

## Report of the 21st meeting of the Arab Codex Contact Points

As part of the implementation of recommendation (4) of the 20th meeting report of the Arab Codex Contact Points, held virtually on Monday January 15, 2024, which states:

**“The 21st meeting of the Arab Codex Contact Points will be held at a date to be determined later in coordination with GFORSS.”**

This coordination meeting was held virtually on Monday 05 February 2024 to prepare for the twenty-eighth session of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO28), with participation of representatives of the following Arab countries:

1. Jordan
2. United Arab Emirates
3. Bahrain
4. Tunisia
5. Sudan
6. Syria
7. Iraq
8. Oman
9. Palestine
10. Kuwait
11. Lebanon
12. Libya
13. Egypt
14. Morocco
15. Yemen

As well as AIDSMO, GFORSS and GSO representatives.

The meeting started with a speech from the AIDSMO representative & the Arab Codex Initiative coordinator. He welcomed everyone and reminded them about the recommendation from the last meeting. It was suggested that Arab countries prepare presentations analyzing the agenda items for Codex technical committee meetings. A table was shown listing these committees, and Arab countries were asked to pick which ones they wanted to prepare presentations for during coordination meetings, the initiative coordinator indicated that during this meeting, the agenda items of the 28th meeting of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO28), (Malaysia during February

19-23, 2024), will be presented and analyzed by both Engineer Nesma Shannak and Engineer Sharif Al-Mhirat Representatives of the Jordan.

The meeting agenda items were approved as follows:

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Subject</b>
<b>Item 1</b>	<b>Opening Remarks and adoption of Agenda:</b> Arab Codex Initiative Coordinator
<b>Item 2</b>	<b>Review and analysis of agenda items of Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO28)</b> Presented by the representative of Jordan
<b>Item 3</b>	<b>Updates of the Arab Codex Initiative</b>

**Item 2: Review and analysis of agenda items of Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO28)**

Representatives of Jordan, Engineer Nesmak Shannak and Engineer Sharif Al-Mhirat presented an analytical presentation of the following items included in the meeting's agenda (28) of the Fats and Oils Committee, in addition to the comments of Jordan.

**Agenda Item 2:** Matters referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its Subsidiary Bodies

**Agenda Item 3:** Consideration of the recommendations of the Reports of the 90th and 91st Meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

**Agenda Item 4.4:** Proposed draft amendment/revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999): Inclusion of high oleic acid soya bean oil.

**Agenda Item 5:** Proposed draft revision to the Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils (CXS 33-1981): Revision of Sections 3, 8 and Appendix

**Agenda Item 6:** Proposed draft amendment/revision of the Standard for Fish Oils (CXS 329-2017): Inclusion of Calanus oil.

**Agenda Item 7:** Review of the List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes (Appendix II to CXC 36-1987)

**Agenda Item 8.1:** Discussion paper on possible work that CCFO could undertake to reduce TFAs or eliminate PHOs.

**Agenda Item 8.2:** Consideration of the proposals for NEW WORK (replies to CL 2021/96-FO)

This item included a group of interventions, including the intervention of representatives of each of the following countries: United Arab Emirates, Syria, Oman, in addition to the intervention of engineer Narges Mhajbi, representative of Tunisia, in which she addressed what was discussed during the last meeting of the International Oil Council (February 1, 2024), especially the topic of the maximum of oleic acid and linoleic acid in olive oil.

### **Item 3: Updates of the Arab Codex Initiative**

This item was introduced by Professor Samuel Godefroy/ COO of GFoRSS, who noted that a paper will be circulated by the Arab Codex Initiative with the Arab CCPs, regarding expressions of interest in contributing to co-hosting of some Codex meetings. This comes with the aim of bringing some of the Codex meetings that are difficult to attend to the Arab region closer together. He also pointed to the future activities of the Arab Codex Initiative, including the Third Arab Codex Colloquium, which is scheduled to be held during the period 10-12 June 2024.

Lastly, the following conclusions and recommendations were adopted:

1. Inclusion of all documents and presentations presented during the meeting in the interactive platform of the Arab Codex Initiative ([www.Arabcodex.com](http://www.Arabcodex.com)).
2. Thanking the representatives of Jordan Eng.Nessma Shannak and Eng.Sharif Al-mhirat as well the GFoRSS Expert Dr. Elie Bouyazbeck for preparing and presenting the CCFO28 agenda items.
3. Preparation of a table of key considerations for a committee agenda item CCFO28 on olive oil and share it with contact points, to express opinions with the aim of unifying positions.
4. Circulation of a paper by the Arab Codex Initiative with the Arab CCPs, regarding expressions of interest in contributing to Co-hosting of some Codex meetings.
5. The twenty-second meeting of Arab CCPs will be held at a date to be determined later in coordination with GFoRSS.