



Codex News- October 8, 2019

Public Meetings

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

The U.S Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on November 1, 2019 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. EDT. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 41st Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, in Dusseldorf, Germany, November 24-29, 2019. The public meeting will take place in Meeting Room 1A003, The Wiley Auditorium of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Harvey H. Wiley Building, 5001 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740. Documents related to the 41st Session of the CCNFSDU will be accessible via the internet at the following address: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/en/.

- Dr. Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 41st Session of the CCNFSDU, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov.
- Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by emailing uscodex@usda.gov by October 30, 2019. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will take place in a Federal building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through the security screening systems.
- Attendees who are not able to attend in person, but wish to participate, may do so by phone/conference call. Please register by emailing uscodex@usda.gov to receive the call-in number in participant code.

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

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on November 21, 2019 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. EST to provide information and receive public comment on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 7th Session of the Codex Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance, in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, December 9-13, 2019. The public meeting will take place in Meeting Room 107-A of the Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 7th Session of the TFAMR will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/en/>.

- Dr. Donald A. Prater, U.S. Delegate to the 7th Session of the TFAMR, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: donald.prater@fda.hhs.gov.
- Please register to attend by emailing uscodex@usda.gov by November 18, 2019. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building, for which attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through federal building security screening systems.

- Attendees who are not able to attend in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone/conference call; please use the call-in number: 1-888-844-9904, participant code 5126092.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Cereal, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL)

Grain Size: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/92/OCS-CPL) requesting comments at Step 6 on the provision for grain size in the standard for quinoa. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered for the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by November 18, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to marie.maratos@usda.gov with a copy to ussec-cccpl@usda.gov, henry.kim@fda.hhs.gov and codex@fao.org by December 1, 2019.

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)

Cadmium in Chocolates: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/81/OCS-CF) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft maximum levels for cadmium in chocolates containing or declaring <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis. The CL can be found in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 November 1, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by November 10, 2019.

Mycotoxin Contamination: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/74-CF) requesting data and information on mitigation measures on mycotoxin contamination in cassava and cassava-based products. The CL can be found in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 November 1, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by November 10, 2019.

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

Food Additive Provision of the GSFA: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/40-FA) requesting proposals for new provisions and/or revisions of the Food Additive Provision of the GSFA. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en.

codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 3, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 15, 2020.

Priority List of Substances: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/41-FA) requesting information and comments on the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA). The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 3, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 15, 2020.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

General Principles of Food Hygiene: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/70/OCS-FH) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft revision of the General Principles of Food Hygiene and its HACCP Annex. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered for the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by October 18, 2019.

Management of Biological Foodborne Outbreaks: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/71/OCS-FH) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft guidance on the management of biological foodborne outbreaks. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered for the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by October 18, 2019.

Shiga Toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC): The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/72/OCS-FH) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft Guidelines for the control of shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC) in beef meat, leafy greens, raw milk and cheese produced from raw milk, and sprouts. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by October 18, 2019.

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

Voluntary Third-Party Assurance Programs: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/93/OCS-FICS) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft principles and guidelines for the assessment and use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (v-TPA) programs. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 December 20, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by December 31, 2019.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

Innovation and Technology in Food Labelling: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/82-FL) requesting information for innovation and technology in food labelling. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 November 20, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to hc.codex.canada.sc@canada.ca with a copy to codex@fao.org by November 30, 2019.

Labelling of Non-Retail Containers: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/85/OCS-FL) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft guidance for the labelling of non-retail containers. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 May 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by May 30, 2020.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

Request for Data and Information on Avocado Oil: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/52-FO) requesting data and information on the characteristics and origins of avocado oil (part of the fruit from which oil is derived). The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 November 19, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to codex@fao.org with copies to codexmex@economia.gob.mx and uscodex@usda.gov by November 29, 2019.

List of Acceptable Previous Cargo: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/51/OCS-FO) requesting proposals for amendments to Appendix 2: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes of [CAC/RCP 36-1987](#). The CL is available in English at the following link:

www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 December 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by December 15, 2019.

Request for Data and Information on Sunflowerseed Oil: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/53-FO) requesting data and information on refractive index, saponification value, iodine values, and relative density for sunflower seed oil. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to codex@fao.org with copies to codex@magyp.gov.ar, mlarre@magyp.gob.ar, codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br, and ana.peretti@anvisa.gov.br by January 31, 2020.

New Work and/or Amendments to Existing Codex Standards: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/54/FO) requesting proposals for new work and/or amendments to existing Codex standards. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 October 31, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to sante-codex@ec.europa.eu with a copy to ccpr@agri.gov.cn, codex@fao.org, and hermine.reich@efsa.europa by November 10, 2019.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

Measurement Uncertainty: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/80/OCS-MAS) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft revised *Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty*. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 October 21, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by October 31, 2019.

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

Follow-up Formula for Older Infants and [product] for Young Children: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/78/OCS-NFSDU) requesting comments at Step 3 on the Review of the Standard for Follow-up Formula: proposed draft standard for follow-up formula for older infants and [product] for young children. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 October 11, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by October 22, 2019.

Proposed draft Guidelines for RUTF: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/79/OCS-NFSDU) requesting comments at Step 3 on Section 5.2.2 (food additives) and Section 6.2 (proteins): proposed draft Guidelines for RUTF. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 October 15, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by October 25, 2019.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

IESTI Equations: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/73-PR) requesting bulking or blending information in the framework review of the IESTI equations. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by November 1, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to sante-codex@ec.europa.eu with a copy to ccpr@agri.gov.cn, codex@fao.org, and hermine.reich@efsa.europa.eu by November 10, 2019.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

Saffron: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/94/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for saffron. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Floral Parts—Dried Cloves: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/95/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried floral parts—dried cloves. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Leaves—Dried Basil: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/96/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried leaves—dried basil. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Roots, Rhizomes, and Bulbs—Dried or Dehydrated Ginger: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/97/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried roots, rhizomes, and bulbs—dried or dehydrated ginger. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Oregano: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/98/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried oregano. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Other

Call for Experts and Data: A call for experts and data for work on STEC has been issued and is available on the following websites: www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/ and www.who.int/foodsafety/call-experts/en/. The deadline for experts is October 31, 2019 and the deadline for data is January 31, 2019.

Call for Candidates for Training of New JMPR Experts: A call for candidates for training of new experts for the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) has been issued. It is available on the following website: [www.who.int/foodsafety/Call for candidates for training of new JMPR experts final.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/Call%20for%20candidates%20for%20training%20of%20new%20JMPR%20experts%20final.pdf?ua=1).

Safety and Quality of Water Used in Food Production and Processing: The Microbiological Risk Assessment Report on Safety and Quality of Water in Food Production and Processing is now

available at the following links: www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca6062en and www.who.int/foodsafety/publications/mra_33/en/.