

FAO/WHO CODEX COORDINATING COMMITTEE

NEAR EAST



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

50th Joint Coordination Meeting of Arab and CCNE Codex Contact Points

**PREPARATION FOR THE 49th SESSION OF THE
CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

(CAC49)

Presented by Oman (Regional Coordinator Secretariat Team)

June 15, 2026

Purpose and structure of the presentation

① 1. Position CAC49 in continuity with CAC48

Summarize the major outcomes of CAC48 and explain how CAC49 moves from adoption of previous work to follow-up, new work and committee-specific decisions.

② 2. Summarize committee outcomes

Provide committee-by-committee snapshots for the agenda files submitted to CAC49, with emphasis on decisions required by CAC.

③ 3. Translate outcomes into coordination points

Identify implications for Arab/CCNE members, recommended interventions and follow-up actions before, during and after CAC49.

CAC48 Overview - key outcomes carried into CAC49

~720

new and revised Codex standards /
numerical standards adopted

377

new/revised GSFA food additive
provisions adopted

340

pesticide MRLs adopted

9

new work proposals approved

Standards adopted at CAC48

Fresh dates, Castilla lulo, lead MLs in spices/culinary herbs, aflatoxin code of practice for peanuts, and several Codex numerical standards.

Governance and procedures

Amendments to the Procedural Manual, monitoring framework for the 2026–2031 Strategic Plan, and committee reactivation / working-by-correspondence decisions.

Scientific advice and resources

CAC48 reiterated the importance of timely FAO/WHO scientific advice and adequate resourcing of scientific advisory bodies.

CAC49 Agenda

CAC49

Forty-ninth Session of CAC: CICG, Geneva, Switzerland | 6 - 10 July 2026

Item 4 **Standard-setting work** CCSCH, CCFH, CCFO, CCMAS, CCRVDF, CCFA, CCFL, CCFFP

Item 5 **Proposals for new work** New standards / revisions requiring CAC approval

Item 7 **Subsidiary bodies** Follow-up on committees, working modalities and cross-committee actions

Item 10 **FAO/WHO matters** Scientific advice, resourcing and risk assessment support

Item 11-12 **Governance** Election and designation of committee host countries

CCSCH8 OUTCOMES

Implications and Follow-Up Actions in Preparation for CAC49

CAC49 Agenda Item 4.1 : Codex Committee on Spices & Culinary Herbs
(CX/CAC 26/49/3)



Guwahati, Assam, India | 13–17 Oct 2025

Agenda Item 3.1 : Draft standard for spices in the form of dried fruits and berries _ Requirements for vanilla.

Vanilla requirements advance to CAC49

Step 8 Standard status

Forward the draft standard for adoption at Step 8, subject to endorsement by CCFA and CCFL.

- ✓ Mandatory declaration of trade name; scientific name optional.
- ✓ **Country of harvest remains optional**, pending future CCFL outcome.
- ✓ Chemical characteristics presented per species; ISO 5565-2 retained for vanillin content.
- ✓ Food additives, labelling and methods forwarded to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS.



Agenda Item 3.2 : Draft standard for spices in the form of dried fruits and berries - Requirements for large cardamom

Large cardamom requirements advance to CAC49



01 Standard status

Forward to CAC49 for adoption at Step 5/8 after CCSC8 aligned the text to the SCH template.

02 Key technical edits

Deleted “opened capsules”; added tolerance for partially opened capsules; revised moisture limits for powdered forms.

03 Endorsements

Food additives, food labelling and methods of analysis forwarded to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS.

Agenda Item 5.1 : Draft standard for spices in the form of dried barks Requirements for cinnamon

Cinnamon remains under development

Returned to Step 2/3

CCSCH8 concluded that the draft standard was not ready to advance due to several unresolved issues.



Agenda Item 5.1 : Draft standard for spices in the form of dried seeds - Requirements for coriander

Coriander requirements advance to CAC49

Step 5/8 Standard status

Forward draft standard for adoption at step 5/8, subject to CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS endorsement.

✓ **Terminology clarified**
Use “seeds” in quotation marks with a footnote noting the botanical identity as dried fruits.

✓ **Scope refined**
Direct human consumption clarified; products intended for industrial processing excluded.

✓ **Technical tables refined**
Chemical and physical characteristics aligned; ISO 927 identified for visible mould and insect defiled.



Coordination note: support adoption while ensuring endorsement of additives, labelling and methods before CAC action.

Agenda Item 6.1 : Draft standard for herbs - Requirements for sweet marjoram.

Sweet marjoram advances, with EWG follow-up

Step 5

Standard status

Forward the draft standard for adoption at Step 5 and submit food additive and labelling provisions to CCFA and CCFL.

EWG

Egypt chair; India co-chair

Consider outstanding issues in square brackets and comments received at Step 5/6; report three months before CCSC9.

- ✓ Aligned scope and product definition to SCH template.
- ✓ Updated styles: ground/powdered and crushed/rubbed/flaked.
- ✓ Inserted “tolerance for powder” parameter with provisional values in square brackets.
- ✓ Further data needed on moisture, ash, acid-insoluble ash and volatile oil.



Suggested CAC49 coordination lines

Key messages for Arab/CCNE coordination before and during CAC49

1 Support mature standards

Support adoption of vanilla, large cardamom, coriander and sweet marjoram at the proposed steps.

2 Track endorsements

Ensure CCFA, CCFL and CCMAS endorsements are monitored before CAC decisions.

3 Engage labelling discussion

Support CCFL work on country of origin / country of harvest clarity.

4 Support follow-up EWGs



Agenda Item 2 : Matters referred to CCFH55/ subsidiary bodies

Agenda Item 2

Code of Practice on Food Allergen Management for Food Business Operators (CXC 80-2020)

- CCFH55 forwarded consequential amendments to CAC49 for adoption, linked to alignment with the updated allergenic foods provisions in the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985).

Histamine sampling plans for 11 fish and fishery product commodity standards

CCFH55 agreed to request CAC49 to return the work on appropriate sampling plans for histamine in 11 fish and fishery product standards to CCFFP, while transmitting existing CCFH/EWG work.

Guidelines for the Control of Trichinella spp. in Meat of Suidae (CXG 86-2015)

CCFH55 agreed to amendments to CXG 86-2015 and forwarded them to CAC49 for adoption, including updated WOH-related terminology.

Agenda Item 5 : Guidelines for the Safe Use and Re-use of Water in Food Production and Processing (CXG 100-2023)

Agenda Item 5

Annex II and Annex IV to CXG 100-2023

Forward Annex II on fish and fishery products and Annex IV on water fit-for-purpose assessment, safety management and reuse technologies to CAC49 for adoption at Step 5/8.

Cross-references in CXG 100-2023

Submit amendments to the General Section and Annexes I and III of CXG 100-2023 to include cross-references to Annex IV for CAC49 adoption.

Agenda Item 6 : alignment with the revised General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969)

Agenda Item 6

Texts forwarded to CAC49

Proposed amendments to :

- the Guidelines for the Control of *Taenia saginata* in Meat of Domestic Cattle (CXG 85-2014),
- the Guidelines for the Control of *Trichinella* spp. in Meat of Suidae (CXG 86-2015), and
- the Guidelines for the Control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* in Beef, Small Ruminants, and Pork (CXG 88-2016).

Agenda Item 7 : Revision of the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of **Viruses in Food (CXG 79-2012)**

Agenda Item 7

Step status

Returned to Step 2 for further elaboration and update of prevention/intervention measures once JEMRA virus report Part 2 is published, followed by Step 3 comments.

Agenda Item 8 : Revision of the Guidelines for the Control of **Campylobacter and Salmonella in Chicken Meat (CXG 78-2011)**

Agenda Item 8

CAC49 action

CCFH55 agreed that all issues had been addressed and forwarded the revised CXG 78-2011 guidelines to CAC49 for adoption at Step 5/8.

Key revisions

Hybrid alignment with the General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969); technical updates; modernized flowchart; revised scope limited to raw chicken meat from broiler carcasses and parts, with targeted guidance on chicken liver.

Agenda Item 9 : Revision of the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Foods (CXG 61-2007)

Agenda Item 9

CAC49 action

Revised guidelines were forwarded to CAC49 for adoption at Step 5/8, incorporating JEMRA advice and alignment with CXC 1-1969 and CXG 21-1997.

Key technical updates

Updated RTE definition, temperature consistency at 5 °C where applicable, environmental monitoring, isolate characterization, and guidance on determining whether foods support *Listeria* growth.

Agenda Item 10 : other business and future work

Agenda Item 10

Forward workplan priorities

Alignment work prioritizes further Codex hygiene texts, including transport in bulk/semi-packed food, bottled/package drinking waters, allergen management, quick frozen foods and scientific advice needs.

Suggested CAC49 coordination line

- 1 Support adoption of mature texts at Step 5/8.
- 2 Support continued EWG work where scientific evidence is still developing.
- 3 Maintain cross-committee coordination with CCFFP, CCMAS and other relevant committees.



CCFO29 Outcomes

Implications and Follow-Up Actions in Preparation for CAC49

CAC49 Agenda Item 4.3 : Codex Committee on Fats and Oils
(CX/CAC 26/49/5)



Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | 9–13 February 2026



CCFO29 KEY OUTCOMES & DECISIONS | CAC49 PREPARATION

- Progress on the revision of the **Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils (CXS 33-1981)**.
- Establishment of a new **EWG on olive oil footnote (c) (decision tree)**.
- FAO requested to undertake a scientific review of data on **PPP and 1,2-DAG** as potential EVOO quality parameters.
- New work approved on:
 - Shea butter
 - Virgin coconut oil
 - High oleic sunflower oil
 - Sea buckthorn oil
- Review of acceptable previous cargoes continued.
- Ongoing work to support reduction of **trans-fatty acid (TFA)** intake.



Olive Oil Decision Tree (Footnote (c)) – Follow-up to CAC47

Background

- CAC47 requested the development of a framework for collecting scientific data related to the application of footnote (c) in Section 3.2.3 of CXS 33-1981.
- Discussions at CCNE12 confirmed strong regional commitment to support this work.

Decision

- CCFO29 established an EWG chaired by Syria, co-chaired by Australia, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and IOC.
- The EWG will:
 - Define data requirements.
 - Identify analytical methods and sampling approaches.
 - Develop a data collection template.
 - Propose a timeline reflecting the multi-season nature of olive production.
- CCFO acknowledged that the work is expected to extend beyond CCFO30.

Key Discussion

- Syria highlighted that current sterol thresholds may not always reflect varietal and regional realities and could lead to misclassification of authentic olive oils.
- Members supported broadening data collection beyond sterols to include:
 - Acidity
 - Peroxide value
 - UV absorption
 - Organoleptic assessment

CCNE Relevance

- Direct follow-up to discussions and recommendations adopted at CCNE12/**registration and active participation in the EWG (registration deadline June 30, 2026).**

EVOO Quality Parameters (PPP & 1,2-DAG)

1. Extra Virgin Olive Oil Quality Parameters

CCFO29 reviewed data collected on:

- Pyropheophytins (PPP)
- 1,2-Diacylglycerols (1,2-DAG)

2. Agreed Actions

- FAO to conduct an expert scientific review of available data.
- Assess:
 - Robustness and reproducibility of PPP and 1,2-DAG.
 - Correlation with other quality parameters.
 - Potential use as EVOO quality indicators in CXS 33-1981.

3. Next Step

FAO to report findings to CCFO30



Matters of Interest to the Near East Region

Regional Relevance

Olive Oil

- Continued opportunity for CCNE countries to contribute scientific data supporting the work on footnote (c).
- Active leadership by Syria, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia within the newly established EWG.

Named Vegetable Oils

- New work on shea butter, virgin coconut oil, sea buckthorn oil and high oleic sunflower oil may provide opportunities for regional participation and data contribution.

Looking Ahead

CCFO30 will review progress on:

- Olive oil footnote (c)
- PPP and 1,2-DAG scientific assessment
- Ordinary virgin olive oil category
- Newly approved work items

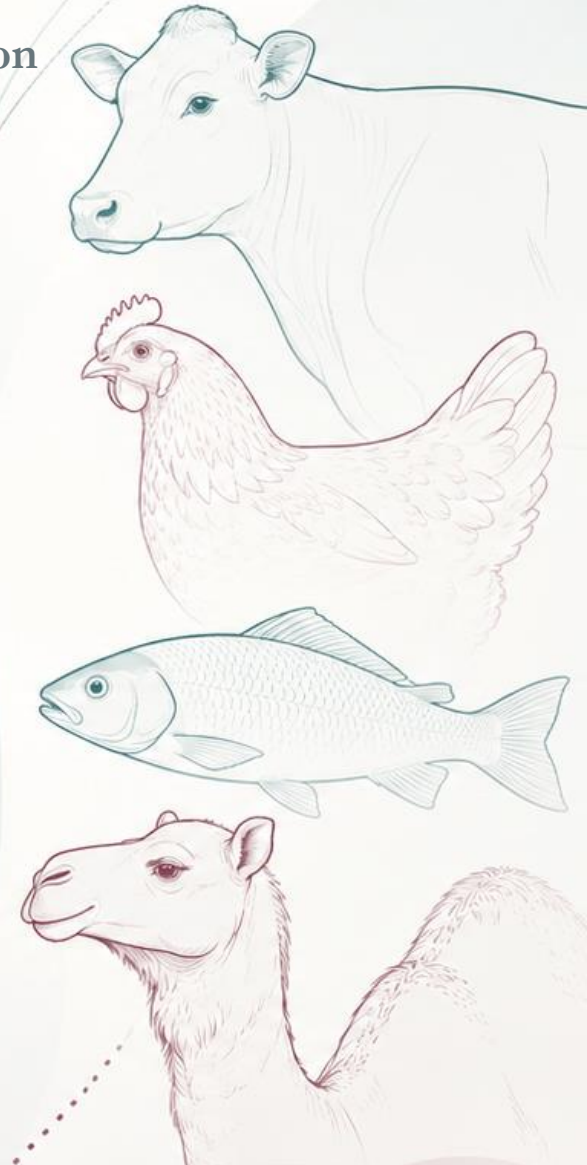
CCRVDF28 OUTCOMES

Implications and Follow-Up Actions in Preparation for CAC49

CAC49 Agenda Item 4.5: Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CX/CAC 26/49/7)



Minneapolis, USA | 23–27 March 2026



Agenda items 6 and 7.1 : MRLs and camelid extrapolation

Core residue decisions forwarded for CAC49 consideration.

Agenda Item 6 :MRLs from JECFA98

- MRLs for fumagillin DCH in fish fillet and honey were retained at Step 7 for CAC49 consideration, pending JECFA re-evaluation, due to unresolved concerns on residue data, toxicology, and the use of DCH as marker residue.

Agenda Item 7.1 : Camelid extrapolated MRLs at Step 5/8

- CAC49 will consider Step 5/8 adoption of extrapolated MRLs for camelids: ivermectin in milk and tetracyclines in muscle, liver, kidney and milk
- Albendazole and ivermectin tissue MRLs were not extrapolated to camelids because the criteria were not met.



Agenda items 8.1 and 8.2 : feed carryover package

Agenda item 8.1 : Guideline advanced at Step 5/8

Forward the Guidelines on recommended risk-based actions for residues caused by unavoidable and unintentional carryover of veterinary drugs in animal feed, where no applicable Codex MRL exists.

Agenda item 8.2 : Action levels advanced at Step 5/8

Forward action levels for residues in chicken eggs: nicarbazin 0.35 mg/kg and lasalocid 0.15 mg/kg.



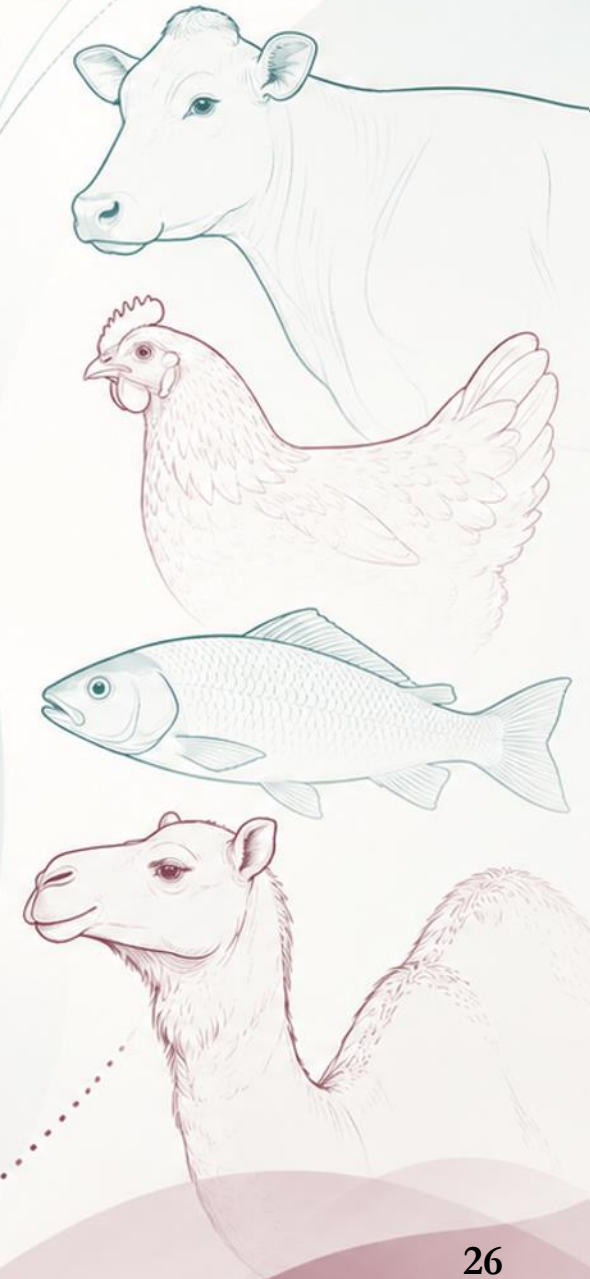
Agenda items 7.2 and 9 : pilots and cross-committee coordination

Agenda Item 7.2 : Pilot on extrapolation to other edible offal tissues

Conduct a pilot on tetracyclines, ceftiofur and ivermectin to test criteria for extrapolating established Codex MRLs to “other edible offal”.

Agenda Item 9 : CCPR / CCRVDF coordination

Continued support for the Joint EWG on dual-use compounds and harmonisation of descriptors and MRL approaches.



Agenda item 10 : priority list for JECFA and CCRVDF29

Agenda Item 10 : Priority list forwarded

Forward Parts I, IV and V of the priority list of veterinary drugs to CAC49 for approval as new work.



Suggested CAC49 coordination lines

1

Support adoption-ready outputs

Support Step 5/8 adoption of camelid extrapolated MRLs, carryover guidelines and action levels for chicken eggs.

2

Strengthen intersessional participation

Encourage experts to contribute to the other edible offal pilot, priority-list comments and CCPR/CCRVDf coordination.

3

Highlight regional relevance

Underline the importance of camelid MRLs and practical carryover management for regions with camelids and diverse animal-production systems.



