot and ergot alkaloids in cereal grains in the Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in cereals and Proposed draft COP for the prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in spices.

The Committee agreed to start new work on MLs for mycotoxins in spices (proposed by India), MLs for methylmercury in fish, Revision of the Code of Practice for the prevention and reduction of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in Food and Feed, Code of practice for the reduction of 3-MCPD and glycidyl esters in refined oils and products made with refined oils and Guidelines (best practice) for risk analysis of chemicals inadvertently present in food at low levels.

The Committee will continue work on establishing MLs for total Aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts, MLs for lead in selected commodities in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed, MLs for cadmium in chocolate and cocoa-derived products, through respective electronic working groups formed during the Committee meeting.

Discussion on Structured approach to prioritize commodities not in the GSCTFF for which new MLs for lead could be established, Aflatoxins and sterigmatocystin in cereals, Development of a Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cocoa will take place in the next session of CCFA.



Indian Delegation at CCCF11

CCPR 49 Beijing, China, 24th to 29th April, 2017

The Committee agreed to forward to the CAC40 for adoption various proposed draft and draft MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity (ies), Proposed draft and draft revision of the Classification of Food and Feed: Vegetable Commodity Groups, Proposed draft Table 2 on examples of representative commodities for vegetable commodity groups (for inclusion in the Principles and Guidance for the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of MRLs for Pesticides to Commodity Groups), revised draft guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed & Maximum Residue Limits of Pesticides on various spices.

The Committee will continue work on Proposed draft revision of the Classification of Food and Feed: Seeds for Beverages and Sweets, Proposed draft tables on examples of representative commodities (including seeds for beverages and sweets).

The Committee will start work on Information on national registration of pesticides Establishment of a Codex database of national registration of pesticides, Review of the IESTI equations (possible revision of the IESTI equations),



Indian delegation at CCPR49

CCFICS 23 Mexico city, Mexico 01st to 05th May 2017

The Committee agreed to forward to the CAC40 for adoption Draft Principles and guidelines for monitoring the performance of national food control systems,

The Committee approved to start new work on developing guidelines on the use of systems equivalence, the revision of the Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and use of Generic Official Certificates (CAC/GL 38-2001) to include guidance on paperless electronic certification and developing guidelines on regulatory approaches to third-party assurance schemes in food safety and fair practices in the food trade.

The Committee will discuss on the need of work on food integrity and food authenticity, framework for the preliminary assessment and identification of priority areas for CCFICS.



Indian delegation at CCFICS23

4TH REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Jointly organized by Tea Board, Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Food Safety & Standards Authority of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India.

Key stakeholders in the workshop were Tea Board of India, Tea Research Association, Upasi Tea Research Foundation, Industry Representatives in the Region, Tea Planters, Growers Association, Small Growers, Dibrugarh University Professionals, State Food Safety Staff (FSSAI).

The Workshop included technical sessions on: Harmonization of national standards with international regulatory bodies, Pesticide residue, Heavy metal and Iron filing in tea, Food safety and quality – compliance of FSSAI parameters, Fixation of MRL at national and international regulatory bodies, Structure of Codex, Composition and working of Shadow Committees, National Codex Contact Point and Formulation of National response/Country comments in Codex related matters, Safe & Nutritious Food -A Shared Responsibility.



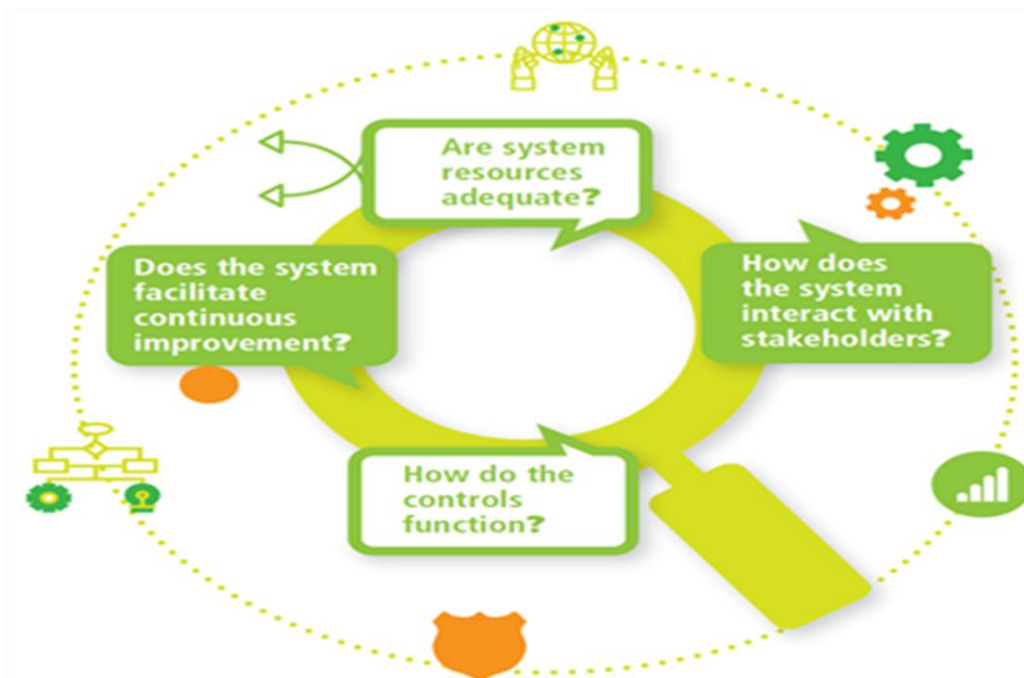
FAO Conference adopts draft resolution for a World Food Safety Day

The 40th session of FAO Conference adopted a draft resolution, to be transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider, at its next session, declaring June 7th as World Food Safety Day.

FAO/WHO Food Control System Assessment Tool

FAO developed the Food Control Assessment Tool to support plans for developing national capacities for food control that can be monitored (See figure below). The assessment is based on relevant Codex provisions and internationally recognized good practices, and structured around four dimensions of the food-control system: inputs and resources; control functions; interactions with stakeholders; and continuous improvement. Using the Assessment Tool also facilitates improved accountability in the area of capacity development, accountability within government services, between technical-assistance providers and beneficiary governments, and between donors and implementers. It also facilitates greater coherency in capacity development even when several different players are involved, by enabling complementarity between different interventions.

The tool is to be launched publicly soon, as its second pilot version has been successfully implemented.



THE FAO/WHO CODEX TRUST FUND

The participation of both low- and high-income countries from various regions allows Codex to develop globally relevant standards. The Codex Trust Fund was developed by FAO/WHO, intended to enhance participation of countries in the Codex work. While participation had grown over the years it was still insufficient at the start of the century. The first FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund (CTF) was in operation from 2004-2015 and acted as a catalyst to expose developing and transition economy countries to Codex and help them understand the importance of Codex for their country.

The three objectives of the fund were: widening participation; strengthening participation and enhancing scientific and technical participation of developing countries in Codex. The CTF was very successful at fulfilling its primary mandate, supporting participants from 140 countries. It addressed a real need of developing countries and countries in transition, and was an explicit area of focus for many donors. The CTF also supported participants from 142 countries at 41 CTF capacity building events as part of the second objective, "strengthening participation". Work on the third objective of CTF only began in 2012 with a project called Mycotoxin in Sorghum and the shift in focus from participation in Codex to developing national capacity is highlighted by the FAO/WHO project on food consumption data.

This initiative began with CTF and continues with the new Codex Trust Fund or CTF2 (2016). CTF2 responds to the growing need to build capacity of developing countries in their capital, to read and analyse hundreds of Codex working documents circulated each year, prioritise the technical areas the country wishes to focus on, and develop national positions or collect scientific data that will support such positions. CTF2 was officially launched in July 2016 at the 39th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. It will run for 12 years and support over 100 eligible countries to build strong, solid and sustainable national capacity to engage in the international food standard-setting work of Codex.



The 1st round of applications to the CTF2 identified four countries to be supported for three years: Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar and Senegal.

The activities started and continue in Ghana and Senegal and got underway in Madagascar in the first half of 2017. The summary project document for kyrgyzstan was signed in June 2017 for activities to be implemented as of July.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ 73rd Session of Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC) - 10th to 13th July, 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ 40th Session of Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) - 17th to 22nd July, 2017, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ 74th Session of Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC) - 26th to 28th September, 2017 in Rome, Italy.

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