



Codex News – April 20, 2021

## Public Meetings

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

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on June 17, 2021, from 1:00-3:00PM EDT to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the CCPR, scheduled for July 26-31, 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the public meeting will take place via video conference call only. Documents related to the 52<sup>nd</sup> session of the CCPR are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=52>.

- CAPT David Miller, U.S. Delegate to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the CCPR, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically at the following email address: [miller.davidj@epa.gov](mailto:miller.davidj@epa.gov).
- Participants are requested to register in advance to participate in the public meeting here: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsdO2spz8sH8hmjG-maF8BYauGrD4GaQY> or by emailing [niman.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:niman.aaron@epa.gov) and [marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) by June 14, 2021.

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

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

The 14<sup>th</sup> Session of CCCF, scheduled for May 3-7 and 13, 2021, will convene virtually. Please note that the scheduled time for the virtual sessions has been revised to 7:00 – 10:00 EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other documents related to the 14<sup>th</sup> Session are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=14>. 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 Food Additives (CCFA)***

The Codex Secretariat has issued a provisional agenda for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the CCFA, which will convene virtually from September 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 10, 2021. Documents related to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/tr/?meeting=CCFA&session=52>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

## Requests for Comments

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

**MLs for Cadmium and Lead in Quinoa:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/22/OCS-CF) requesting comments on recommendations for maximum levels for cadmium and lead in quinoa. The CL is available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters](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 Dr. Henry Kim ([henry.kim@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:henry.kim@fda.hhs.gov)) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 22, 2021.

### ***Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)***

**MLs for Food Additives:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/23-FA) requesting comments on endorsement and/or revision of maximum levels for food additives and processing aids in codex standards. The CL is available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters). Comments by observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA ([secretariat@ccfa.cc](mailto:secretariat@ccfa.cc)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by June 10, 2021.

**Food Additive Provisions of Commodity Standards:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/24-FA) requesting comments on alignment of the food additive provisions of commodity standards. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters). Comments by observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA ([secretariat@ccfa.cc](mailto:secretariat@ccfa.cc)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by June 10, 2021.

**Food Additive Provisions for the GSFA:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/25-FA) requesting comments on the food additive provisions for the GSFA. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters). Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA ([secretariat@ccfa.cc](mailto:secretariat@ccfa.cc)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by June 10, 2021.

**Sweeteners Associated with Note 161:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/26-FA) requesting comments on the relevant provisions for sweeteners associated with Note 161. The CL is available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters). Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA ([secretariat@ccfa.cc](mailto:secretariat@ccfa.cc)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by June 10, 2021.

**Comments on Proposed Changes (International Numbering System List):** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/1-FA) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed changes and/or addition to the *Class Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives* (CXG 36-1989). The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters). Comments by observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA ([secretariat@ccfa.cc](mailto:secretariat@ccfa.cc)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by July 31, 2021.

**Request for Proposed Changes (International Numbering System List):** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2021/30-FA) requesting proposals for change and/or addition to Section 3 of the *Class Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives* (CXG 36-1989). The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters). Comments by observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Secretariat for CCFA ([secretariat@ccfa.cc](mailto:secretariat@ccfa.cc)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by September 15, 2021.

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

**Harmonization of MRLs for Meat Mammalian:** The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline of a Circular Letter (CL 2020/13(REV)-PR) requesting comments on the harmonization of meat mammalian maximum residue limits between the CCPR and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) on the Classification of Food and Feed: Class B – Primary commodities of animal origin. This CL is related to the CL recently issued in CCRVDF--CL 2021/6/OCS-RVDF. Please see the entry below for further information. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat ([Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov)) by May 21, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the CCPR Secretariat ([ccpr@agri.gov.cn](mailto:ccpr@agri.gov.cn)) and the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by June 5, 2021.

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

**Codex Database on Countries' Needs for MRLs for Veterinary Drugs:** The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for a Circular Letter (2021/2/OCS-RVDF) requesting comments on the use and maintenance of the database on countries' needs for maximum residue limits for veterinary drugs in foods. 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 Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 30, 2021.

**Parallel Review:** The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for a Circular Letter (2021/5/OCS-RVDF) requesting comments on principles and procedure for the parallel review of a new veterinary drug by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) and national regulatory agencies. 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 Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 30, 2021.

**Harmonization of MRLs for Edible Offal:** The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for a Circular Letter (CL 2021/6/OCS-RVDF) requesting comments on recommendations for edible offal and other animal tissues of relevance for the purpose of harmonization and elaboration of maximum residue limits for compounds with dual uses. This CL is related to the recently issued CL in CCPR-- CL 2020/13(REV)-PR. Please see the entry under CCPR for further information. 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 Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by May 21, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 5, 2021.

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

**Alignment of Food Additive Provisions and Alignment Plan for Regional Standards:** The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2020/56-LAC) requesting comments on the alignment of food additive provisions and alignment plan for regional standards developed by CCLAC. The CL is available in English and Spanish at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters](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 Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by June 16, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by June 30, 2021.

#### **Electronic Working Groups (EWGs)**

##### ***FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)***

**Cooked Rice Wrapped in Plant Leaves:** CCASIA invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by China, working in English, to work on the alignment of food additive provisions in the regional standards developed by CCASIA. Individuals in the United States interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by April 30, 2021. 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 the EWG chair ([ccfa@cfsa.net.cn](mailto:ccfa@cfsa.net.cn)) by May 15, 2021. 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.

### ***FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Near East (CCNE)***

**Alignment of Food Additive Provisions:** CCNE invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by Saudi Arabia, working in English and Arabic, to work on the alignment of food additive provisions in the regional standards. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. 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 the EWG chair ([CODEX.CP@sfd.gov.sa](mailto:CODEX.CP@sfd.gov.sa)) by May 1, 2021. 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.

**Regional Standard for Maamoul:** CCNE invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by Saudi Arabia, working in English and Arabic, to work on the regional standard for maamoul. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. 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 the EWG chair ([CODEX.CP@sfd.gov.sa](mailto:CODEX.CP@sfd.gov.sa)) by May 3, 2021. 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.

### **Other**

**CCRVDF Webinar:** The CCRVDF has organized a webinar for April 23, 2021 at 6:00-8:00 EDT (12:00-14:00 Central European Time) to provide Codex Members and Observers with a review of key topics on the agenda for the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the CCRVDF, which will take place in July 2021. The webinar will feature a series of interviews and discussions with experts from the working groups, thereby allowing participants to review where the different topics stand and to gain valuable insight on what lies ahead at the next session. The webinar will be offered in three of the Codex working languages--English, French, and Spanish. The full program, including registration information, can be found at the following link: [CCRVDF\\_23april2021\\_webinarV2.pdf \(fao.org\)](#). For additional information, please contact the CCRVDF Secretariat ([CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov](mailto:CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov)).

**JECFA Monograph (Veterinary Drugs):** The Joint Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)/World Health Organization (WHO) Expert Committee on Veterinary drugs (JECFA) has published a monograph summarizing its evaluation of veterinary drugs covered by the 88<sup>th</sup> meeting of the committee. The monograph can be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240016255>.

**Edible Insects Publication:** The Food Systems and Food Safety Division of the FAO has published a document titled “Looking at edible insects from a food safety perspective.” This publication covers the food safety implications associated with the production and consumption of insects and can be found on the FAO’s website at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4094en>.

**One Health High-Level Expert Panel:** The partner organizations for the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) have issued a joint call for experts for OHHLEP’s interdisciplinary work on the intersection of human, animal, and ecosystem health (“One Health”). Partner organizations for OHHLEP include the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Further information including instructions for applying can be found at the following link: [https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-one-health-high-level-expert-panel-\(ohhlepe\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-one-health-high-level-expert-panel-(ohhlepe)).