

## 24th Meeting of the Codex Contact Points in the Arab Region

**ANALYSIS OF AGENDA ITEMS IN PREPARATION FOR THE 54th  
SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES  
(CCFA54)**

*April 18, 2024*

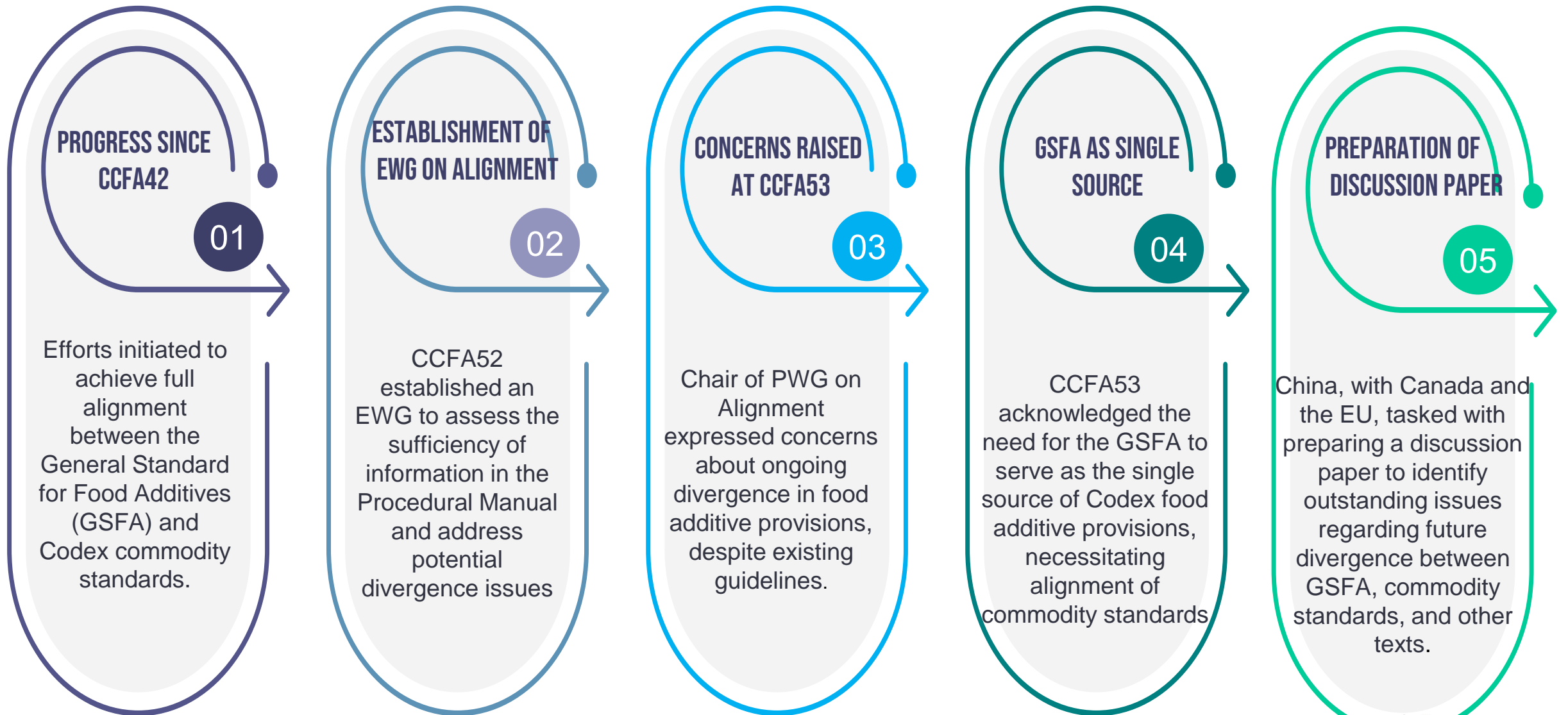
# 8

## AGENDA ITEM 8 : DISCUSSION PAPER ON DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE GENERAL STANDARD FOR FOOD ADDITIVES (GSFA), CODEX COMMODITY STANDARDS AND OTHER TEXTS – IDENTIFICATION OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES

Documents CX/FA 24/54/11



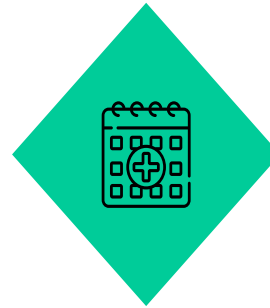
# Background : Agenda Item 8



# Analysis of Alignment Efforts

## Analysis Conducted by China, Canada, and EU

Collaborative examination of current procedures and documents.



## Focus on Specific PM Paragraphs and Guidelines

Detailed scrutiny of paragraphs 59-65 of the Procedural Manual and related guidelines.



## Categorization of Commodity Standards

Identification of different types of commodity standards: New, Aligned, and Requiring alignment.



## Potential Divergence in GSFA Updates

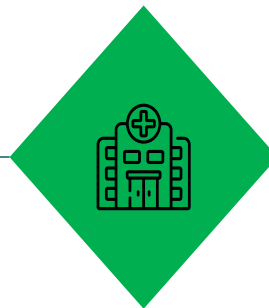
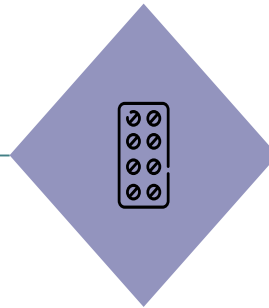
Highlighted risk of divergence if GSFA updates are not cross-checked with commodity standards.

## Procedures for Endorsement and Alignment

Recognition of separate procedures for endorsement and alignment, with acknowledgment of simultaneous endorsement and alignment.

## Examination of PM Paragraphs

Analysis of specific PM paragraphs, including recognition of GSFA, identification of potential sources of divergence, and alignment principle.



# Outstanding Alignment Issues and Recommendations for Resolution

Food additive provisions beyond general reference to GSFA not aligned with Alignment principles

Include explicit statement declaring GSFA as single reference point for food additives

Inconsistent Provision in Commodity Standards

Update Procedural Manual

Harmonize Food Additive Provisions

Ensure consistency with Alignment principles

ISSUES/SOLUTIONS

Enhance Future Endorsement Procedures

Insufficient Procedures for Future Endorsement

Lack of Clarification in Procedural Manual

Missing statement declaring GSFA as the single reference point for food additives

Current Alignment WG work plan may lack sufficient guidance for preventing new divergences post-completion

Develop comprehensive procedures to prevent introduction of new divergences

# Options to Prevent Future Divergence

## OPTION 1.

### MINIMAL AMENDMENT TO PROCEDURAL MANUAL

- Maintain current state of Procedural Manual.
- Amendments required post-completion of Alignment WG work plan.

## OPTION 2.

### MINOR AMENDMENTS TO PROCEDURAL MANUAL

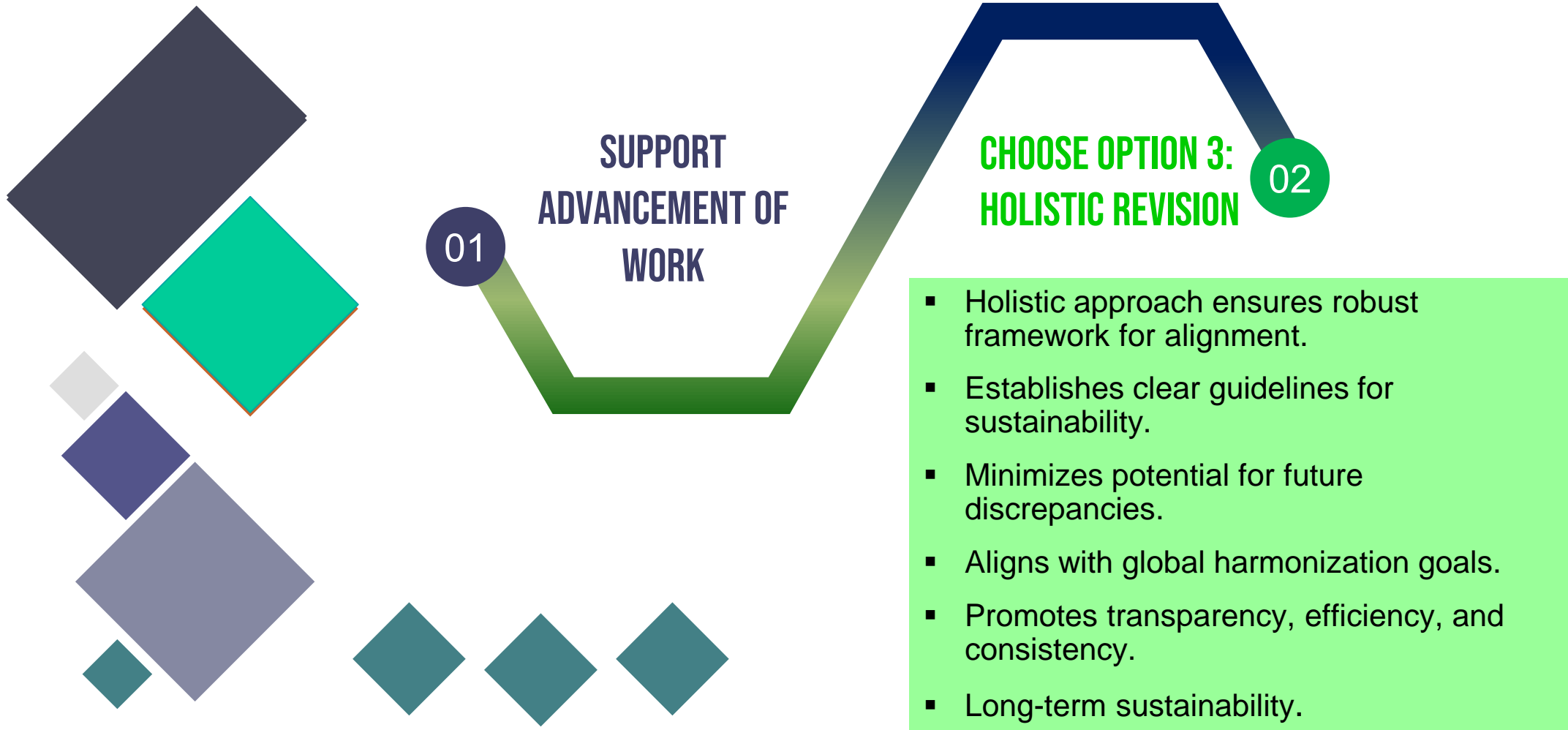
- Strengthen reference to GSFA as single reference point.
- Remove paragraph 60.
- Add reference to guidelines on future divergence.

## OPTION 3.

### HOLISTIC REVISION OF PROCEDURAL MANUAL

- Clearly state GSFA as single reference point.
- Limit commodity standards to general GSFA reference only.
- Endorse general GSFA reference in commodity standards simultaneously.
- Propose changes if GSFA reference deemed inadequate.

# Conclusion and Recommendations







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