



GLOBAL FOOD REGULATORY
SCIENCE SOCIETY



Arab
CODEX

Outputs of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL47)

June 11, 2023

Background

Codex Committee on Food Label (CCFL)

- ❑ Date: 15-19 May 2023
- ❑ Session: 47
- ❑ Location: Gatineau / Ottawa, Canada
- ❑ Participation:
 - *Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia*

Key Outputs of Committee Discussions

Items Recommended for Adoption at Step 5/8 or Step 8

- ❑ Proposed draft Guidance on the Provision of Food Information for Pre-Packaged Foods to be Offered via **E-Commerce**: Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-Packaged Foods (Supplementary Text)
 - Forward to CAC46 for adoption at Step 5
 - Re-establish the EWG (UK, Chile, Japan, India, China) to further develop the Guidelines considering discussions at CCFL47, for circulation for comments at Step 6 and consideration by CCFL48

Key Outputs of Committee Discussions

Items Recommended for Adoption at Step 5/8 or Step 8

- ❑ Proposed draft Guidelines on the Use of **Technology to Provide Food Information**
 - Forward to CAC46 for adoption at Step 5
 - Re-establish the EWG (Canada, India, New Zealand) to further develop the Guidelines considering discussions at CCFL47, for circulation for comments at Step 6 and consideration by CCFL48. Whole document remains open.

Key Outputs of Committee Discussions

Standards Recommended for Adoption as Draft Standards at Step 5

- Consideration of labelling provisions in draft Codex standards (endorsement)
 - Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV): endorsed provisions in standard for **onions and shallots**, draft standard for **fresh dates**, standard for **berry fruits**. Concerns raised with respect to the use of the name “wild”
 - Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH): endorsed provisions on standard for dried or **dehydrated garlic**, standard for **dried chilli peppers and paprika**, standard for **dried small dried cardamom**, draft standard for **spices in the form of dried fruits and berries**
 - Standard for **dried floral plants (saffron)**: endorse all provisions except the country of origin and country of harvest
 - FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA): endorsed provisions in draft Regional standard for **soybean products fermented** with *Bacillus* species, draft Regional standard for cooked **rice wrapped in plant leaves**

Key Outputs of Committee Discussions

Standards Recommended for Adoption at Step 5

□ Proposed draft revision to the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-Packaged Foods – Provisions relevant to **allergen labelling**

- Forward for adoption at Step 5
- Re-establish EWG (Australia, UK, USA) to further develop the revision considering the discussions at CCFL47, for circulation at Step 6 and for consideration by CCFL48
- Particular attention to:
 - **Definition of food allergens** (*“Food allergen” means a food or ingredient [or substance or processing aid] used in food, usually a protein or protein derivative that can elicit IgE-mediated or other specific immune-mediated reactions in susceptible individuals”*)
 - **Lists of allergens** (wheat, rye, barley, crustacea, egg, fish, peanut, milk, sesame, almond, cashew, hazelnut, pecan, pistachio, walnut)

Key Outputs of Committee Discussions

Items Under Further Consideration for Drafting

- Proposed draft Annex to the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-Packaged Foods: Guidelines on the **Use of Precautionary Allergen Labelling**
 - Return to Step 2 for further drafting
 - Re-establish EWG (Australia, UK, USA) to continue drafting the guidelines considering comments submitted at CCFL47 for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration by CCFL48
 - Request CCMAS to recommend analytical methods and guidance on their validation and applications including sampling plans
 - **Comments:** should trigger mandatory labelling provision, consider consumers with coeliac disease?, quantitative risk assessment should not be the only decisive factor, reconsider ED05 as RfD, guidance on how action levels should be calculated, guidance on how to conduct and interpret quantitative risk assessment, how these practices would be applied under Good Hygiene Practices

Other Items Discussed by the Committee

Discussion Paper Review and Conclusions

Discussion Paper on the Labelling of Alcoholic Beverages

- *Not prepared for CCF47. No offers to take the lead on potential new work*
- *Retain item on agenda*

Discussion Paper on Food Labelling Exemptions in Emergencies

- *Varied opinions*
- *Establish an EWG (USA) to develop updated discussion paper and a project document. Consider definitions for “emergency” and “flexibility”*

Discussion Paper on Trans Fatty Acids

- *Defer discussions to next session*
- *Canada will prepare a discussion paper outlining possible new work for consideration by CCFL48*

Discussion Paper on Sustainability Labelling Claims

- *Varied opinions*
- *Establish an EWG (New Zealand, EU, USA, Costa Rica)*
- *Consider work by other international organizations, identify areas where CCFL could provide guidance, identify possible revisions to the General Guidelines on Claims (CXG 1-1979) for claims in general and sustainability-related claims on food*

Other Items Discussed by the Committee

New Work

❑ *Discussion Paper on the Labelling of Foods in **Joint Presentation and Multipack Formats***

- *Establish EWG (Colombia, Jamaica) to prepare a proposed draft text for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration by CCFL48*

❑ *Costa Rica to prepare a discussion paper on the definition for added sugars*

