



Codex News – May 31, 2022

Upcoming Public Meeting

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on June 2, 2022, from 2:00 – 4:00PM EDT to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 53rd Session of the CCPR on July 4 – July 13, 2022. The public meeting will take place virtually. Documents related to the 53rd Session of the CCPR will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=53>

- Captain David Miller, U.S. Delegate to the 53rd Session of the CCPR, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: miller.davidj@epa.gov.
- Please register to attend the public meeting here: www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltc-6tpzgjHHHmxmTPI2ykA0BfwK2icPQ

Upcoming Webinar

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

CCFH is organizing a virtual meeting on Thursday, June 9, 2022, from 15:00-18:00 EDT (21:00-24:00 CEST) and Friday, June 10, 2022, from 10:00-13:00 EDT (16:00-19:00 CEST) on the Guidelines for the control of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in raw beef, fresh leafy vegetables, raw milk and raw milk cheeses, and sprouts. The Chair and Co-Chairs will use this opportunity to enable real-time interactions with Members and Observers to further the development of the. The aim will be to find agreement on some of the main aspects of the document and identify any critical issues where further discussions will be needed. The virtual meeting will be conducted in English, French, and Spanish. To register for the virtual meeting, please go to the following link: <https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpd-igqDsje9xy2rF8qPrxBnVGNRp7jE0k>.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)

The 82nd Session of the CCEXEC will meet virtually from June 20-24 from 6:00-9:00 EDT (12:00-15:00 CET). The adoption of the report is planned for June 30, 2022 from 6:00-9:00 EDT (12:00-15:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other documents related to CCEXEC82 can be found at: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who->

[codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEXEC&session=82](https://www.fao.org/codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEXEC&session=82). For additional information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office at: uscodex@usda.gov

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The 53rd Session of the CCPR will meet virtually on July 4-8, 2022, from 7:00AM – 10:00AM EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET), with report adoption on July 13, 2022, from 7:00AM – 10:00AM EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 53rd Session of the CCPR are available at: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=53>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

The 6th Session of the CCSCH will meet virtually on September 26-30, 2022, from 4:30AM – 7:30AM EDT (10:30 – 13:30 CET), with report adoption on October 3, 2022, from 4:30AM – 7:30AM EDT (10:30 – 13:30 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 6th Session of the CCSCH will be available at: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCSCH&session=6>. For additional information, please contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

Biological Foodborne Outbreaks: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/32/OCS-FH) requesting comments on the draft Guidelines for the Management of Biological Foodborne Outbreaks. 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 July 8, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by July 31, 2022.

Decision Tree in the *General Principles of Food Hygiene*: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/33/OCS-FH) requesting comments on the proposed draft revision to the *General Principles of Food Hygiene* regarding inclusion of the decision tree. 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 July 8, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by July 31, 2022.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

Sustainability Labelling: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2022/12-FL) requesting information on sustainability labelling. 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 Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov) by July 1, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to codexnz@mpi.govt.nz with a copy to Phillippa.hawthorne@mpi.govt.nz and Kati.laitinen@mpi.govt.nz by July 15, 2022.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

JMPR 2021 MRL Recommendations: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/20(REV1)-PR) requesting comments on the maximum residue limit (MRL) recommendations from the two Joint FAO/WHO Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) which met in 2021—the JMPR Regular Meeting and the JMPR Extra Meeting. 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 June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Okra: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/34-PR) requesting comments on the establishment of MRLs for pesticides in okra as part of the *Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed* (CXM 4-1989). 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 June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Classification of Food and Feed: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/35/REV1-PR) requesting comments on the revision of the *Classification of Food and Feed*: Class B – Primary Food Commodities of Animal Origin (All Types) and Class E - Processed Foods of Animal Origin (All Types). 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 June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Edible Animal Tissue: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/36-PR) requesting comments on harmonized definitions/terms for “edible offal” and other edible animal tissues (i.e., “meat” “muscle” and “fat”). This is part of the coordination of work between the CCPR and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF). 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 June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Active Substances of Low Public Health Concern: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/37-PR) requesting comments on the draft Guidelines for the recognition of active substances or authorized uses of active substances of low public health concern. 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 June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Engagement of JMPR in Parallel Reviews of New Compounds: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/38-PR) requesting comments on the criteria for selecting the global project manager for the parallel review process. 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 June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 20, 2022.

Management of Unsupported Compounds: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/39-PR) requesting comments on the management of unsupported compounds without public health concern scheduled for periodic review by the JMPR. 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 June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

Food Safety Legislation: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2022/02/OCS-CCAFRICA) requesting comments on the proposed draft Guidelines for Developing Harmonized Food Safety Legislation for the CCAFRICA region. The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 June 16, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 30, 2022.

Regional Standard for Dried Meat: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2022/04/OCS-CCAFRICA) requesting comments on the Draft Regional Standard for dried meat. The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 June 16, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 30, 2022.

New Alternate U.S. Delegate

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)

Alternate U.S. Delegate: Mr. Trevor Gilbert, Produce Safety Expert at the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, was recently confirmed as the new Alternate U.S. Delegate to CCFFV. He follows in the footsteps of Dr. David Ingram, who previously served as alternate U.S. Delegate to CCFFV.

Calls for Experts

Toxic Equivalency Factors: The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a call for experts to serve as members of an ad-hoc expert consultation that will contribute to an update of existing and to consider development of new WHO toxic equivalency factors (TEFs) for dioxin-like compounds, including some polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The call for experts is available at the following link: <https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-who-initiative-to-update-the-2005-who-tef-for-dioxin-and-dioxin-like-compounds>. Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to kpetersen@who.int by June 10, 2022.

Listeria monocytogenes: The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and WHO have issued a call for experts who can contribute to future work of its Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA) by developing a full farm to table risk assessment for *Listeria monocytogenes* in foods. The call for experts is available at the following link:

<https://www.fao.org/3/cb9930en/cb9930en.pdf>. Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to jemra@fao.org and jemra@who.int by June 30, 2022.

Call for Data

Listeria monocytogenes: FAO and WHO have issued a call for data to serve as input to the development of scientific advice on the full farm to table risk assessment for *Listeria monocytogenes* in foods. The assessment will include but not be limited to leafy greens, cantaloupe (also called rockmelon), frozen vegetables such as peas and corn and ready-to-eat seafood that permits the growth of Listeria like gravad (sugar-salt marinated) salmon and halibut. The call for data is available at the following link:

<https://www.fao.org/3/cb9930en/cb9930en.pdf>. Data submissions in response to the call for data should be sent to jemra@fao.org and jemra@who.int by September 1, 2022.

Other

World Food Safety Day: FAO and WHO are hosting a virtual panel discussion under the theme “Safer Food, Better Health” in celebration of World Food Safety Day on June 7, 2022, from 8:00-9:00 EDT (14:00–15:00 CEST). The event will focus on the need to transform food systems for better health and the sustainable production and consumption of safe foods in different settings. The event agenda can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.fao.org/3/cc0293en/cc0293en.pdf>. To register for the webinar, please use the following link: https://who.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ORbbA49nT3GVbuhm8aeqww.