

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 2

**CX/FBT 06/6/2
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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE ON FOODS DERIVED FROM BIOTECHNOLOGY

Sixth Session

Chiba, Japan, 27 November – 1 December 2006

MATTERS REFERRED TO THE TASK FORCE BY THE COMMISSION AND THE OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES

A. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

THE 29TH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

APPROVAL OF NEW WORK FOR THE ELABORATION OF NEW STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS

1. The Commission approved the following proposals for new work as proposed¹:
 - Proposed Draft Guideline for the Conduct of Food Safety Assessment of Foods derived from Recombinant-DNA Animals (Job Code: N01-2006), and
 - Proposed Draft Annex to the Codex Guideline for the Conduct of Food Safety Assessment of Foods Derived from Recombinant-DNA Plants (CAC/GL 45-2003) regarding food safety assessment of foods derived from recombinant-DNA plants modified for nutritional or health benefits (Job Code: N02-2006).

B. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION TO THE TASK FORCE

CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING²

2. The 27th Session of the Committee considered a document on the criteria for the detection and identification of foods derived from biotechnology, including the information required for the validation of quantitative and qualitative methods, the characteristics that could be used to consider existing validated methods, issues related to measurement uncertainty and interpretation of the results, and proficiency testing. However, due to the complex nature of the subject and the various comments made, the Committee agreed that it was premature to undertake new work at this stage, and that the document should be revised and considered further at its next session.

¹ ALINORM 06/29/41, paras 124-127 and Appendix VIII

² ALINORM 06/29/23, paras 84-91

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING³

3. The 34th Session of the Committee on Food Labelling discussed the Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Labelling of Foods and Food Ingredients Obtained Through Certain Techniques of Genetic Modification/Genetic Engineering: Labelling Provisions and could not come to a consensus on how to proceed with the development of the text. After some discussion, the Committee agreed to convene a physical working group between the sessions to assist the Committee with guidance relating to the further development of the Proposed Draft Guidelines, and in particular consider the approaches taken by Members on the labelling food and food ingredients obtained through certain techniques of genetic modification/genetic engineering. For this purpose, a Circular Letter (CL 2006/22-FL) was distributed in June 2006 asking for information on the approaches followed by members at the national level in this area.

³ ALINORM 06/29/22, paras 82-101