



Codex News – September 22, 2020

## Requests for Comments

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

**Review of Codex Texts for Contaminants:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/53/OCS-CF) requesting comments on approaches to determine the need for revision of Codex standards and related texts developed by the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by October 1, 2020. 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 October 15, 2020.

## Electronic Working Groups

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

**Parallel Review of a New Veterinary Drug:** The EWG chaired by Canada has published updates for the discussion paper on the parallel review of a new veterinary drug by JECFA and national regulatory agencies (CX/RVDF 20/25/10) ahead of CCRVDF25. The updates on this item can be found directly on the CCRVDF25 web page at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=25>.

**Database on Countries' Needs for MRLs:** The EWG chaired by the United States and co-chaired by Costa Rica has published updates for the database on countries' needs for maximum residues limits (MRLs) for veterinary drugs in foods (CX/RVDF 20/25/11) ahead of CCRVDF25. The updates on this item can be found directly on the CCRVDF25 web page at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=25>.

## Other

### **Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)**

**Call for Data on Methylmercury and Total Mercury (Additional Fish Species):** JECFA has issued a call for data on methylmercury and total mercury in additional fish species, with a deadline of December 15, 2020. The call for data on lead, which is relevant to work in the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods, can be found at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/calls-for-data-and-experts/en/>

**Call for Data Ahead of JECFA 92 Meeting:** JECFA has issued a call for data ahead of the 92<sup>nd</sup> meeting of JECFA, scheduled for June 2021. This call for data has a deadline of December 31, 2020. The list of topics covered by this call for data and other submission information can be

found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-data---jecfa-92-meeting>

**Call for Data on Cadmium and Lead in Food:** JECFA has issued a call for data on cadmium in all food categories, with a deadline of December 1, 2020. The call for data on cadmium, which is relevant to work in the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods, can be found at the following link: [www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/calls-for-data-and-experts/en/](http://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/calls-for-data-and-experts/en/)

**Call for Data on Lead in Food:** JECFA has issued a call for data on lead in food for infants and young children (spices and aromatic herbs; eggs; sugars and confectionary (excluding cocoa)), with a deadline of November 21, 2020. The call for data on lead, which is relevant to work in the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods, can be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/>

**World Health Organization Technical Advisory Group on Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG)**

The WHO Department of Nutrition and Food Safety has created a call for experts by the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Food Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG) with a deadline of October 31, 2020. This TAG has a mandate to create an up-to-date report on the global burden of foodborne diseases at the national, regional, and international levels by 2025. The FERG call for experts, Terms of Reference, and registration can be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-experts-who-initiative-estimate-global-burden-of-foodborne-diseases>.