



Codex News – September 21, 2021

Upcoming Public Meetings

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

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on October 19, 2021, 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 42nd Session of the Codex Committee on CCNFSDU, on November 19-25, 2021. The public meeting will take place virtually. Documents related to the 42nd Session of the CCNFSDU will be accessible via the internet at the following address: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/en.

- Dr. Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 42nd Session of the CCNFSDU, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov.
- Please register to attend the public meeting here by emailing the U.S. Codex Office at: uscodex@usda.gov.

Upcoming Committee and Task Force Meetings

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

The 8th Session of the TFAMR will meet virtually from October 4-9, 2021 with the report adoption planned for October 13, 2021. The Session will be conducted in English, French, and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 8th Session of the TFAMR are available at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=TFAMR&session=8>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

Codex Members recently endorsed the request for a virtual session for the 44th Session of the CAC and the proposed approach for election of the new Chairperson and Vice Chairpersons. As such, CAC44 will meet virtually from November 8-18, 2021. Plenary sessions will convene on November 8-13 and November 15, 2021 from 6:00-9:00 EDT (12:00-15:00 CET); the report adoption is planned for November 17-18, 2021 from 6:00-9:00 EDT (12:00-15:00 CET). The Session will be conducted in all working languages of the CAC: English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Chinese. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 44th Session of the CAC will be available at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who->

[codexalimentary/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=44](http://www.fao.org/codexalimentary/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=44). For additional information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov).

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

The 27th Session of the CCFO will meet virtually on October 18-22, 2021, with report adoption planned for October 26, 2021. The Session will be conducted in English, French, and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 27th Session of the CCFO are available at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentary/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFO&session=27>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)

The CCFFP, which was re-activated at the 43rd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC43, November 2020), is currently conducting its 35th Session by correspondence until October 25, 2021. The adoption of the report will take place virtually on October 25, 2021. The Session is being conducted in English, French and Spanish. CCFFP35 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. The working documents are available at the following website: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentary/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 Food Labelling (CCFL)

The 46th Session of CCFL will meet virtually on September 27 – October 1, 2021, from 4:00-7:00 pm EDT (21:00-24:00 hours CET). The adoption of the report will take place on October 7, 2021, from 4:00-7:00 pm EDT (21:00-24:00 hours CET). The provisional agenda and other documents related to the 46th Session of the CCFL are available at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentary/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=46>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Recent Committee Delegate Reports

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The report of the United States Delegate to the 52nd Session of the CCPR has published. The report can be found at the following link:

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/delegates-report-2021-ccpr.pdf>

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

Saffron: CCSCH invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Iran and co-chaired by Greece, working in English, to develop a draft standard for saffron under the group “dried floral parts.” 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 September 27, 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 the following email addresses: sadat77@gmail.com; codex@efet.gr; gc@novinsaffron.com; and codex_office@isiri.gov.ir 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 in the EWG.

Group Standard Layout: CCSCH invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by the United States and co-chaired by Brazil, Ghana, India, Iran, and the United Kingdom, working in English, to develop a proposed draft group standard layout based on the discussion paper submitted by the United States and comments made at the 5th CCSCH Session (2021). 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 12, 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 CCP to the following email addresses: dorian.lafond@usda.gov; uscodex@usda.gov; and heather.selig@usda.gov by October 15, 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 in the EWG.

Spices Derived from Dried Fruits and Berries: CCSCH invites Members and Observers to join and EWG, chaired by the United States and co-chaired by India, working in English, to develop a proposed draft standard for spices derived from dried fruits and berries, taking in to account the proposal submitted and comments made at the 5th CCSCH Session (2021). 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 12, 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 CCP to the following email addresses: dorian.lafond@usda.gov; uscodex@usda.gov; and heather.selig@usda.gov by October 15, 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 in the EWG.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

Regional Standards Developed by CCLAC: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/56 REV-LAC) requesting comments on the alignment of food additive provisions and regional standards developed by the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC) with the *General Standard for Food Additives* (GSFA) (CXS 192-1995). The CL is currently available in English and Spanish at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters>. Comments by Member countries and Codex Observers should be submitted through their CCP to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 30, 2021.

Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)

The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for submitting comments in response to a Circular Letter (CL 2021/66/OCS-GP) requesting for comments on the draft procedural guidance for Committees Working by Correspondence (CWBC) until September 30, 2021. The CL is currently available on the Codex website 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) 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 the new deadline of September 30, 2021.

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

Product Definition of Drink/Product for Young Children: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/54/OCS-NFSDU) requesting comments on the draft product definition of drink/product for young children with added nutrients or drink for young children; nitrogen to protein conversion factors; and the report of the Electronic Working Group. 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 Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.Hendricks@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 30, 2021.

Other

Codex Trust Fund: The sixth round of applications for support from the FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund is now open. Additional information and application documents may be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/initiatives/codex-trust-fund/support>.

Report of the 2nd Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Risk Assessment of Food Allergens:

Please note that the summary report of the 2nd Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Risk Assessment of Food Allergens (review/establish threshold levels in foods of priority allergens) can be accessed through the following links:

- FAO: <http://www.fao.org/food-safety/resources/publications/en/>
- WHO: <https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2021/03/15/defaultcalendar/ad-hoc-joint-fao-who-expert-consultation-on-risk-assessment-of-foodallergens-part2-review-and-establish-threshold-levels-in-foods-of-the-priority-allergens>

JECFA94 Call for Data: The 94th Meeting of the Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) will convene virtually May 16-27, 2022, to review the list of substances scheduled for evaluation or re-evaluation, based on recommendations of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) and previous provisional decisions of JECFA. Data should be submitted to the following e-mail address: jecfa@who.int. The deadline for data submission is December 31, 2021. The call for data can be found through the following links:

- FAO: <http://www.fao.org/3/cb6522en/cb6522en.pdf>
- WHO: https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/food-safety/jecfa/call-for-data/jecfa94---call-for-data.pdf?sfvrsn=ee5d92f5_12

JECFA95 Call for Data: The 95th Meeting of JECFA will convene in Rome June 7-16, 2022 (or virtually June 6-17, 2022), to review the list of substances scheduled for evaluation or reevaluation, based on recommendations of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA), previous Expert Committees, and direct requests from governments, other interested organizations, and producers of substances that have been evaluated previously. Data should be submitted to the following e-mail address: jecfa@who.int. The deadline for data submission is December 31, 2021. The call for data can be found through the following links:

- FAO: <http://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/calls-for-data-and-expertsexpert-rosters/en/>
- WHO: [https://www.who.int/groups/joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-\(jecfa\)](https://www.who.int/groups/joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-(jecfa))