



Codex News – November 17, 2020

Virtual Meetings

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

The 43rd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC43), which was conducted virtually for the first time in its history (on September 24-26; October 12 and 19, 2020) due to the Covid-19 pandemic, convened on November 5-6, 2020 for the adoption of the CAC43 draft report.

The official finalized CAC43 report will be available shortly at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=43>.

Rescheduled Codex Committee Sessions

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

The 25th Session of CCRVDF is now rescheduled for July 12-16, 2021, in Cleveland, Ohio, United States. Documents related to the 25th Session of CCRVDF will be available at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=25>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for input on Circular Letter (CL 2020/55-FH) requesting comments on CCFH's proposed decision trees for identification of critical control points and a background paper on the methods of analysis for irradiated foods. The CL is 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 Marie Maratos

(Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to the CCPs for Brazil, Ligia Lindner Schreiner (ligia.schreiner@anvisa.gov.br) and Carolina Araujo Vieira (carolina.vieira@anvisa.gov.br), with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by November 30, 2020.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

Innovation and Technology in Food Labelling: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/57/OCS-FL) requesting comments on a paper about innovation and technology in food, which will be used to explore new work for CCFL. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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 December 31, 2020. Comments by other

observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to the CCP for Canada (hc.codex.canada.sc@canada.ca) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by January 15, 2021.

Electronic Working Groups

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

Request for Comments: CCFO is requesting comments for the electronic Working Group (EWG) working on the draft revision to the *Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils*. If you are interested in receiving the draft revision and having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please contact the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov). The deadline for sending comments to the U.S. Codex office is December 11, 2020. Other members of the EWG may submit comments through their Codex Contact Points to EWG chair Juan Ramón Izquierdo (jjalvarez@mapa.es) by December 16, 2020.

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

Extension of Deadline: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for registering for the online informal discussion group discussing Read-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF). This discussion group led by South Africa and Uganda will discuss the bracketed texts in the Draft Guidelines on Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods, including the text on essential fatty acid levels and the magnesium to calcium ratio. The new deadline for registration to this discussion group was November 15, 2020, however if you are still interested, they may be able to accommodate additional requests. Complete registration information can be found at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCNFSDU&session=42.

Other

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

Webinars on Methods of Analysis and Sampling: CCMAS will be holding a series of webinars allowing countries to present updates and progress from work in CCMAS EWGs from November 23-25, 2020. The webinars will open with a session by experts from the Standard Development Organizations (SDOs). Registration information and the full program can be found at the CCMAS committee page at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCMAS&session=41>.

Codex Annual Report: Codex - What next for standards?

The Codex Secretariat has published its fourth edition of the annual report Codex for 2020. The report is currently available in English, and it can be found at the following link: www.fao.org/3/cb1502en/CB1502EN.pdf.

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

The 91st Meeting of JECFA will take place virtually from February 1-12, 2021. The focus of this meeting will be on agenda items that could not be completed at JECFA 89 and 90, as well as new agenda items on updating the exposure assessment exposure assessment of cadmium from all food sources (<http://www.fao.org/3/cb0557en/cb0557en.pdf>) and completing the work on the specifications for steviol glycosides (<http://www.fao.org/3/cb1529en/cb1529en.pdf>).

Codex Trust Fund

Applications for support from the FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund (Round 5) are now being accepted until December 15, 2020. All application documents and information resources - including eligibility - can be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/initiatives/codex-trust-fund/support>.