



Codex News – November 3, 2020

## Virtual Meetings

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

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC43), which was conducted virtually for the first time in its history (on September 24-26; October 12 and 19; and November 5-6 2020) due to the Covid-19 pandemic, will convene virtually on November 5-6 for the adoption of the CAC43 draft report. If you have any questions regarding the CAC43 report adoption, please contact the U.S. Codex Office ([uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)).

## Requests for Comments

### ***Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)***

**Critical Control Points Decision Tree and Irradiated Foods:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/55-FH) requesting comments on CCFH's proposed decision trees for identification of critical control points and a background paper on the methods of analysis for irradiated 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 Marie Maratos ([Marie.maratos@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.maratos@usda.gov)) by October 30, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to the CCPs for Brazil, Ligia Lindner Schreiner ([ligia.schreiner@anvisa.gov.br](mailto:ligia.schreiner@anvisa.gov.br)) and Carolina Araujo Vieira ([carolina.vieira@anvisa.gov.br](mailto:carolina.vieira@anvisa.gov.br)), with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by November 13, 2020.

### ***FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC)***

**Alignment of Food Additive Provisions and Alignment Plan for Regional Standards:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/56-LAC) requesting comments on the alignment of food additive provisions and alignment plan for regional standards developed by CCLAC. The CL is available in English 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 Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by March 17, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by March 31, 2021.

## Electronic Working Groups

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

**Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods:** In preparation for CCNFSDU42, South Africa and Uganda have established an online informal discussion group to discuss the bracketed texts in the Draft Guidelines on Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods, including the text on essential fatty acid levels and the magnesium to calcium ratio. The deadline for registering for the discussion group is

November 15, 2020, and complete registration information can be found at the following link:  
[www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCNFSDU&session=42](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCNFSDU&session=42).

## **Other**

### **Codex Annual Report: Codex - What next for standards?**

The Codex Secretariat has published its fourth edition of the annual report Codex for 2020. The report is currently available in English, and it can be found at the following link:  
[www.fao.org/3/cb1502en/CB1502EN.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/cb1502en/CB1502EN.pdf).

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

The 91<sup>st</sup> Meeting of JECFA will take place virtually from February 1-12, 2021. The focus of this meeting will be on agenda items that could not be completed at JECFA 89 and 90, as well as new agenda items on updating the exposure assessment exposure assessment of cadmium from all food sources (<http://www.fao.org/3/cb0557en/cb0557en.pdf>) and completing the work on the specifications for steviol glycosides (<http://www.fao.org/3/cb1529en/cb1529en.pdf>).