

INF.20 Statement of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

Statement of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme at the 52nd session of the Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

The Representative of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme informed the Specialized Section on the preparatory work for the 13th Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables to be held in Mexico from 25-29 September 2006.

Some of the working documents had been already distributed through the Codex electronic distribution list (Codex-L) namely: sizing and their tolerances (tomatoes), maturity requirements and minimum bunch weight (table grapes) and bitter cassava. As regards table grapes and tomatoes, she also informed that depending on the outcome of the discussion on these provisions, the next session of the Committee might be able to complete the standards for these commodities in order to forward them to the Codex Alimentarius Commission for final adoption in 2007.

The remaining documents for the meeting (apples, guidelines for the quality control of fresh fruits and vegetables and the layout for Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables) would be available for comments shortly. She also informed that a proposal for standardization of durian had been received as part of a standing item on the agenda of the Committee for amendments to the priority list for the standardization of fresh fruits and vegetables. All working documents would be posted on the Codex website¹ upon release of the invitation and provisional agenda. In this regard, the Specialized Section noted that the distribution of these two documents was pending on the final confirmation from the Government of Mexico regarding the venue for the meeting.

The Representative of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme further informed that the request from the CCFV as to how to address minor amendments in Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables would be addressed as part of a more comprehensive revision of the Procedure for the Revision and Amendment of Codex Standards. In addition, she informed that working documents for Codex committee meetings, including that of the CCFV, would be made available only electronically through the Codex-L and the Internet and thus no paper distribution was foreseen for future Codex committees sessions.

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<http://www.codexalimentarius.net/>