



Codex News – August 24, 2021

## Upcoming Public Meetings

### **Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products**

The U.S. Program is sponsoring a public meeting on August 31, 2021 from 1:00-3:00 P.M. ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP), which will meet by correspondence during the period of September 20 - October 2, 2021 with report adoption on October 25, 2021. The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFFP will be accessible via the internet at the following website: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFFP&session=35>.

- Melissa Abbott, U.S. Delegate to the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFFP, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [Melissa.Abbott@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Melissa.Abbott@fda.hhs.gov).
- Please register to attend the public meeting here:
- <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltcuuhrDkiHcpY8OPpLO2mPqE6lvXs-mQ>.

### **Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)**

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a virtual public meeting on September 9, 2021 from 10:00A.M. – 12:00P.M. ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR08), which is scheduled for October 4 – 9, 2021. Documents related to TFAMR08 are available at the following website:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=TFAMR&session=8>

- Donald A. Prater, the U.S. Delegate to TFAMR08, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [donald.prater@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:donald.prater@fda.hhs.gov)
- Please register to attend the public meeting here: [www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlscOqsqTlrG4XB3KA9PuFQT5y28NJF068](http://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlscOqsqTlrG4XB3KA9PuFQT5y28NJF068)

## **Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)**

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a virtual public meeting on September 20, 2021 from 2:00 – 4:00P.M. ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 27th Session of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO27), which is schedule from October 18 - 26, 2021. Documents related to CCFO27 are available at the following website: <http://www.fao.org/faowho-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFO&session=27>

- Dr. Paul South, the U.S. Delegate to CCFO27, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [paul.south@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:paul.south@fda.hhs.gov).
- Please register to attend the public meeting here: [www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdeCspjoiE\\_dPA0lHBseYMWHn9UDDhdY](http://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdeCspjoiE_dPA0lHBseYMWHn9UDDhdY)

## **Upcoming Committee Meetings**

### **Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)**

The CCEXEC will conduct its 81st session (CCEXEC81) virtually from October 28-29, 2021 and November 1-3, 2021 with adoption of the report on November 5, 2021. The provisional agenda and other documents related to CCEXEC81 can be found at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEXEC&session=81>. For additional information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office at: [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)

### **Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)**

The 52nd session of the CCFH (CCFH52) will be held virtually on February 28 and March 1-4, 2022 with report adoption taking place on March 9, 2022. The provisional agenda and other documents related to CCFH52 can be found at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFH&session=52>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

## **Electronic Working Groups (EWG)**

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

**Food Fraud:** CCFICS invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by the United States and co-chaired by China, European Union, Islamic Republic of Iran, and United Kingdom, working in English and Spanish, to develop a guidance on the prevention and control of food fraud. Individuals in the U.S. interested in providing input should contact Kristen Hendricks

([Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by September 6, 2021. Other Member countries and Codex Observers should send their full contact details including participant's name, official title or position, organization or country, and email address via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov) by September 9, 2021. As this EWG will convene on the Codex Forum, please note that when there is more than one expert, each Member country or Codex Observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate in the EWG.

**Traceability and Product Tracing Within a Food Inspection and Certification System:** CCFICS invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by the United States and co-chaired by the United Kingdom, working in English, to prepare a discussion paper, with the possibility of developing a new project document and to consider whether the Principles for Traceability/Product Tracing as a Tool Within a Food Inspection and Certification System (CXG 60-2006) needs to be revised and updated. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by September 9, 2021. Other countries and observers 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 (CCP) to [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov) by September 13, 2021. As this EWG will operate on the Codex Online System (OCS), please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate in the EWG.

**Remote Audit and Verification:** CCFICS invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Australia and co-chaired by Canada and Singapore, working in English, to develop a discussion paper on "Use of remote audit and verification in regulatory frameworks" with the possibility of also developing a new project document. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by September 6, 2021. Other countries and observers 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 (CCP) to [Codex.Contact@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:Codex.Contact@agriculture.gov.au) by September 9, 2021. As this EWG will operate on the Codex Online System (OCS), please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate in the EWG.

### **Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)**

**Draft Standard for Nutmeg:** CCSCH invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by India and co-chaired by Indonesia, working in English, to develop a draft standard for nutmeg.

Individuals in the U.S. interested in providing input should contact Heather Selig ([Heather.Selig@usda.gov](mailto:Heather.Selig@usda.gov)) by September 1, 2021. Other Member countries and Codex Observers should send their full contact details including participant's name, official title or position, organization or country, and email address via their CCP to [codex.moa.indonesia@gmail.com](mailto:codex.moa.indonesia@gmail.com) by September 6, 2021. As this EWG will convene on the Codex Forum, please note that when there is more than one expert, each Member country or Codex Observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate in the EWG.

## Requests for Comments

### **Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)**

**Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/59/OCS – AMR) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft guidelines on integrated monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance. The CL is currently available in English 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 Marie Maratos Bhat ([Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. Comments by Member countries and Codex Observers should be submitted using the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 7, 2021.

**Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/65-AMR) requesting comments at Step 6 on the revised code of practice to minimize and contain foodborne antimicrobial resistance. The CL is currently available in English 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 Marie Maratos Bhat ([Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov)) by September 10, 2021. Comments by Member countries and Codex Observers should be submitted using the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 20, 2021.

**Substances Proposed for Evaluation by the JECFA:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/61/OCS-FA) requesting comments on the substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA. 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](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. Comments by Member countries and Codex

Observers should be submitted using the Codex OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by August 25, 2021.

### **Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)**

**Methods of Analysis and Texts Ready for Adoption:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/60/OCS - MAS) requesting comments at Step 5 and Step 8 on (i) methods of analysis, (ii) the revised Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty, and (iii) the revised General Guidelines on Sampling. 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 Heather Selig ([Heather.Selig@usda.gov](mailto:Heather.Selig@usda.gov)) by August 27, 2021. Comments by Member countries and Codex Observers should be submitted using the Codex OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 10, 2021.

### **Codex Committee on Methods of Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)**

**Draft Product Definition of Drink/Product for Young Children for Young Children with Added Nutrients or Drink for Young Children; and Nitrogen to Protein Conversion Factors: Report of the EWG:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/54/OCS-MAS) requesting comments on the draft product definition of drink/product for young children with added 5 nutrients or drink for young children and Nitrogen to protein conversion factors. 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 Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by September 9, 2021. Comments by Member countries and Codex Observers should be submitted using the Codex OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 30, 2021.

### **Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products**

**Laboratories to Perform the Sensory Evaluation and Species to be Compared with the *Sardinella lemuru* (Bali Sardinella):** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/67/OCS-FFP) requesting for comments on the laboratories to perform the sensory evaluation and species to be compared with the *Sardinella lemuru* (Bali Sardinella). 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 Heather Selig ([Heather.Selig@usda.gov](mailto:Heather.Selig@usda.gov))

by August 27, 2021. Comments by Member countries and Codex Observers should be submitted using the Codex OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 5, 2021.

### **Codex Committee on General Principles**

**Procedural Guidance for Committees Working by Correspondence:** The Codex Secretariat issued a circular letter (CL 2021/66/OCS-GP) requesting for comments on the draft Procedural Guidance for Committees Working by Correspondence (CWBC). The CL is 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 Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by September 9, 2021. Comments by Member countries and Codex Observers should be submitted using the Codex OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 19, 2021.

### **Other**

#### **New U.S. Delegate's Reports:**

- Report of the U.S. Delegate on the 41st Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS41)
- Report of the U.S. Delegate on the 25th Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF25)
- Report of the U.S. Delegate on the 25th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS25)

The reports may be found at the following link:

<https://www.usda.gov/topics/trade/international-food-standards/codex-delegation-reports>

#### **FAO Publications:**

- FAO guidance: COVID-19: Guidance for preventing transmission of COVID-19 within food businesses: FAO has issued a new guidance document to highlight additional measures that food businesses and the authorities regulating the sector can take to protect workers from person-to-person spread of COVID-19.

The report may be found at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb6030en>

**Report of the 92nd Meeting of the JECFA:** The Committee successfully evaluated certain food additives and flavourings as well as revised the specifications for modified starches. The summary report can be accessed through the following links:

- FAO: <http://www.fao.org/3/cb5597en/cb5597en.pdf>
- WHO: [https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/ninety-second-meeting-joint-faowho-expert-committee-of-food-additives-\(jecfa\)](https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/ninety-second-meeting-joint-faowho-expert-committee-of-food-additives-(jecfa))