



Codex News- December 31, 2019

Public Meetings

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on January 21, 2020, from 9:00-12:00 EST to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 52nd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives, in Lanzhou, China, on March 2-6, 2020. The public meeting will take place in Meeting Room 1A-001 and 1A-002 of the Wiley Auditorium of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Harvey H. Wiley Building, 5001 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740. Documents related to the 52nd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives will be accessible via the internet at the following address: www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en.

- Dr. Paul Honigfort, U.S. Delegate to the 52nd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: paul.honigfort@fda.hhs.gov.
- Please register to attend by emailing uscodex@usda.gov by January 17, 2020. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building, for which attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through federal building security screening systems.
- Attendees who are not able to attend in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone/conference call; please use the call-in number: 888-844-9904, participant code 5126092.

Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on February 21, 2020, from 1:00-4:00 EST to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 32nd Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles, in Bordeaux, France, on March 23-27, 2020. The public meeting will take place in Meeting Room 107-A of the Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 32nd Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles will be accessible via the internet at the following address: www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en.

- Ms. Mary Frances Lowe, U.S. Delegate to the 32nd Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: maryfrances.lowe@usda.gov.
- Please register to attend by emailing uscodex@usda.gov by February 18, 2020. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building, for which attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through federal building security screening systems.
- Attendees who are not able to attend in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone/conference call; please use the call-in number: 888-844-9904, participant code 5126092.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

Food Additive Provision of the GSFA: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/40-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 at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 3, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 15, 2020.

Priority List of Substances: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/41-FA) requesting information and comments on the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA). The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 3, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 15, 2020.

Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/118/OCS-FA) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives arising from the 87th JECFA meeting. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 21, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by January 31, 2020.

International Numbering System for Food Additives: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/117/FA) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed changes and/or additions to the International Number System for Food Additives. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 21, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 31, 2020.

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)

Kiwifruit: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/106/OCS-FFV) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for kiwifruit. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Garlic: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/107/OCS-FFV) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for garlic. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Ware Potatoes: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/108/OCS-FFV) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for ware potatoes. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Yams: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/109/OCS-FFV) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for yam. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

Food Allergen Management for Food Business Operators: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/110/OCS-FH) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft Code of Practice on food allergen management for food business operators. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

General Principles of Food Hygiene: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/111/OCS-FH) requesting comments at Step 5/8 on the proposed draft revision of the *General Principles of Food Hygiene*. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Management of Biological Foodborne Outbreaks: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/112/OCS-FH) requesting comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft guidance for the management of biological foodborne outbreaks. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

Innovation and Technology in Food Labelling: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/82-FL) requesting information for innovation and technology in food labelling. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 21, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to hc.codex.canada.sc@canada.ca with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 31, 2020.

Labelling of Non-Retail Containers: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/85/OCS-FL) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft guidance for the labelling of non-retail containers. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 May 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by May 30, 2020.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

Request for Data and Information on Sunflowerseed Oil: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/53-FO) requesting data and information on refractive index, saponification value, iodine values, and relative density for sunflower seed oil. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 6, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to codex@fao.org with a copy to codex@magyp.gov.ar, mlarre@magyp.gob.ar, codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br, and ana.peretti@anvisa.gov.br by March 27, 2020.

New Work and/or Amendments to Existing Codex Standards: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/54-FO) requesting proposals for new work and/or amendments to existing Codex standards. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 May 19, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to sante-codex@ec.europa.eu with a copy to ccpr@agri.gov.cn, codex@fao.org, and hermine.reich@efsa.europa by May 29, 2020.

Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)

Committees Working by Correspondence: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/115/OCS-GP) requesting comments for procedural guidance for committees working by correspondence. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 February 6, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by February 16, 2020.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

Measurement Uncertainty: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/80/OCS-MAS) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft revised *Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty*. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 January 21, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by January 31, 2020.

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

Follow-up Formula: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/113/OCS-NFSDU) requesting comments at Step 5 on the review of the *Standard for Follow-up Formula: Section B: proposed draft scope, description, and labelling*. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/114/OCS-NFSDU) requesting comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft guidelines for ready-to-use therapeutic foods. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Xanthum Gum and Pectins: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/116/OCS-NFSDU) requesting comments on provisions for xanthum gum and pectins in the *Standard for Infant Formula and Formulas for Special Medical Purposes Intended for Infants* (CXS 72-1981). The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

Saffron: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/94/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for saffron. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Floral Parts—Dried Cloves: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/95/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried floral parts—dried cloves. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Leaves—Dried Basil: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/96/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried leaves—dried basil. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en.

codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Roots, Rhizomes, and Bulbs—Dried or Dehydrated Ginger: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/97/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried roots, rhizomes, and bulbs—dried or dehydrated ginger. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Oregano: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/98/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried oregano. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

New Work: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/100-SCH) requesting proposals for new work for CCSC. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 May 21, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to codex-india@nic.in, dinesh.bish899@nic.in, and codex.sb-ker@gov.in, with a copy to codex@fao.org by May 31, 2020.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

Cassava-Based Products: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/102/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for fermented cooked cassava-based products. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Gnetum Spp: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/103/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for fresh leaves of *Gnetum Spp*. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en.

[codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](https://www.codexalimentarius.org/resources/circular-letters/en). 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Meat: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/104/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 5 on the draft standard for dried meat. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Shea Butter: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/105/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments on the proposed amendments to Sections 3.2.2 and 3.4 of the regional Standard for Shea Butter. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Calls for Data

Call for Experts and Data: A call for experts and data on microbiological risk assessment of *Listeria Monocytogenes* in ready-to-eat (RTE) food: attribution, characterization, and monitoring has been issued and is available on the following website: www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/. The deadline for experts is January 20, 2020 and the deadline for data is February 29, 2020.

Call for Data on (-)Hyoscyamine, (+)Hyoscyamine, and (-)Scopolamine: A call for data has been issued and is available on the following websites: www.who.int/activities/assessing-chemical-risks-in-food and www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/. The deadline for data is January 31, 2020.

Call for Experts and Data: A call for experts and data for work on STEC has been issued and is available on the following websites: www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/ and www.who.int/foodsafety/call-experts/en/. The deadline for experts passed, but the deadline for data is January 31, 2020.

Call for Data: A call for data of the Addendum to the 9th JECFA meeting for eight enzyme preparations has been issued and is available on the following websites: www.who.int/foodsafety/JECFA_89_Call_for_data_Oct_2019_enzymes.pdf?ua=1 and www.fao.org/3/ca6809en/ca6809en.pdf. The deadline for data is February 15, 2020.

Call for Experts and Data: A call for experts and data for the *Ad hoc* Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation of the Risk Assessment of Food Allergens has been issued and is available on the following website: www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/. The deadline for experts is February 29, 2020 and the deadline for data is May 31, 2020.

Call for Data: A call for data for the 90th meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) has been issued and is available on the following websites: www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/ and www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/. The deadline for data is April 15, 2020.

Other

Public Consultation: JECFA/JMPR have drafted and updated Chapter 5 in Principles and Methods for the Risk Assessment of Chemical in Food, Environmental Health Criteria 240: Dose Response Assessment and Derivation of Health-Based Guidance Values. It is available on the following website: [www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/public-consultation-on-the-jecfa-jmpr-update-of-chapter-5-\(ehc-240\)-\(deadline-by-31-january-2020\)](http://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/public-consultation-on-the-jecfa-jmpr-update-of-chapter-5-(ehc-240)-(deadline-by-31-january-2020)). The deadline for comments is January 31, 2020.