



Codex News – May 29, 2024

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The 55th Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR55) will meet in Chengdu, China from June 3-8, 2024. The meeting will be broadcast in Chinese, English, French, and Spanish. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCPR55 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=55>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)

The 86th Session of the CCEXEC will meet in Rome, Italy from July 1-5, 2024. The meeting will be broadcast in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, and Spanish. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCEXEC86 will be made available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEXEC&session=86>. For additional information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office

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

The 27th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification System (CCFICS27) will meet in Cairns, Australia from September 16-20, 2024. The meeting will be broadcast in English, French, and Spanish. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCFICS27 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/jp/?meeting=CCFICS&session=27>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office

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

The 44th Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU44) will meet in Dresden, Germany from October 2-6, 2024. The meeting will be broadcast in English, French, and Spanish. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCNFSDU44 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/jp/?meeting=CCNFSDU&session=44>. For additional information, please contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

CCFO: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/35-CAC) requesting comments on the draft amendments/revisions to the Standards and Code of Practice for Fats and Oils for adoption by the 47th Session of the Commission. The CL is currently available in English at the following link:

<http://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) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 13, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

Olive Oil: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/36-FO) requesting information for the submission of scientific data and information on olive oil. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 16, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of September 30, 2024.

New Work: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/38-FO) requesting proposals for new work and or amendments to existing Codex Standards on Fats and Oils. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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) of the U.S. Codex Office by February 14, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of February 28, 2025.

Rice Bran Oil: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/39-FO) requesting information on the method for the determination of gamma oryzanol in rice bran oil in *the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* (CXS 210-1999). The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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) of the U.S. Codex Office by June 15, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of June 30, 2025.

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

INS: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/57-FA) requesting proposals for the change and/or addition to Section 3 of the *Class Names and International Numbering System (INS) for Food Additives* (CXG 36-1989). The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 1, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of September

15, 2024.

GSFA: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/58-FA) requesting proposals for new and/or revision of food additive provisions of the *General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)* (CX 192-1995). The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex-alimentarius/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) of the U.S. Codex Office by January 1, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of January 15, 2025.

JECFA Priority List: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/59-FA) requesting information and comments on the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex-alimentarius/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) of the U.S. Codex Office by January 1, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of January 15, 2025.

Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)

Section 2 of the Codex Procedural Manual: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/25-GP) requesting comments on the proposed changes to Section 2 Elaboration of Codex Standards and related texts, Procedures for the elaboration of Codex Standards and related texts, Part 7 Guide to the Procedure for modification (corrections, amendments, and new editions) of Codex standards and related texts. 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/>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 2, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of August 16, 2024.

Language Inconsistencies and Superseded Content in the Codex Procedural Manual: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/27-GP) requesting proposals from Members and Observers on inconsistencies in language, and superseded content of the *Codex Procedural Manual*, apart from Section 3. 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/>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 2, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of August 16, 2024.

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

New Work and Emerging Issues: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/52-NFSDU) requesting proposals for new work and emerging issues. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <https://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 Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by July 15, 2024. Responses to the CL by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be sent via

email to the CCNFSDU Host Secretariat (CCNFSDU@bvl.bund.de) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) prior to the deadline of July 31, 2024.

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)

Cadmium Contamination: CCCF invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States, working in English, to develop a Code of Practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in foods, as well as determine the need for the development of annexes with commodity specific recommendations. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by June 27, 2024. 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 uscodex@usda.gov with a copy to Lauren.Robin@fda.hhs.gov and Eileen.Abt@fda.hhs.gov by June 30, 2024. 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.

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

Alignment: CCFA invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the Canada and co-chaired by the United States and Japan, working in English, to work on the following:

- i. align the CCASIA regional standards: CXS 298R-2009; CXS 301R-2011; CXS 322R-2015; CXS 354R-2023; CXS 355R-2023;
- ii. align the CCNE regional standards: CXS 257R-2007; CXS 258R-2007; CXS 259R-2007; CXS 341R-2020;
- iii. align the following CCSCCH standards: CXS 342-2021; CXS 343-2021; CXS 344-2021; CXS 345-2021; CXS 347-2019; CXS 351-2022; CXS 352-2022; CXS 353-2022;
- iv. verify and update the provisions for colours in the GSFA FC 02.1.2 reflecting that colours were not permitted in vegetable oils covered by CXS 19-1981 prior to the alignment of the standard with the GSFA;
- v. introduce the limited use of methacrylate copolymer, basic (BMC) (INS 1205) in fortified rice, by:
 - a. introducing a food additive section in the Standard for Rice (CXS 198- 1995), including an appropriate reference to certain carriers in FC 06.1 of the GSFA; and
 - b. making consequential changes to the food additive provisions of FC 06.1, as necessary;
- vi. and update the list of Table 3 additives that should be migrated from Tables 1 and 2 of the GSFA, following the Table 3 Notes approach.

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by June 5, 2024. 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 codex_canada@hc-sc.gc.ca by June 10, 2024. 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.

GSFA: CCFA invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States, working in English, to work on the following:

- i. Replies from CCFO28 on the technological justification for the use of paprika extract (INS 160c (ii) in FC 02.2.2 of the GSFA;
- ii. Revocation of the adopted provision for annatto extracts, bixin based (INS 160b(i)) in FC 01.2.1;
- iii. The adopted provision for aspartame (INS 951) in FC 07.1 for comment on the actual use level and application of the alternative
- iv. The draft, and proposed draft provisions, respectively, for colours in FCs 01.0 through to 08.0 and their subcategories as well as adopted provisions for colours with Note 161 in FCs 01.0 through to 08.0 and their subcategories with the exception of colours addressed in bullet points i and ii above; and v. Provisions entered at Step 2 of the GSFA contained in CRD02 Annex 5

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by June 18, 2024. 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 ccfa@cfsan.fda.gov by June 21, 2024. 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.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

Sweet Marjoram: CCSCH invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Egypt, working in English, to develop an initial draft for a Standard on Sweet Marjoram. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by June 11, 2024. 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 Egy.codexpoint@gmail.com and hananfouad86@hotmail.com by June 14, 2024. 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.

Cinnamon: CCSCH invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Brazil and co-chaired by Indonesia, Iran, and Mexico, working in English, to develop an initial draft for a Standard on Cinnamon under the group standard "Dried bark." Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by June 11, 2024. 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 codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br and luciana.pimenta@agro.gov.br by June 15, 2024. 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.

Large Cardamom: CCSCH invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Bhutan and co-chaired by Nepal and India, working in English, to develop an initial draft for a Standard on Large Cardamom. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by June 25, 2024. 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 bhutancodex@gmail.com with a copy to kinleyr@bfd.gov.bt and dselden@bfd.gov.bt by June 28, 2024. 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.