



Codex News – April 17, 2024

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

The 54th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA54) will meet in Chengdu, China from April 22-26, 2024. Physical Working Group (PWG) meetings are scheduled in advance of plenary on April 19-20, 2024, and will be webcast in English, French, Spanish, and Chinese. The meeting will be broadcast in English, French, Spanish, and Chinese for those unable to attend in person. The report adoption will take place in person on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCFA54 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFA&session=54>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC)

The 23rd Session the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC23) will convene virtually on July 22-26, 2024. The meeting will be broadcast in English and Spanish. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCLAC23 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/pt/?meeting=CCLAC&session=23>. For additional information, please contact Kenneth Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The 55th Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR55) will meet in Chengdu, China from June 3-8, 2024. The meeting will be broadcast in Chinese, English, French, and Spanish. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCPR55 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=55>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

Recycling Guidance: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/20-CAC) requesting information on a proposal for the investigation and development of recycling guidance in Codex Alimentarius. The CL is currently available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian at the following link: <https://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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by May 1, 2024. 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>) prior to the deadline of May 15, 2024.

Small Cardamom: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/31-CAC) requesting comments on the draft Standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries-small cardamom. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by September 17, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

Allspice, Juniper Berry, and Star Anise: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/32-CAC) requesting comments on the draft Standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries- allspice, juniper berry, and star anise. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by September 17, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

Turmeric: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/33-CAC) requesting comments on the draft Standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated roots, rhizomes and bulbs- turmeric. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by September 17, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

Vanilla: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/34-CAC) requesting comments on the draft Standard for spices derived from dried or dehydrated fruits and berries- vanilla. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by September 17, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

Fats and Oils: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/35-CAC) requesting comments on the draft amendments/revisions to the Standards and Code of Practice for Fats and Oils. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <https://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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by September 17, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)

Section 2 of the Codex Procedural Manual: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/25-GP) requesting comments on the proposed changes to Section 2 Elaboration of Codex Standards and related texts, Procedures for the elaboration of Codex Standards and related texts, Part 7 Guide to the

Procedure for modification (corrections, amendments, and new editions) of Codex standards and related texts. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <http://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 Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 2, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of August 16, 2024.

Language Inconsistencies and Superseded Content in the Codex Procedural Manual: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/27-GP) requesting proposals from Members and Observers on inconsistencies in language, and superseded content of the Codex *Procedural Manual*, apart from Section 3. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <http://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 Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 2, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of August 16, 2024.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

General Guidelines on Sampling: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/16-MAS) requesting comments on the Information document: General Guidelines on Sampling (CXG 50-2004). The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: <https://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 Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 18, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of April 22, 2024.

Processed Fruits and Vegetables: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/18-MAS) requesting comments on endorsement of the methods of analysis from CCSC7 and CCFO28 and the performance criteria for processed fruits and vegetables. The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: <https://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 Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 19, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of May 3, 2024.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

JMPR Priority Lists: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/43-PR) requesting comments on the schedules and priority lists for evaluation or re-evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Residues of Pesticides (JMPR). The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 28, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of May 5, 2024.

2023 JMPR Recommendations for MRLs: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL

2024/44-PR) requesting comments on the recommendations for Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) arising from the JMPR held in 2023. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 28, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of May 5, 2024.

Purity and Stability of Reference Materials: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/45-PR) requesting comments on the Guidelines for monitoring the purity and stability of reference materials and related stock solutions of pesticides during prolonged storage. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 28, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of May 5, 2024.

Unsupported Compounds: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/46-PR) requesting comments on the recommendations for the management of unsupported compounds without public health concern scheduled for periodic review. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 28, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of May 10, 2024.

National Registration: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/47-PR) requesting comments on the recommendations for national registrations of pesticides. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 28, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of May 10, 2024.

Operational Procedures: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/48-PR) requesting comments on the recommendations for the enhancement of the operational procedures. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <https://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 Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 28, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of May 15, 2024.

Other

96th JECFA: The report on the 96th Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) meeting has been published at the following link:

- WHO: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240083059>

97TH JECFA: The Compendium of food additive specifications from the 97th JECFA meeting, as well as the titanium dioxide chemical and technical assessment, has been published. The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate the safety of certain food additives and flavorings:

- Monograph 32 can be accessed via the following link:
<http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc9815en>
- The titanium dioxide chemical and technical assessment is available at:
www.fao.org/3/cc9664en/cc9664en.pdf

98TH JECFA: The Summary Report for the JECFA Meeting held on February 20-29, 2024, has been published at the following links:

- <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/resources/publications/en/>
- [https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/ninety-eighth-meeting-joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-\(jecfa\)](https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/ninety-eighth-meeting-joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-(jecfa))

The evaluations of three veterinary drugs (fumagillin, clopidol, and imidacloprid) were completed and the Guidance for the Safety Evaluation of Residues of Veterinary Drugs with incomplete data packages was developed by the Committee.

JEMRA: The Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment has published “Full report: Measures for the control of *Campylobacter* spp. in chicken meat” and “Executive summary: Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on microbiological risk assessment of viruses in foods. Part 2: prevention and intervention measures” at the following links:

- FAO Control of *Campylobacter* spp. in chicken meat: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc9607en/cc9607en.pdf>
- FAO Executive summary on microbiological risk assessment:
<https://www.fao.org/3/cc9953en/cc9953en.pdf>
WHO Executive summary on microbiological risk assessment:
<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/jemra-of-viruses-in-foods-part-2-prevention-and-intervention-measures>