

- Guidelines for Cooperation with International Intergovernmental Organizations
- Membership in the Codex Alimentarius Commission of Regional Economic Integration Organizations
- Consideration of a Definition for "Traceability"/product tracing
- The role of the Committee in implementation of recommendations from the Joint FAO/WHO Evaluation of Codex Alimentarius and Other FAO and WHO Work on Food Standards

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS; HHS/FDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling

The Codex Committee on Food Labelling is responsible for drafting provisions on labelling issues assigned by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The reference documents are ALINORM 03/22 and ALINORM 03/22A. The Committee held its Thirty-First Session in Ottawa, Canada, on April 28–May 2, 2003. It considered the following items:

- Draft Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods Proposed Revised Sections: Section 5—Criteria and Annex 2—Permitted Substances
- Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods—(Draft Recommendations for the Labelling of Foods Obtained through Certain Techniques of Genetic Modification/Genetic Engineering) Section 4.2.2 (allergenicity) and Section 2. (Definitions)
- Proposed Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (Class Names) (Milk Protein/Milk Protein Products)
- Proposed Draft Amendment to the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling
- Proposed Draft Recommendations for the Use of Health Claims: Proposed Draft Guidelines for the use of Nutrition and Health Claims
- Proposed Draft Amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: Quantitative Declaration of Ingredients
- Discussion paper on Misleading Claims
- Discussion paper on Country of Origin Labelling
- Discussion paper on "Traceability"/Product Tracing

Responsible Agency: HHS/FDA; USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene

The Codex Committee on Food Hygiene has four primary responsibilities. First, the Committee

drafts basic provisions on food hygiene applicable to all food. These provisions normally take the form of Codes of Hygienic Practice for a specific commodity (e.g. bottled water) or group of commodities (e.g., milk and milk products). Second, the Committee suggests and prioritizes areas where there is a need for microbiological risk assessment at the international level and considers microbiological risk management matters in relation to food hygiene and in relation to the risk assessment activities of FAO and WHO. This often takes the form of developing general guidance documents such as the Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Assessment and the proposed draft Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Management, but can also take the form of developing microbiological risk management guidance documents for the control of specific microbial pathogens in food. Third, the Committee considers, amends if necessary, and endorses food hygiene provisions that are incorporated into specific Codex commodity standards by the Codex commodity committees. These provisions normally contain generic wording referencing the Recommended Code of Hygienic Practice: General Principles for Food Hygiene (ref: CAC/RCP 1–1969, Rev. 3–1997) and the Principles for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria for Foods (CAC/GL 21–1997), but may also include other provisions. Fourth, the Committee provides such other general guidance to the Commission on matters relating to food hygiene as is necessary. The following items will be considered by the Codex Alimentarius Commission at its 26th Session in July 2003. The relevant documents are ALINORM 03/13 and ALINORM 03/13A.

To be considered at Step 8:

- Draft Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
- Draft Revised Guidelines for the Application of HACCP System

To be considered at Step 5:

- Proposed Draft Code of Hygienic Practice for Milk and Milk Products
- The committee continues to work on:
 - Proposed Draft Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Management
 - Proposed Draft Guidelines on the Application of the General Principles of Food Hygiene to the [management] of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Foods
 - Proposed Draft Guidelines for Validation of Food Hygienic Control Measures

• Proposed Draft Revision of the Code of Hygienic Practice for Egg Products

- Discussion paper on Risk Management Strategies for *Salmonella* spp. in Poultry

• Discussion paper on Risk Management Strategies for *Campylobacter* spp. in Poultry

- Risk Profile for Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* Including the Identification of Commodities of Concern, including Sprouts, Ground Beef and Pork

• Proposed Draft Process by Which the Committee on Food Hygiene Could Undertake its Work in Microbiological Risk Assessment/Risk Management

- Discussion Paper on the Proposed Draft Revision of the Recommended International Code of Practice for Foods for Infants and Children

• Discussion Paper on Development of Process, Procedures and Criteria to Establish Priorities for the Work of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene

- Discussion Paper on the Development of Options for a Cross-Committee Interaction Process

Responsible Agency: HHS/FDA; FSIS/USDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

The Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables is responsible for elaborating world-wide standards and codes of practice for fresh fruits and vegetables. The following standards will be considered by the 26th Session of the Commission in July 2003. The relevant document is ALINORM 03/35.

To be considered at Step 8:

- Draft Standard for Sweet Cassava
- Draft Standard for Pitahayas
- Section 3—Provisions concerning sizing and Section 6.2.4—Commercial Identification in the grapefruit, lime and pummelo standards.

To be considered at Step 5:

- Proposed Draft Standard for Table Grapes

The Committee continues work on:

- Draft Standard for Oranges retained at Step 7

• Proposed Draft Standard for Tomatoes

- Proposed Draft Standard for Apples
- Proposed Draft Guide for the Quality Control of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

New work subject to approval by 26th CAC:

- Proposed Draft Standard for Rambutan

Responsible Agency: USDA/AMS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.