



Codex News- June 16, 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 only. Documents related to the 43rd Session of the CAC are available at the following link:

<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.
- Participants are requested to register in advance to participate in the public meeting by submitting their name and organizational affiliation to uscodex@usda.gov.

Rescheduled Codex Committee Sessions

Please note that the following sessions that were recently postponed/cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic have tentatively been rescheduled for late 2020/early 2021. Specific details for each session may be found below.

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Committee (CCEXEC)

The 79th Session of CCEXEC, originally scheduled for July 6-10, 2020, is currently in the rescheduling process and will most likely be in the form of a virtual meeting in mid-July 2020, with the exact dates still to be determined. The meeting is expected to be streamlined and will focus on the CCEXEC's Critical Review role. Documents related to the 79th Session of the CCEXEC are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEXEC&session=79>

For additional information, please contact Mary Frances Lowe (MaryFrances.lowe@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

The 43rd Session of the CAC, originally scheduled for July 6-11, 2020, has been postponed and will now most likely be in the form of a virtual session with an abbreviated agenda, planned for mid-September 2020. The Codex Secretariat will host a virtual session for Codex members and observers on July 28, 2020, to ask questions and voice their views on the process. Documents related to the 43rd Session of the CAC are available at the following link:

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

For additional information, please contact Mary Frances Lowe (MaryFrances.lowe@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

The 5th Session of CCSCH is now rescheduled for April 26-30, 2021, in Kochi, Kerala, India.

Documents related to the upcoming 5th Session may be found at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCSCH&session=5>.

For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

The 46th Session of CCFL is in the process of being rescheduled for September 2021, dates still to be determined, in Canada. Documents related to the 46th Session of CCFL will be available at

the following link: [http://www.fao.org/fao-who-](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFL)

[codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFL](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFL). For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

The 52nd Session of the CCFH is now rescheduled for November 29–December 3, 2021, in San Diego, California, United States. Documents related to the 52nd Session of CCFH will be available at the following link: [http://www.fao.org/fao-who-](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFH)

[codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFH](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFH). For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos (Marie.maratos@usda.gov) and River Scrantz

(River.scrantz@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office with a copy to the CCFH Secretariat (CCFH@usda.gov).

Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

The 42nd Session of CCNFSDU is now rescheduled for November 22-26, 2021, in Germany, city to be determined. Documents related to the 42nd Session of CCNFSDU will be available at the following link: [http://www.fao.org/fao-who-](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCNFSDU)

[codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCNFSDU](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCNFSDU). For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Ad-Hoc Task Force on Anti-Microbial Resistance (TFAMR)

The 8th Session of TFAMR is now rescheduled for June 14–19, 2021, in the Republic of Korea, city to be determined. [http://www.fao.org/fao-who-](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=TFAMRF)

[codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=TFAMRF](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=TFAMRF). For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) and Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

Expanded Mandates for Electronic Working Groups (EWGs): The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/34-FA) requesting comments on the expanded mandates by EWGs as established by CCFA51 (2019). The CL is 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) by July 1, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) with a copy to the CCFA Secretariat (ccfa@cfsa.net.cn) by July 15, 2020.

Section 3 of the Class Names and International Numbering System (INS) for Food Additives

(CXG 36-1989): The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/35-FA) requesting proposals for change and/or additions to Section 3 of the INS List. The CL is 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) by September 1, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to the CCFA Secretariat (ccfa@cfsa.net.cn) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 15, 2020.

Priority List of Substances Proposed by JECFA: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/37-FA) requesting information and comments on the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA. The CL is 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) by December 31, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to the CCFA Secretariat (ccfa@cfsa.net.cn) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by January 15, 2021.

New and/or Revision of Food Additive Provisions of the GSFA: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/36-FA) requesting proposals for new provisions and/or revisions of the Food Additive Provision of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA). The CL is 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) by December 31, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to the CCFA Secretariat (ccfa@cfsa.net.cn) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by January 15, 2021.

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(REV)-PR) requesting comments on the schedules and priority lists of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR. 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 (marie.maratos@usda.gov) and Aaron Niman (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) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (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, 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 (marie.maratos@usda.gov) and Aaron Niman (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) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by August 31, 2020.

Draft Guidelines for Compounds of Low Public Health Concern: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (2020/14-PR) requesting comments on the proposed draft guidelines for compounds of low public health concern that may be exempted from the establishment of Codex MRLs or that do not give rise to residues. 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) and Aaron Niman (niman.aaron@epa.gov) by August 14, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Codex Contact Point of Chile, (codex@achipia.gob.cl) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by August 31, 2020.

Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) Recommendations of the 2019 JMPR Meeting: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (2020/06(REV1)-PR) requesting comments on the recommendations of the 2019 Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR). 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 (marie.maratos@usda.gov) and Aaron Niman (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) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (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) by November 13, 2020. Comments by other countries and observers should be submitted via their CCP to the CCSCCH Secretariat (codex-india@nic.in) and Dinesh Singh Bisht (dinesh.bisht899@nic.in and codex.sb-ker@gov.in) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by November 30, 2020.

Other

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA)

In order to support implementation of the *Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Assessment (CXG-30)*, JEMRA has developed a series of technical guidance documents on microbiological risk assessment, addressing Hazard Characterization, Exposure Assessment and Risk characterization. In recognition of the evolution of science and developments in risk assessment methodology over the last decade, these technical guidance documents have now been revised and compiled into a single Guidance document on Microbiological Risk Assessment.

The document is now open for public comment from Member countries and is available at the following links: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca9519en/ca9519en.pdf> and https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/food-safety/jemra/call-for-consultation/methodology-report-public-comments.pdf?sfvrsn=bf30c148_2. 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 July 1, 2020. Comments by other Member countries should be sent directly to jemra@fao.org and jemra@who.int no later than July 15, 2020.