



Codex News- June 2, 2020

## Public Meetings

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

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting, by teleconference only, on June 25, 2020, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. EDT to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions for the 43rd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, originally scheduled for July 6-10, 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the public meeting will take place via conference call. In order to access the conference call, please use the call-in number: 1-888-844-9904, participant code 5126092. Documents related to the 43rd Session of the CAC will be accessible via the internet at the following address:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=43>

- Mary Frances Lowe, U.S. Delegate to the 43rd Session of the CAC, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov).
- Participants should register to participate in the public meeting as described above by submitting their name and organizational affiliation to [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov).

## Rescheduled Codex Committee Sessions

*Please note that the following committee sessions that were recently postponed/cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, have tentatively been rescheduled for early 2021. Specific details for each committee may be found below.*

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

The 14<sup>th</sup> Session of CCCF is now rescheduled for May 2-6, 2021, location to be determined. Official comments received by April 30, 2020, in response to the recent Circular Letters are being shared with the Chairpersons/Co-Chairpersons of the electronic Working Groups (EWGs) to revise the documents and continue the discussions in the relevant EWGs, where needed. 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 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCFA is now rescheduled for March 8-12, 2021, location to be determined. The CCFA Chairperson and the Codex Secretariat are in the process of following up with all the EWG Chairpersons to determine how best to continue work in the interim. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

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

The 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFICS is in the process of being rescheduled for March 22-26, 2021, location to be determined. Work will continue in the EWGs with discussions based on comments received to date. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

***Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)***

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCGP is in the process of being rescheduled for the first quarter of 2021, location to be determined. The work of the EWG on Committees Working by Correspondence will continue and the EWG recently circulated a new invitation welcoming new members as it continues its work. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

***Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)***

The 41<sup>st</sup> Session of CCMAS is now rescheduled for May 17–21, 2021, location to be determined. Work will continue in the EWGs with discussions based on comments received to date. 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 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCPR is now rescheduled for April 12-17, 2021, location to be determined. The Codex Secretariat is working with the CCPR Chairperson, the Priorities EWG Chairperson and the JMPR Secretariat to facilitate the continuation of the scientific advice on priorities. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos ([marie.maratos@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratos@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

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

The 25<sup>th</sup> Session of CCRVDF is now rescheduled for January 25-29, 2021, in Cleveland, Ohio. Work will continue in the EWGs with discussions based on comments received to date. 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 Pesticides Residues (CCPR)***

**Schedules and Priority Lists of Pesticides for Evaluation by JMPR:** The Codex Secretariat issued a revised Circular Letter (2020/05-PR) requesting comments on the schedules and priority lists of pesticides for evaluation by 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 ([marie.maratos@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratos@usda.gov)) and Aaron Niman ([niman.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:niman.aaron@epa.gov)) by June 15, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to Karina Budd, ([karina.budd@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:karina.budd@agriculture.gov.au)) with a copy 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 30, 2020.

**Harmonization of Meat Mammalian Maximum Residue Limits:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/13-PR) requesting comments on the harmonization of meat mammalian MRLs between the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs 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 Marie Maratos ([marie.maratos@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratos@usda.gov)) and Aaron Niman ([niman.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:niman.aaron@epa.gov)) by August 14, 2020. 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)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by August 31, 2020.

**Recommendations on Maximum Residue Limits from the Joint JECFA/JMPR Working Group:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (2020/06(REV1)-PR) requesting comments on the recommendations of MRLs from the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) that took place in May and September of 2019. 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 ([marie.maratos@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratos@usda.gov)) and Aaron Niman ([niman.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:niman.aaron@epa.gov)) by January 15, 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)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by January 31, 2021.

#### ***Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)***

**New Work:** The Codex Secretariat revised the deadline for comments on a Circular Letter (CL 2019/100-SCH) requesting proposals for new work and/or revision 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/en/?y=2019>. 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 November 13, 2020. Comments by other countries and observers should be submitted via their CCP to the CCSCH Secretariat ([codex-india@nic.in](mailto:codex-india@nic.in)) and Dinesh Singh Bisht ([dinesh.bisht899@nic.in](mailto:dinesh.bisht899@nic.in) and [codex.sb-ker@gov.in](mailto:codex.sb-ker@gov.in)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by November 30, 2020.

#### ***Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)***

**Regional Coordinator Nomination:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/33/AFRICA) requesting CCAFRICA members to express interest in being considered for nomination as the next Regional Coordinator for CCAFRICA. The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters>. Nominations from CCAFRICA members should be sent to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) with a copy to the current Regional Coordinator of CCAFRICA ([kimutaimaritim@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kimutaimaritim@yahoo.co.uk)) and the Kenya Bureau of Standards ([info@kebs.org](mailto:info@kebs.org)) by June 26, 2020. U.S. Stakeholders may contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office for additional information.

## Electronic Working Groups

### ***Coordinating Committee for Africa (CAFRICA)***

**Dried Meat:** The committee invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Botswana and co-chaired by Kenya and Morocco, working in English and French, to continue work on the draft regional standard for dried meat. 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)) by June 26, 2020. 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 [botswanacodex@gov.bw](mailto:botswanacodex@gov.bw); [lasenwelo@gov.bw](mailto:lasenwelo@gov.bw); [cnc-maroc@onssa.gov.ma](mailto:cnc-maroc@onssa.gov.ma); [kadirik7@gmail.com](mailto:kadirik7@gmail.com); and [kindikim@kebs.org](mailto:kindikim@kebs.org) by June 30, 2020. 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**

**2019 Report of the FAO/WHO Joint Expert Meeting On Pesticide Residues (JMPR):** The report of the JMPR Regular Meeting, held in Geneva, Switzerland, September 17-26, 2019, is now available. Findings of the report which are relevant to the work of CCPR will be considered at its 52<sup>nd</sup> Session in 2021. The report may be found on the FAO and WHO websites at the following links:

- FAO: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca7455en/ca7455en.pdf> and <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca7953en>
- WHO: [https://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas\\_work/chemical-risks/JMPR\\_2019\\_Sep\\_Report.pdf?ua=1](https://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas_work/chemical-risks/JMPR_2019_Sep_Report.pdf?ua=1)

**Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Tropane Alkaloids:** The expert meeting was convened remotely on March 30-April 3, 2020, to provide scientific advice to allow for appropriate risk management options for products used by the World Food Programme in delivering food assistance in emergencies. The key discussions and outcomes of the expert meeting have been captured in the executive summary at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca8736en/ca8736en.pdf>. The full meeting report is currently under finalization and will be made available soon.