



Codex News – July 27, 2021

Upcoming Public Meetings

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL):

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a virtual public meeting on September 1, 2021, from 2:00 – 4:00 EDT to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 46th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling, scheduled for September 27 - October 1, 2021, with the report adoption on October 7, 2021. Documents related to the 46th Session of the CCFL will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=46>.

- Dr. Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 46th Session of the CCFL, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov.
- Please register to attend by emailing uscodex@usda.gov by August 27, 2021. Early registration is appreciated.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)

The CCFFP, which was re-activated at the 43rd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (November 2020) and will conduct its 35th session by correspondence, from September 20–October 25, 2021, has extended its registration deadline for the meeting until August 31, 2021. The 35th Session of CCFFP will evaluate if the *Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products* (CXS 94-1981) could be amended to include the fish species *S. lemuru* (Bali Sardinella) in the list of Sardinella species under section 2.1. This is in accordance with the *Procedure for the Inclusion of Additional Species in Codex Standards for Fish and Fishery Products*. The working documents will be made available on the Codex website: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFFP&session=35>. For additional information, please contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

The 42nd Session of CCNFSDU, rescheduled from November 2020 to November 2021, will convene virtually. Sessions will take place on November 19, 22 – 25, 2021, from 6:00 – 9:00 am EDT (12:00 – 15:00 CET). The adoption of the Report will take place on December 1, 2021 from

6:00 – 9:00 am EDT (12:00 – 15:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other documents related to the 42nd Session of CCNFSDU may be found at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCNFSDU&session=42>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Electronic Working Groups

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

Guidelines on equivalence of National Food Control Systems (NFCS) and Consolidation of all Codex guidance on Equivalence: CCFICS invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by New Zealand, working in English, to revise the draft guidelines on Equivalence of NFCS based on discussions at CCFICS25 and to progress consolidation of all CCFICS guidance on equivalence. Individuals interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Other observers and countries should send their full contact details including participant's name, official title or position, organization or country, and email address via their Codex Contact Points (CCPs) to CodexNZ@mpi.govt.nz by July 30, 2021. As this EWG will operate on the Codex Online Forum, please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

Review of Standard CXS-234--Fats and Oils: CCMAS invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by The Netherlands, working in English, to review the fats and oils workable package, in coordination with the SDOs and CCFO. Individuals interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) by August 9, 2021. Other observers and countries should send their full contact details including participant's name, official title or position, organization or country, and email address via their CCPs to Yannick.weesepoel@wur.nl by August 13, 2021. As this EWG will operate on the Codex Online Forum, please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate.

Review of Standard CXS-234--Processed Fruits and Vegetables: CCMAS invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by the United States, working in English, to review methods of analysis on the processed fruits and vegetables workable package. Individuals interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) by September 27, 2021. Other observers and countries should send their full contact details including participant's name, official title or position, organization or country, and email address via their CCPs also to Heather.Selig@usda.gov by September 30, 2021. As this EWG will operate on the

Codex Online Forum, please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate.

Review of the General Guidelines on Sampling (CXG 50-2004): CCMAS invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by New Zealand, and co-chaired by Germany, working in English, to consider the revision of the *General Guidelines on Sampling* in relation to the key points in the CCMAS Report from the 21st Session (2021) (REP21/MAS). The outcome of this work is to provide a revised package for consideration by CCMAS 42. Individuals interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) by September 27, 2021. Other observers and countries should send their full contact details including participant's name, official title or position, organization or country, and email address via their CCPs to CodexNZ@mpi.govt.nz by September 30, 2021. As this EWG will operate on the Codex Online Forum, please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

Identity and Purity of Food Additives: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/57/OCS-FA) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft specifications for the identity and purity of food additives arising from the 91st JECFA. 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 Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by August 6, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by August 20, 2021.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

Olive Oil: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/29/OCS –FO) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft revision to the *Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils* (CXS 33-1981). 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (Doreen.ChenMoulec@usda.gov) by August 13, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by August 31, 2021.

Avocado oil: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/28/OCS –FO) requesting comments at Step 3 on the on the Proposed Draft amendment/revision to the

Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999) - Inclusion of Inclusion of Avocado oil. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (Doreen.ChenMoulec@usda.gov) by September 10, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 24, 2021.

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

Third-Party Assurance (vTPA) Programmes: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/52/OCS-FICS) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft Principles and Guidelines for the assessment and use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (vTPA) programmes. 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 September 16, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 30, 2021.

Paperless Use of Electronic Certificates: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/53/OCS-FICS) requesting comments at Step 5/8 on the Proposed Draft Guidance on paperless use of electronic certificates (revision to the *Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic Official Certificates* (CXG 38-2001)). 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 September 16, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 30, 2021.

Other

FAO Publication: Animal Nutrition and Antimicrobials: FAO issued a new publication on *Animal nutrition strategies and options to reduce the use of antimicrobials in animal production*. The Report may be found at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb5524en>.