

European Union Comments
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS
26th Session

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 25 February- 01 March 2019

Agenda Item 9:

**Discussion paper on better management of the work of the Codex Committee
on Fats and Oils**

(CX/FO 19/26/12)

Member States Competence
Member States Vote

The Member States of the European Union (MSEU) would like to thank Malaysia for preparing useful proposals on how to simplify and expedite the work of the Committee.

The MSEU have the following comments on recommendation 26(i) on the simplified project document as presented in Appendix I:

- Certain criteria in the current model for project documents may not be relevant for the revision of existing parameters and inclusion of new parameters. However, the production, consumption and trade volumes may be an important consideration when justification is sought for the revision of existing parameters or inclusion of new parameters. The same applies to the international or regional market potential.
- Instead of introducing a model for a simplified project document, which may create confusion, the Committee could agree in principle that certain criteria in the current project document model may not be relevant for the revision of existing parameters or inclusion of new parameters. However, identification of redundant criteria should be done on a case-by-case basis by a member preparing a project document. It would then be for the in-session working group and the Committee to judge if relevant criteria is correctly identified and fulfilled.

The MSEU are of the view that distribution of a Circular letter, as suggested in recommendation 26(ii), to invite proposals for new work well in advance of each committee session with a deadline for the submission of new work proposals would be very useful in ensuring timely submission of proposals thus allowing sufficient time for members to consider them and submit written comments.

The MSEU support establishing an in-session working group in each Committee session, as suggested in recommendation 26(iii), to consider new work proposals and to make recommendations for the Committee. This would help the Committee to make informed decisions on new work. On the proposed terms of reference for the in-session WG, the MSEU suggest the following modifications:

- i. To screen the work proposals with project document ~~or the proposed simplified project document as the case may be~~, on their completeness against the criteria in Codex Procedural Manual of the proposals for new work and decision of CCFO16,

taking into account written comments received from members in relation to ~~completeness~~ of the proposals.

- ii. To prepare a report to be presented to the plenary to enable CCFO to ~~evaluate and~~ make **informed** a decisions on the work proposals

The MSEU support having a standing agenda item in each Committee session for new work, as suggested in recommendation 26(iv).