



Codex News – May 17, 2022

Upcoming Public Meeting

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 53rd Session of the CCPR on July 4 – July 13, 2022. The public meeting will take place virtually. Documents related to the 53rd 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 53rd Session of the CCPR, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: miller.davidj@epa.gov.
- Please register to attend the public meeting here: www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltc-6tpzgjHHHmxmTPI2ykA0BfwK2icPQ

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The 53rd Session of the CCPR will meet virtually on July 4-8, 2022, from 7:00AM – 10:00AM EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET), with report adoption on July 13, 2022, from 7:00AM – 10:00AM EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 53rd Session of the CCPR are 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) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

The 6th Session of the CCSCH will meet virtually on September 26-30, 2022, from 4:30AM – 7:30AM EDT (10:30 – 13:30 CET), with report adoption on October 3, 2022, from 4:30AM – 7:30AM EDT (10:30 – 13:30 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 6th Session of the CCSCH will be available at: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCSCH&session=6>. For additional information, please contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

Biological Foodborne Outbreaks: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/32/OCS-FH) requesting comments on the draft Guidelines for the Management of Biological Foodborne Outbreaks. 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 July 8, 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 July 31, 2022.

Decision Tree in the *General Principles of Food Hygiene*: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/33/OCS-FH) requesting comments on the proposed draft revision to the *General Principles of Food Hygiene* regarding inclusion of the decision tree. 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 July 8, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by July 31, 2022.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

Sustainability Labelling: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2022/12-FL) requesting information on sustainability labelling. 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) by July 1, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to codexnz@mpi.govt.nz with a copy to Phillippa.hawthorne@mpi.govt.nz and Kati.laitinen@mpi.govt.nz by July 15, 2022.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

JMPR 2021 MRL Recommendations: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/20(REV1)-PR) requesting comments on the maximum residue limit (MRL) recommendations from the two Joint FAO/WHO Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) which met in 2021—the JMPR Regular Meeting and the JMPR Extra Meeting. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Okra: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/34-PR) requesting comments on the establishment of MRLs for pesticides in okra as part of the *Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed* (CXM 4-1989). 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Edible Animal Tissue: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/36-PR) requesting comments on harmonized definitions/terms for “edible offal” and other edible animal tissues (i.e., “meat” “muscle” and “fat”). This is part of the coordination of work between the CCPR and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF). 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Active Substances of Low Public Health Concern: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/37-PR) requesting comments on the draft Guidelines for the recognition of active substances or authorized uses of active substances of low public health concern. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Management of Unsupported Compounds: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/39-PR) requesting comments on the management of unsupported compounds without public health concern scheduled for periodic review by the JMPR. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by June 6, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 15, 2022.

Calls for Experts

Toxic Equivalency Factors: The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a call for experts to serve as members of an ad-hoc expert consultation that will contribute to an update of existing and to consider development of new WHO toxic equivalency factors (TEFs) for dioxin-like compounds, including some polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The call for experts is available at the following link: <https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-who-initiative-to-update-the-2005-who-tef-for-dioxin-and-dioxin-like-compounds>. Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to kpetersen@who.int by June 10, 2022.

Listeria monocytogenes: The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and WHO have issued a call for experts who can contribute to future work of its Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA) by developing a full farm to table risk assessment for *Listeria monocytogenes* in foods. The call for experts is available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/3/cb9930en/cb9930en.pdf>. Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to jemra@fao.org and jemra@who.int by June 30, 2022.

Call for Data

Listeria monocytogenes: FAO and WHO have issued a call for data to serve as input to the development of scientific advice on the full farm to table risk assessment for *Listeria monocytogenes* in foods. The assessment will include but not be limited to leafy greens, cantaloupe (also called rockmelon), frozen vegetables such as peas and corn and ready-to-eat seafood that permits the growth of *Listeria* like gravad (sugar-salt marinated) salmon and halibut. The call for data is available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/3/cb9930en/cb9930en.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

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/>

FAO Webinars on AMR: 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.