



Codex News – September 20, 2022

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

The 6th Session of the CCSCH will meet virtually from September 26-30, 2022 from 4:30 AM-7:30 AM EDT (10:30-13:30 CET). Virtual report adoption will take place on October 3, 2022 from 4:30 AM-7:30 AM 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 the following link: <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.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)

The 22nd Session of CCASIA will meet virtually on October 12-14 and 17-18, 2022, from 3:00-6:00 AM EDT (9:00 – 12:00 CET). Virtual report adoption will take place on October 21, 2022 from 3:00-6:00 AM EDT (9:00 – 12:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 22nd Session of the CCASIA are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCASIA&session=22>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC)

The 22nd Session of CCLAC will meet virtually on October 24-26, 2022 11:00-14:00 EDT (17:00 – 20:00 CET). Virtual report adoption will take place on October 28, 2022 from 11:00-14:00 EDT (17:00 – 20:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 22nd Session of the CCLAC are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCLAC&session=22>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)

The 83rd Session of the CCEXEC will take place physically in the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Headquarters in Rome, Italy, on November 14-16, 2022, from 4:00-7:00 EST (10:00-13:00 CET) and 9:00-12:00 EST (15:00-18:00 CET). Report adoption will also take place physically on November 18, 2022 from 4:00-7:00 EST (10:00-13:00 CET) and 9:00-12:00 EST (15:00-18:00 CET). Remote participation (via Zoom) will also be possible. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 83rd Session of the CCEXEC are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEXEC&session=83>. For additional information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov).

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

The 45th Session of the CAC will take place physically at FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy on November 21-25, 2022 from 4:00-7:00 EST (10:00-13:00 CET) and 9:00-12:00 EST (15:00-18:00 CET).

Virtual report adoption will take place on December 12-13, 2022 from 6:00-9:00 EST (12:00-15:00 CET). Remote participation (via Zoom) possible for listening and verbal interventions. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 45th Session of the CAC are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=45>. For additional information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov).

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

The 26th Session of the CCRVDF will take place physically in Portland, Oregon, United States, on February 13-17, 2023. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 26th Session of the CCRVDF will soon be available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=26>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)

Fresh Curry Leaves: CCFFV invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by India, working in English, to develop a proposed draft standard for fresh curry leaves. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) by October 5, 2022. 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 Point (CCP) to sudhanshu@apeda.gov.in, vinitas@apeda.gov.in, and codex-india@nic.in by October 10, 2022. 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 in the EWG.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

Certified Reference Materials: CCPR invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by India and co-chaired by Argentina and Iran, working in English and Spanish, to refine the discussion paper on guidance for monitoring the purity and stability of certified reference materials of multi-class pesticides during prolonged storage. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.Maratosbhat@usda.gov) as soon as possible. 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 CCP to codex-india@nic.in with a copy to vs_agch@yahoo.com as soon as possible. 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 in the EWG.

Classification of Food and Feed: CCPR invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by the United States and co-chaired by The Netherlands, working in English, to further the revision of the *Classification of Food and Feed* (CXA 4-1989). The specific terms of reference are as follows:

- i) continue working on Classes B Primary food commodities of animal origin and E Processed food commodities of animal origin of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989) and prepare tables of representative commodities;
- ii) consider the proposals on the portion of the commodity to which maximum residue limits apply, and which is analyzed for Group 006 Assorted tropical and sub-tropical fruits - inedible peel and Group 023 Oilseeds; and
- iii) review the *Guidelines on portion of commodities to which MRLs apply and which is analyzed* (CXG 41-1993) with a comparison to the *Classification of Food and Feed* (CXA 4-1989) to consider revocation of CXG41 to avoid coexistence of the two documents addressing the same provisions. The EWG should consider any provisions from CXG41 that could still be integrated into the revised Classification and make a proposal for consideration by CCPR54.

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.Maratosbhat@usda.gov) as soon as possible. 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 CCP to uscodex@usda.gov with a copy to info@codexalimentarius.nl as soon as possible. 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 in the EWG.

Enhancement of work management of CCPR and JMPR: CCPR invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by the United States and co-chaired by Costa Rica, France, Germany and Uganda, working in English and Spanish, to explore the enhancement of work management by the CCPR and the FAO/World Health Organization (WHO) Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR). The specific terms of reference are as follows:

- i) prepare a Circular Letter (CL) to request information from members and observers on the need to enhance CCPR/JMPR and the associated opportunities and challenges. The CL may invite members and observers to consider a second or possibly subsequent workshops that would expand on and further develop some of the themes addressed in the virtual workshop sponsored by CropLife International on March 31, 2022, as described in CX/PR 22/53/20.
- ii) prepare, on the basis of the responses to the CL a summary of the submitted information and a discussion paper that summarizes findings for consideration at CCPR54 and later transmission to JMPR as appropriate.
- iii) coordinate work with related EWGs such as the EWGs on priority lists, national registration database, unsupported compounds.

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.Maratosbhat@usda.gov) by September 23, 2022. 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 CCP to uscodex@usda.gov by September 25, 2022. 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 in the EWG.

Management of unsupported compounds without public health concern: CCPR invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Chile and co-chaired by Australia, India and Kenya, working in English and Spanish, to further develop and refine the management proposal for unsupported

compounds without public health concerns scheduled for periodic review by JMPR, presented in the Section 1 of Appendix I of CRD09. The EWG is also tasked to further develop the recommendations of Section 2 of Appendix I of CRD 09--to explore further options for efficient data support that could be addressed by Codex, FAO, WHO, JMPR, governments and the industry to assist countries in the preparation of data packages required to conduct periodic reviews.

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.Maratosbhat@usda.gov) as soon as possible. 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 CCP to codex@achipia.gob.cl with a copy to roxana.vera@sag.gob.cl as soon as possible. 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 in the EWG.

Schedules/Priority Lists: CCPR invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Australia, working in English, to work on the establishment of CCPR schedules and priority lists for the JMPR. The specific terms of reference are as follows:

- i) provide a report on the schedules and priority lists of pesticides for evaluation/re-evaluation by JMPR for consideration by CCPR54 (2023),
- ii) call for nominations to the parallel review pilot, and
- iii) prepare information for CCPR54 on the technical implications of removing certain unsupported compounds from the Codex pesticides list.

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.Maratosbhat@usda.gov) as soon as possible. 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 CCP to Codex.Contact@agriculture.gov.au as soon as possible. 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 in the EWG.

Requests for Comments

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

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/59/FICS) requesting comments on a new work proposal for the Development of Principles and Guidelines on the Use of Remote Audit and Verification in Regulatory Frameworks. 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 Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by October 3, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to the Australian Codex Contact Point (codex.contact@agriculture.gov.au) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by October 14, 2022.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/50/OCS-FH) requesting comments on the discussion paper on revision of the *Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Viruses in Food* (CXG 79-2012). The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish 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) and Jenny Scott (jenny.scott@fda.hhs.gov) with a copy to Andrew Yeung (andrew.yeung@fda.hhs.gov) by October 21, 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 October 31, 2022.

Codex Committee of Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/60/OCS-MAS) requesting comments on the fats and oils workable package in the review of the *Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234 – 1999). 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 Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by January 20, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by February 3, 2023.

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

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/57/OCS-NFSDU) requesting comments on the Guidelines for Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF). 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) of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by October 3, 2022.

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/58/OCS-EXEC) requesting comments on the proposal for revision of the *Standard for milk fat products* (CXS 280-1973). 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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by October 3, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by October 14, 2022.