What did the Codex committee actually decide?

Whole millet grains at the April 2025 session

In April 2025, the Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes assigned a working group to draft a standard for whole millet grains. Which grains the standard would cover and what requirements they would meet remained open. A trade association briefing its members at the time could identify an opportunity to contribute evidence. It had no new Codex specification from this meeting to pass on to buyers.

> **THE WORKING GROUP'S ASSIGNMENT**
>
> "prepare a comprehensive report summarizing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations, along with a draft group standard."
>
> Committee report, REP25/CPL, paragraph 24(iv), April 2025

Who took the next step?

The committee established an electronic working group chaired by India and co-chaired by Mali, Nigeria and Senegal. It would work in English and French. The committee said its report should reach the Codex Secretariat at least three months before the next committee session. That timing applied to the group's report. Organizations seeking to contribute would need to check the arrangements for individual comments. (Paragraphs 24–25.)

The status table records Step 2, drafting. See REP25/CPL, p. ii.

What an association could do

Which choices could evidence still influence?

The group had to determine which grains the draft would cover, how to structure it across different millets and markets, how to treat existing millet standards and whether to include pseudo-millets. Its assignment also covered proposed minimum quality and safety requirements. A member drew attention to differences in grain shape and characteristics. That observation helps explain why scope mattered. The report records it as one member's contribution. (Paragraphs 20–24.)

How would LFS have advised an association?

Ask members which whole millet grains they trade, which names appear in contracts and where existing specifications differ. Bring the delegation one documented example of a provision that could work across grains and one that might need a qualification. Those examples would help the drafters test the proposed scope and wording. This is LFS's retrospective advice based on the April 2025 decision.

A short readout for members

The committee agreed on the drafting assignment. The working group would return with a proposed text. The treatment of individual grains was still open when the session closed.

Read the official report

REP25/CPL, p. ii and paragraphs 20–25 (PDF)