

# 38<sup>th</sup> Joint Arab Codex Contact Points and CCNE Coordination Meeting

## PREPERATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

**14/07/2025 - 18/07/2025 | Rome, Italy**

**(CCEXEC88)**

***Presenter Name: Dr. Hadi Elalem***

***Country: Libya***

***July 09, 2025***





Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

**CODEX**  
**ALIMENTARIUS**  
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS



**14-18 July 2025**

FAO Headquarters, German room  
(C-building, 2nd floor)  
All time CEST (GMT +2)



Languages:

Arabic, Chinese, English, French and  
Spanish

# Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

**Tentative programme**

**CCEXEC88**





## Agenda Item 2.2

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS  
COMMISSION EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION  
FAO HEADQUARTERS

*CRITICAL REVIEW – PART II*



SESSION: 88TH CCEXEC  
JULY 2025, ROME



# Statement of Purpose

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**This analysis** examines the content and critical implications of the Critical Review – Part II (CX/EXEC 25/88/2 Add.1)



It Reports on the outcomes of the:

- ✓ 55th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA55)
- ✓ 11th Session of the Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL11).

**The goal** is to identify key achievements, assess procedural strengths and weaknesses, and provide a critical opinion on areas requiring strategic attention or improvement.

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Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)			
Committee			
Host	China	Chairperson	Dr. Yongxiang FAN
Co-host	Republic of Korea	Co-chairperson	Ms. Hae-Jung Yoon
Session reported on	CCFA55	24-28 March 2025	
Next Session	CCFA56	13-17 April 2026	
Report	<a href="#">REP25/FA</a>		

## Overview and Participation



- Held physically in China and co-hosted with the Republic of Korea.
- The session was marked by extensive participation, with 46 Member countries, 24 Observer organizations, and one Member Organization.
- This wide engagement reinforced Codex's global representation in food additive standard-setting.



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## Key Achievements



- **Massive Progress** on the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) :
  - ✓ Over 500 food additive provisions submitted to CAC48 for adoption.
  - ✓ Reinforced GSFA (CXS 192-1995) as the single reference for Codex additive provisions.
- **Improved Alignment:**
  - ✓ Revised additive provisions aligned with:
    - 5 CCASIA, 3 CCNE, 8 CCSCH, 1 CCFO, 1 CCCPL standards.
    - Other Codex commodity standards (e.g. rice, pickled cucumbers, jams).



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## Key Achievements



### ➤ Drafted and Revised Key Documents:

- ✓ Class names & INS (CXG 36-1989) revised.
- ✓ Specifications for identity & purity (CXA 6-2024).
- ✓ Amendment to food-grade salt standard (CXS 150-1985).
- ✓ Revoked or discontinued outdated provisions in GSFA



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## Strategic and Forward-Looking Work



### ➤ Working Practices for Additive Alignment:

- ✓ Agreed on two structured pathways for harmonizing additive provisions.
- ✓ Will develop templates and engagement plans to assist commodity committees.

### ➤ Emerging Technologies & Future Work:

- ✓ New work proposal initiated on food safety assessment of cell culture media components for cell-based foods.
- ✓ A discussion paper on CCFA's future work strategy to be prepared for CCFA56.



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## Strategic and Forward-Looking Work

### ➤ Priority List for JECFA:

- ✓ Updated list of substances forwarded for JECFA evaluation.
- ✓ Emphasized need for enhanced resources to meet workload.

### ➤ Ongoing Drafts:

- ✓ Standard for baker's yeast returned to Step 2 for redrafting due to technical gaps.
- ✓ New GSFA additive provisions introduced (Step 2).





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## 3. Status of work items

Topic	Recommendation of CCFA55
<b>For decision by the Commission</b>	
1. Draft Specifications for the identity and purity of food additives for inclusion in the <i>List of Codex specifications for food additives</i> (CXA 6-2024)	Adoption at Step 5/8
2. Draft food-additive provisions of the <i>General standard for food additives</i> (GSFA, CXS 192-1995) and revisions to adopted provisions	Adoption
3. Draft revision of the <i>Class names and the International Numbering System for food additives</i> (CXG 36-1989)	Adoption at Step 5/8
4. Revised food additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the alignment of five CCASIA standards; three CCNE standards; eight CCSCH standards; one CCFO standard; and one CCCPL standard.	Adoption
5. The revision to the reference to commodity standards for the GSFA Table 3 additives for food category 12.2.1 "Herbs and spices (ONLY SPICES)"	Adoption
6. Revised food additive sections of three CCASIA standards, three CCNE standards, eight CCSCH standards, and the <i>Standard for rice</i> (CXS 198-1995)	Adoption
7. Revised food additives provisions in the <i>Standard for pickled cucumbers (Cucumber Pickles)</i> (CXS 115-1981), <i>Standard for canned stone fruits</i> (CXS 242-2003); and <i>Standard for jams, jellies and marmalades</i> (CXS 296-2009)	Adoption
8. Amendment to the <i>Standard for food grade salt</i> (CXS 150-1985)	Adoption
9. Specified food additive provisions of the <i>GSFA</i> (CXS 192-1995)	Revocation
10. Specified draft food additive provisions of the <i>GSFA</i> (CXS 192-1995)	Discontinuation
11. Priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA	Endorsement





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<b>For monitoring</b>	
12. Standard for baker's yeast (job number N13-2024, deadline 2027)	Step 2/3
13. New draft food additive provisions of the <i>GSFA</i> (CXS 192-1995)	Step 2
<b>For information</b>	
14. Draft stand-alone working practices for the development of <i>GSFA</i> food additive provisions relating to commodity standards and the development of templates to be used by the Commodity/Regional Committees to ensure the submission of comprehensive information	For consideration at CCFA56
15. New work proposal on the development of a guideline for the conduct of food safety assessment of cell culture media components used in the production of cell-based foods	For consideration at CCFA56
16. A discussion paper on the future work for CCFA	For consideration at CCFA56



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## Critical Insights



- ✓ CCFA55 demonstrated robust coordination, balancing technical complexity with emerging priorities like cell-based food production.
- ✓ The work on harmonizing GSFA with commodity standards reduces duplication and divergence, reinforcing Codex coherence.
- ✓ Development of structured templates and working practices signifies a more systematic, future-ready CCFA.



# Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL11)

Committee	Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL)		
Host	United States of America	Chairperson	Mr Kenneth Lowery
Session reported on	CCCPL11	7-30 April 2025	
Next Session	CCCPL12	2027 (TBC)	
Report	<a href="#">REP25/CPL</a>		

## General Overview



**Session:** CCCPL11 (7–30 April 2025), held by correspondence.

**Host Country:** United States of America.

**Participation:** 31 Member countries, 1 Member Organization, 1 Observer organization.

**Next session (CCCPL12):** Scheduled for 2027 (TBC).



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## 3. Status of work items

For monitoring			
Topics	Job No.	Target year	Step
1. A group standard for whole millet grains	N21-2024	2028	2





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## Main Outcomes

### 1- Establishment of an EWG on Whole Millet Grains:

- Chaired by India; co-chaired by Mali, Nigeria, and Senegal.
- ToRs include:
  - ✓ Structuring the group standard to reflect millet diversity.
  - ✓ Defining minimum quality and safety requirements.
  - ✓ Clarifying scope: which types of millets, inclusion of pseudo-millets, and existing standards.
  - ✓ Producing a detailed report with recommendations and a draft standard.





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## Main Outcomes



### 2- Deferred Items to CCCPL12:

- Request from CCMAS43 on ash content provisions in CPL standards.
- Request from CAC44 on labelling provisions for non-retail containers.

### 3- Proposal to Update Wheat and Durum Wheat Standard (CXS 199-1995):

- Members interested in revising the standard were advised to submit formal new work proposals for CCCPL12.
- Such proposals may require authorization from CCEXEC and CAC, as CCCPL operates by correspondence.



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## Main Outcomes

### 4- Operational Flexibility Recommended:

Due to the complexity of upcoming discussions and limitations of correspondence-only work, CCCPL12 should have the option to establish virtual working groups (VWGs) to enhance consensus-building.



## Status of Ongoing Work

### Whole Millet Grains Group Standard:

- ✓ Job No.: N21-2024
- ✓ Target Year: 2028
- ✓ Current Step: 2 (Early development phase)



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## Critical Reflection



- **CCCPL11** efficiently fulfilled its mandate via remote coordination.
- It demonstrated Member collaboration and flexibility, laying the groundwork for the first group standard in the cereals category.
- The committee showed foresight in recommending virtual tools (VWGs) to overcome correspondence limitations, especially ahead of CCCPL12's complex agenda.





## المبادرة العربية للدستور الغذائي