



Codex News – May 4, 2021

Public Meetings

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on June 17, 2021, from 1:00-3:00PM EDT to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 52nd Session of the CCPR, scheduled for July 26-31, 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the public meeting will take place via video conference call only. Documents related to the 52nd session of the CCPR are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=52>.

- CAPT David Miller, U.S. Delegate to the 52nd Session of the CCPR, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically at the following email address: miller.davidj@epa.gov.
- Participants are requested to register in advance to participate in the public meeting here: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlSdO2spz8sH8hmjG-maF8BYauGrD4GaQY> or by emailing niman.aaron@epa.gov and marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov by June 14, 2021.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)

The 25th Session of CCFICS, scheduled for May 31-June 8, 2021, will convene virtually. Sessions will take place on May 31 and June 1-4, 2021 from 6:00-9:00 pm EDT (00:00 to 03:00 hours CET). The adoption of the Report will take place on June 8, 2021 from 6:00-9:00 pm EDT (00:00 to 03:00 hours CET). The provisional agenda and other documents related to the 25th Session of CCFICS may be found at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFICS&session=25>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

The 41st Session of CCMAS, scheduled for May 17-25, 2021, will convene virtually. Sessions will take place on May 17-21 from 6:00-9:00 am EDT (12:00 – 15:00 CET). The adoption of the Report will take place on May 25, 2021 from 6:00-9:00 am EDT (12:00 – 15:00 CET). Please note that the working group (WG) on endorsement will be held on May 11-12, 2021 from 6:00-9:00 am EDT (12:00 – 15:00 CET). The provisional agenda, agenda for the WG, Session timetable, and other documents related to the 41st Session of CCMAS may be found at:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCMAS&session=41>. For additional information, please contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

MLs for Food Additives: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/23-FA) requesting comments on endorsement and/or revision of maximum levels for food Additives and processing aids in codex standards. The CL is available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters. Comments by observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to the Secretariat for CCFA (secretariat@ccfa.cc) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by June 10, 2021.

Food Additive Provisions of Commodity Standards: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/24-FA) requesting comments on alignment of the food additive provisions of commodity standards. The CL is available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters. Comments by observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA (secretariat@ccfa.cc) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by June 10, 2021.

Comments on Proposed Changes (International Numbering System List): The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/1-FA) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed changes and/or addition to the *Class Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives* (CXG 36-1989). The CL is available in English and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters. Comments by observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA (secretariat@ccfa.cc) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by July 31, 2021.

Request for Proposed Changes (International Numbering System List): The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/30-FA) requesting proposals for change and/or addition to Section 3 of the *Class Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives* (CXG 36-1989). The CL is available in English and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters. Comments by observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA (secretariat@ccfa.cc) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 15, 2021.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

STEC: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/35/OCS-FH) requesting comments on the proposed draft Guidelines on the control of STEC in

raw beef, fresh leafy vegetables, raw milk and raw milk cheeses, and sprouts. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by June 1, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) June 16, 2021.

Codex Committee on Pesticides Residues (CCPR)

Harmonization of MRLs for Meat Mammalian: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline of a Circular Letter (CL 2020/13(REV)-PR) requesting comments on the harmonization of meat mammalian maximum residue limits between the CCPR and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) on the Classification of Food and Feed: Class B – Primary commodities of animal origin. This CL is related to the CL recently issued in CCRVDF--CL 2021/6/OCS-RVDF. Please see the entry below for further information. The CL is currently available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by May 21, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by June 5, 2021.

Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF)

Harmonization of MRLs for Edible Offal: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for a Circular Letter (CL 2021/6/OCS-RVDF) requesting comments on recommendations for edible offal and other animal tissues of relevance for the purpose of harmonization and elaboration of maximum residue limits for compounds with dual uses. This CL is related to the recently issued CL in CCPR-- CL 2020/13(REV)-PR. Please see the entry under CCPR for further information. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by May 21, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 5, 2021.

Codex Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)

Code of Practice to Contain and Minimize Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/32/OCS-AMR) requesting comments at Step 6 on the revised Code of practice to contain and minimize foodborne antimicrobial resistance. The CL is available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat

(Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by May 11, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 25, 2021.

Guidelines for integrated monitoring and surveillance: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/33/OCS-AMR) requesting comments at Step 3 on the Guidelines for integrated monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance. The CL is available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by May 11, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 25, 2021.

Other

CCRVDF Online Discussion Forum: CCRVDF invites Members and Observers to join an informal online discussion forum to consider technical issues raised in reply to CL 2020/42(REV 1)-RVDF concerning the policy framework to the extrapolation of maximum residue limits (MRLs) of veterinary drugs to one or more animal species and the MRL proposals deriving from this approach, in order to facilitate their consideration at the upcoming 25th Session of CCRVDF (July 2021). Due to time constraints, the forum will work in English only. Members/Observers interested in joining this discussion group can register at: <https://forum.codex-alimentarius.net/viewforum.php?f=312>.

WHO Call for experts: WHO has issued a call for experts to establish the WHO Advisory Group of the Critically Important Antimicrobial List. Additional information and instructions to apply may be found at the following link: [https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-for-the-who-advisory-group-of-the-critically-important-antimicrobials-for-human-medicine-\(ag-cia\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-for-the-who-advisory-group-of-the-critically-important-antimicrobials-for-human-medicine-(ag-cia)). The deadline to apply is May 5, 2021.

Redesign of FAO AMR website: FAO is requesting input on the redesign of the FAO AMR website (<http://www.fao.org/antimicrobial-resistance/en/>) to ensure that it meets members' needs. FAO asks those interested in providing feedback to fill out the survey found at the following link (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AMR_Website) by 31, 2021.

JECFA Monograph (Veterinary Drugs): The Joint Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)/World Health Organization (WHO) Expert Committee on Veterinary drugs (JECFA) has published a monograph summarizing its evaluation of veterinary drugs covered by the 88th meeting of the committee. The monograph can be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240016255>.

Edible Insects Publication: The Food Systems and Food Safety Division of the FAO has published a document titled “Looking at edible insects from a food safety perspective.” This publication covers the food safety implications associated with the production and consumption of insects and can be found on the FAO’s website at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4094en>.