

THE THIRD ARAB CODEX COLLOQUIUM

11-13 June 2024, Amman, Jordan

Review of Outputs of Key Codex Committees (2024)

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH7)

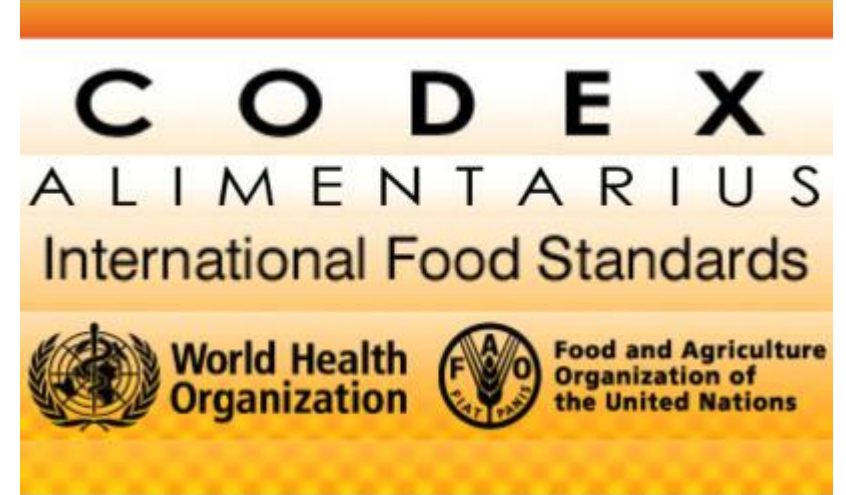
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June 11, 2024

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BACKGROUND

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH7)

Date : 29 January - 2 February 2024

Session: 7

Location: Kochi, Kerala, India



Arab Countries Representatives

Egypt : (2)

MOROCCO : (2)

SAUDI ARABIA : (2)



Coordination Between Delegations of Countries Before the Meeting

□ Joint CCAFRICA/CCLAC/CCNE/US Codex Colloquium on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH7)



SUMMARY AND STATUS OF WORK



*MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY
BODIES*



Text/Topic	CCSCH7 Decision
<p>Draft standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries – small cardamom (India chair of EWG , co-Chair Guatemala and Iran Islamic republic) 2021</p>	<p>CCSCH7 noted that all outstanding issues had been addressed and agreed to forward the draft standard to CAC47 for final adoption at Step 8 and updated methods of analysis together with the answers to CCMAS</p>
<p>Draft standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries – allspice, juniper berry and star anise (United States of America, Chair of the EWG, co-Chairs Madagascar, Mexico and India), 2021</p>	<p>CCSCH7 noted that all outstanding issues had been addressed and agreed to forward the draft standard to CAC47 for final adoption at Step 8 and updated methods of analysis together with the answers to CCMAS</p>
<p>Draft standard for dried or dehydrated roots, rhizomes and bulbs – turmeric Iran , Chair of EWG , IWG and the co-Chair India, 2021</p>	<p>CCSCH7 agreed to forward the proposed draft standard for dried or dehydrated roots, rhizomes and bulbs - turmeric to CAC47 for adoption at Step 5/8 and forward the provisions for food additives, labelling, and methods of analysis to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS, respectively.</p>

Text/Topic	CCSCH7 Decision
<p>Draft standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries – vanilla</p> <p>The United States of America, Chair of both the EWG and IWG, the co-Chairs Madagascar, Mexico and India 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The Chairperson summarized the unresolved issues including: the alternate term for vanilla-caviar; provisions for food additives; labelling requirements for country of harvest; and which option to be used for the table on chemical characteristics. It was further noted that most of the outstanding issues had been resolved. ✓ CCSCH7 agreed forward the proposed draft standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries - vanilla to CAC47 for adoption at Step 5 and establish an EWG, chaired by the United States for America and co-chaired by Madagascar, Mexico and India, to consider the outstanding items in square brackets, taking into account the comments submitted at Step 6 as well as discussions in CCSCCH7. ✓ In view of the complexity of this topic, CCSCCH7 acknowledged the possibility of organizing a virtual working group meeting prior to CCSCCH8 to facilitate extensive communication on the outstanding issues.

THE PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK



Background

As requested by CCSCHEG, a circular letter (CL) (CL 2023/01-SCH) seeking proposals for new work had been distributed in January 2023 with a deadline of 3 September 2023.



Text/Topic	CCSCH7 Decision
Development of a standard for sweet marjoram	CCSCH7 agreed to establish EWG, chaired by Egypt
Development of a standard for dried seeds – coriander	CCSCH7 agreed to establish EWG, chaired by India and co-chaired by Iran
Development of a standard for large cardamom	CCSCH7 agreed to establish EWG, chaired by Bhutan and co-chaired by Nepal and India
Development of a standard for cinnamon	CCSCH7 agreed to establish EWG, chaired by Brazil and co-chaired by Indonesia, Iran, and Mexico.

Relevant Sections



Responsible party	Text/Topic	Purpose
CCFL/CCMAS	Labelling provisions for country of origin and country of harvest in the standard for dried floral parts – saffron	Endorsement/ Information
	Methods of analysis in different SCH standards	
	Draft standard for spices in the form of dried or dehydrated fruits and berries – small cardamom	
	Draft standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries – allspice, juniper berry and star anise	
	Draft standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries – vanilla	
	Draft standard for dried or dehydrated roots, rhizomes and bulbs - turmeric	

UPDATE TO THE TEMPLATE FOR THE SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS (SCH) STANDARDS



Background

The chair of this work, the United States of America, explained that efforts had been initiated to update the template before the session commenced. However, due to a significant number of CRDs on this subject arriving late, the task could not be completed prior to discussions on this agenda item. However, after analyzing the comments received, it was recognized that inclusion of individual SCH names could be introduced in various sections (e.g., Sections 2.1.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.4, 4, and 8.1.1), parameters contained in Table 1: Chemical characteristics for {SCH group name} could be adjusted, and the parameters in Table 2: Physical characteristics for {SCH group name} could be presented either horizontally or vertically .

Conclusion

□ CCSC7 agreed to:

- i. Encourage active participation of Members and Observers in all discussions of the template for SCH standards and urged timely provision of comments; and
- ii. Publish the updated template prepared by the United States for America as a CRD and deferred its consideration to CCSC8.





Recommendations

- ✓ Encouraging all Arab region countries to participate in EWGs that related to their interested issues.
- ✓ Encourage active participation of Arab Region countries in all discussions of the template for SCH standards and urged timely provision of comments.



Recommendations

For coordination between the Arab countries :

1- Holding virtual meeting to discuss the Arab countries positions on any Circular Letter (CL) before deadline of reply on CL, in order to give the countries an opportunity to review the national position before the meeting through the competent authorities.

2- Holding coordination meetings between the countries of the region or other countries of the another region, in sufficient time before the meeting of the International Committee, in order to give the opportunity to review the national position within each country through the competent authorities.

