



Codex News – March 22, 2022

## Informal Consultations

### ***Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)***

The Codex Secretariat has distributed a letter from the CAC Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons (CVCs) regarding the approach for informal consultations on the proposed draft Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for zilpaterol hydrochloride. The 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the CAC (CAC44) tasked the CVCs “to undertake informal consultations with all relevant parties to encourage and enable sustained effort to build consensus in advance of CAC45,” scheduled for November 2022. The CVCs plan an initial round of consultations through April 2022, with the aim to facilitate the development of positions by Members that might move towards consensus. They will then submit a report in advance of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Executive Committee (CCEXEC83) (November 2022) to inform the CCEXEC’s further monitoring and critical review. For further information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office ([uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)).

## Upcoming Public Meetings

### ***Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)***

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on June 2, 2022, 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 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the CCPR on July 4 – July 13, 2022. The public meeting will take place virtually. Documents related to the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the CCPR will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=53>

- Captain David Miller, U.S. Delegate to the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the CCPR, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [miller.davidj@epa.gov](mailto:miller.davidj@epa.gov).
- Please register to attend the public meeting here: [www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltc-6tpzgjHHHmxmTPI2yKA0BfwK2icPQ](https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltc-6tpzgjHHHmxmTPI2yKA0BfwK2icPQ)

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

### ***Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCCF will meet virtually on May 9-13, 2022, from 7:00AM – 10:00AM EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET), with report adoption on May 24, 2022, from 7:00AM – 10:00AM EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCCF will be available at <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=15>. For additional

information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

### ***Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)***

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the CCPR will meet virtually on July 4-8, 2022, with report adoption on July 13, 2022. The exact time for the plenary sessions and report adoption have not yet been announced. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the CCPR will be available at <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=53>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([Marie.Maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.Maratosbhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

### ***FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO)***

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the CCEURO will meet virtually on May 16-18, 2022, from 5:00AM-8:00AM EDT (11:00 – 14:00 CET), with report adoption on May 20, 2022, from 5:00AM-8:00AM EDT (11:00 – 14:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the CCEURO will be available at <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEURO&session=32>. For additional information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office ([uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)).

### **Electronic Working Groups (EWG)**

#### ***Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)***

**Olive Oils:** CCFO invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Spain and co-chaired by Argentina, working in English, to revise the *Standard for Olive Oils and Pomace Olive Oils* (CXS 33-1981). Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 29, 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 [wmoreda@ig.csic.es](mailto:wmoreda@ig.csic.es), [larre@magyp.gob.ar](mailto:larre@magyp.gob.ar), and [codex@magyp.gob.ar](mailto:codex@magyp.gob.ar) by April 1, 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.

### **Requests for Comments**

#### ***Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)***

**New Food Sources and Production Systems:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/06/OCS-CCEXEC) requesting information on new food sources and production systems and the need for Codex guidance and attention to inform the CCEXEC sub-committee working on this topic. The CL is currently available in English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian, and

Chinese 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](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)) by April 18, 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 April 30, 2022.

### ***Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)***

**Methylmercury in Fish:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/17-CF) requesting comments on Maximum Levels (MLs) for methylmercury in certain fish species, associated sampling plans, and additional related matters. 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 contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by April 11, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 25, 2022.

**Methods of Analysis for Contaminants:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/22-CF) requesting comments on the review of methods of analysis for contaminants in the *proposed numeric method performance criteria for lead and cadmium in foods*. 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 contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by April 11, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 25, 2022.

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

**New Work on Emerging Issues:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/05-FICS) requesting comments on proposals for new work on emerging issues and on Appendix A of the “Emerging Issues and Future Direction of CCFICS – Updated List of Emerging Global Issues” (CX/FICS 21/25/9). 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](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by June 8, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to [Codex.contact@awe.gov.au](mailto:Codex.contact@awe.gov.au) with a copy to [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) by June 30, 2022.

### ***Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)***

**Reduction of Trans Fatty Acids (TFAs):** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/07-FL) requesting information on labelling options to support the reduction of trans fatty acids (TFAs). 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](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by April 18, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 30, 2022.

**Labelling Exemptions in Emergencies:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/09-FL) requesting information on labelling exemptions in emergencies. 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](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by April 18, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 30, 2022.

**Labelling of Prepackaged Foods:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/10-FL) requesting information on the labelling of prepackaged foods in joint presentation and prepackaged multi-packaged foods. 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 Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by April 22, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 6, 2022.

**Sustainability Labelling:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/12-FL) requesting information on sustainability labelling for a discussion paper New Zealand and the European Union are preparing to explore possible work in that area within the mandate of the CCFL. 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](mailto:Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov)) by April 22, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to [codexnz@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:codexnz@mpi.govt.nz) with a copy to [Phillippa.hawthorne@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Phillippa.hawthorne@mpi.govt.nz) and [Kati.laitinen@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Kati.laitinen@mpi.govt.nz) by May 6, 2022.

### ***Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)***

**Definition of Terms:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/11/OCS-FFV) requesting comments on definition of terms for application in the layout for Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by April 1, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 15, 2022.

## **New Chairpersons and U.S. Delegates to Codex Committees**

### ***Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)***

Dr. Rhoma Johnson, Consumer Safety Officer at the Division of Plant Products and Beverages in the Office of Food Safety at the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration was recently confirmed as the new U.S. Delegate to CCFO. She follows in the footsteps of Dr. Paul South who served as U.S. Delegate to CCFO for a number of years.

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

Mrs. Brandi Robinson, ONADE International Coordinator at the Center for Veterinary Medicine of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was recently confirmed as the new Chairperson of the CCRVDF following the announcement of Dr. Kevin Greenlees' s upcoming retirement later this year.