



Codex News- February 11, 2020

Postponement of Sessions

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

The 52nd Session of the CCFA, originally scheduled for March 2-6, 2020, in Lanzhou, China, has been postponed due to the outbreak of Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). In collaboration with the China National Health Commission and the CCFA Host Secretariat, the Codex Secretariat is exploring whether the meeting could be held in China, at a location to be confirmed, from June 22-26, 2020, with the working groups taking place on June 19-20, 2020. Please note that the documents related to the 52nd Session of the CCFA remain accessible via the internet at the following address: www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en. We will provide an update in an upcoming edition of the Codex News when new information becomes available. In the meanwhile, please contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) with any questions or concerns.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The 52nd Session of the CCPR, originally scheduled for March 30-April 4, 2020, in Guangzhou, China, has been postponed due to the outbreak of Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). In collaboration with the China National Health Commission and the CCPR Host Secretariat, the Codex Secretariat is exploring whether the meeting could be held in China, at a location to be confirmed, at a later date. Please note that the documents related to the 52nd Session of the CCPR remain accessible via the internet at the following address: www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en. We will provide an update in an upcoming edition of the Codex News when new information becomes available. In the meanwhile, please contact Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) with any questions or concerns.

***Special Note: Since CCPR52 has been postponed until further notice, the U.S. Codex Program is cancelling the CCPR52 Public Meeting originally planned for February 27, 2020, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. EST at the United States Environmental Protection Agency. We will reschedule the Public Meeting closer to the new dates for CCPR52 and will officially notify via a new Federal Register notice.*

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by Honduras and co-chaired by Chile, Denmark, European Union, and India, working in English, to develop guidelines for the safe sourcing, use and reuse of water in direct and indirect contact with food across the food chain (primary production and processing) by applying the principle of 'fit for purpose' using a risk-based approach. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by February 14, 2020. 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 msevilla@senasa.gob.hn by February 17, 2020.

Please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as the official representative to participate in the EWG.

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV) invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Iran and co-chaired by Indonesia and India, working in English, on the Proposed Draft Standard on Onions and Shallots. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) by February 18, 2020. 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 nady.ahmadi@yahoo.com and nationalcodex@gmail.com by February 20, 2020. Please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as the official representative to participate in the EWG.

Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by the European Union and co-chaired by Russia, working in English, on the technological justification for several food additives, with the following terms of reference:

- to collect information from the applicants on the following additives: low acyl clarified gellan gum, ascorbyl palmitate (INS 304), mixed tocopherol concentrates (INS307b) and phosphates (INS 339(i), 339 (ii) and 339(iii) and INS 340(i), 340(ii), and 340(iii)) with the framework for considering technological justifications for use in CXS 72-1981; and
- to review the information provided by the applicants and provide recommendation to the Committee on the technological justification of each additive.

Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) immediately. 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 Sante-Codex@ec.europa.eu, Jiri.SOCHOR@ec.europa.eu, codex@gsen.ru and bagryantseva@ion.ru as soon as possible . Please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as the official representative to participate in the EWG.

Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR) invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by The Netherlands and co-chaired by Canada, Chile, China and New Zealand, working in English, to review and revise the Guidelines for the Integrated Monitoring and Surveillance of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance, based on the text in Conference Room Document 03 (CRD03 found at: http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-804-07%252FCRDs%252Famr07_CRD03x.pdf) focusing on those areas that were not considered at the Physical Working Group and not reopening definitions already agreed to in the Code of Practice. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by

February 19, 2020. 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 rm.peransala@minvws.nl and a.ottevanger@minvws.nl by February 21, 2020. Please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as the official representative to participate in the EWG.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL)

Quinoa: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/25-CPL) requesting comments on the analysis of responses to CL 2019/92-CPL: Grain Size in the Standard for Quinoa. The CL is available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 March 1, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be sent to the CCCPL Secretariat (USSEC-CCCPL@usda.gov) with a copy to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov), Henry Kim (henry.kim@fda.hhs.gov) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by March 15, 2020.

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)

Priority List: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/24-CF) requesting comments on the Priority list of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants for evaluation by JECFA. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by March 31, 2020.

Codex Committee on Foods Labelling (CCFL)

Evaluation and Prioritization: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/09/OCS-FL) requesting on the proposed draft approach and criteria for evaluation and prioritization of the work of CCFL. The CL is available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 June 1, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 30, 2020.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

Harmonization of Meat Mammalian MRL: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/13-PR) requesting comments on the harmonization of meat mammalian Maximum Residue Limits (MRL) between the CCPR and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) (Classification of Food and Feed: Class B- Primary Commodities of Animal Origin) arising from the Joint JECFA/JMPR Working Group on the Revision of the Guidance Document for Residue Definition. The CL is available in English and Spanish at the

following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 February 18, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be sent to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by February 28, 2020.

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

MRLs: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/17-RVDF) requesting comments on the MRLs for veterinary drugs. 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 April 10, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the CCRVDF Secretariat (CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by April 25, 2020.

Priority List: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/18-RVDF) requesting comments/information on the Priority List of Veterinary Drugs for Evaluation or Re-evaluation by 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 April 10, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the CCRVDF Secretariat (CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by April 25, 2020.

Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific (CCNASWP)

Kava: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/16/OCS-NASWP) requesting comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft Regional Standard for Kava products for use as a beverage when mixed with water. The CL is available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 March 13, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Noni: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/15/OCS-NASWP) requesting comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft Regional Standard for Fermented Noni Fruit Juice. The CL is available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 March 13, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)

Code of Practice: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/04/OCS-PR) requesting comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft revised Code of practice to contain and minimize AMR. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 28, 2020.

Other

Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC)

Part II: The Codex Secretariat issued the invitation and provisional agenda to the Part II of the Twenty-first Session of the CCLAC to be held by correspondence on the Codex forum from February 3-March 20, 2020. For working documents, CRDs and other information, please check the Meetings and Reports page on the Codex website by clicking on the following link: [CCLAC Part II](#). 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 March 10, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be directed to codex@fao.org.

JECFA:

The eighty-seventh report of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA87) on Evaluation of certain food additives has been published and is now available at: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/330612>

The Compendium of Food Additive Specifications (JECFA Monographs 23) from JECFA87 are available at: <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca7513en> and <http://www.fao.org/3/ca7513en/CA7513EN.pdf>

The eighty-eighth report of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) on Evaluation of certain veterinary drug residues has been published and is now available at: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/330821/9789241210324-eng.pdf>

JMPR:

The final reports of the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) from the recent extraordinary meeting (May 2019) and the regular meeting (September 2019) are now available at:

- [JMPR Report, 17-26 September 2019](#)
- [JMPR Report, 7-17 May 2019](#)