



Codex News – May 3, 2022

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)

The 15th 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 15th Session of the CCCF will be available at <https://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=15>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO)

The 32nd 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 32nd 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).

Upcoming Codex Webinar

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

CCAFRICA is hosting a webinar on May 19, 2022, to discuss ongoing work on the draft guidelines for developing harmonized food safety legislation for the region and the Draft Regional Standard for dried meat. Codex Members and Observers will have an opportunity to learn about progress made since the 23rd Session of CCAFRICA (February 2019) and gain insight into the key issues that need to be addressed during the 24th Session of CCAFRICA (date not yet set). To register for the webinar, please use the following link: <https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwtcOuhqjltGtLMp7wUHjDw35GENdDSEbf/>.

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing *E. Coli*: CCFH invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Chile and co-chaired by France, New Zealand, and the United States, working in English, to update the Guidelines for the Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts.

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@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 Codex Contact Point (CCP) to constanza.vergara@achipia.gob.cl as soon as possible. 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.

Safe Use and Re-use of Water in Food Production: CCFH invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Honduras and co-chaired by Chile and the European Union, working in English, to develop proposed draft guidelines for the safe use and re-use of water in food production. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@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 msevilla@senasa.gob.hn as soon as possible. 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

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

New Work/Revision of Existing Standards: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/31-FH) requesting proposals for new work and/or revisions of existing standards. 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) by August 18, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to ccfh@usda.gov with a copy to codex@fao.org by September 1, 2022.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

Regional Standard for Dried Meat: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/04/OCS-CCAFRICA) requesting comments on the Draft Regional Standard for dried meat. 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) by June 3, 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 June 17, 2022.

New Deputy U.S. Codex Manager

Ms. Julie Chao recently joined the U.S. Codex Office as the new Deputy U.S. Codex Manager. Prior to joining the U.S. Codex Office, Julie worked in the Office of the Chief Economist in the Office of Pest Management Policy at USDA.

Calls for Experts

Control of Foodborne Pathogens in Poultry Meat: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has issued a call for experts to contribute to the future work of its Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA) on the control of non-typhoidal *Salmonella* spp. and *Campylobacter* spp. at all points along the poultry meat value chain. The call for experts is available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/3/cb9432en/cb9432en.pdf>. Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to jemra@fao.org and jemra@who.int by June 1, 2022.

Toxicological and Epidemiological Experts: The Joint FAO/World Health Organization (WHO) Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) has issued a call for experts on pesticide toxicology to serve as WHO experts and assist the Secretariat in the preparation of working papers. The call for experts is available at the following link: [https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-epidemiological-experts-joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-pesticide-residues-\(jmpr\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-epidemiological-experts-joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-pesticide-residues-(jmpr)). Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to jmpr@who.int by August 31, 2022.

Call for Data

Salmonella and Campylobacter: JEMRA has issued a call for data and all relevant information on the pre- and post-harvest control of non-typhoidal *Salmonella* spp. and *Campylobacter* spp. in poultry meat. The call for data is available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/3/cb9432en/cb9432en.pdf>. Data submissions in response to the call for data should be sent to jemra@fao.org and jemra@who.int by September 1, 2022.

Other

FAO Publication: FAO issued a new publication on *International and national regulatory strategies to counter food fraud*. The publication can be accessed at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb9035en>.

JECFA93 Report: The summary report of the 93rd meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) is now available at the following links:

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

STDF Webinar: The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) is hosting a four-part series of webinars on May 3-6, 2022, to explore the challenges of climate change for food safety, animal and plant health, and to identify opportunities to respond to emerging risks and facilitate safe trade. All webinars will be held in English, with interpretation provided in French and Spanish. To register for the webinar and view the agenda, please use the following link: <https://www.standardsfacility.org/exploring-impact-climate-change-global-food-system>.

FAO Webinars on AMR: The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is hosting a series of data-rich monthly webinars on the 2nd Thursday of each month, to bring participants up to date on specific scientific and technical topics related to antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and how to contain it. This may include a variety of topics/disciplines related to AMR in food and agriculture including microbiology, epidemiology, environmental or behavioral science, plant and animal production and health. To register for the webinar, please use the following link: https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwqcOuoqDwqGtwKKeUT04tUh8McmYa_31yQ.