

Codex News – April 19, 2022

Upcoming Committee Meeting

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)

The 22nd Session of the CCFFV will meet virtually on April 25-29, 2022, from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM EDT (16:00 – 19:00 CET) with report adoption on May 4, 2022, from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM EDT (16:00 – 19:00 CET). A pre-session meeting is also planned for April 21, 2022, from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM EDT (16:00 to 17:30 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to 22nd Session of the CCFFV will be available at: https://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFFV&session=22. For additional information, please contact Heather Selig (Heather.Selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Upcoming Webinar

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

CCAFRICA is hosting a webinar on May 19, 2022, to discuss ongoing work on the draft guidelines for developing harmonized food safety legislation for the region and the draft regional standard for dried meat. Codex Members and Observers will have an opportunity to learn about progress made since the 23rd Session of CCAFRICA (February 2019) and gain insight into the key issues that need to be addressed during the 24th Session of CCAFRICA (date not yet set). To register for the webinar, please use the following link:

https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwtcOuhqjltGtLMp7wUHjDw35GENdDSEbf /.

Recent U.S. Delegation Report

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

The report of the U.S. Delegate on the 52nd Session of the CCFH has been published. The report can be found at the following link:

https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ccfh52-delegates-report.pdf.

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing *E. Coli*: CCFH invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Chile and co-chaired by France, New Zealand, and the United States, working in English, to update the Guidelines for the Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG

should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (<u>Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov</u>) by April 26, 2022. 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 Codex Contact Point (CCP) to <u>constanza.vergara@achipia.gob.cl</u> by April 30, 2022. As this EWG will operate on the Codex Online Forum, please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate in the EWG.

Safe Use and Re-use of Water in Food Production: CCFH invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Honduras and co-chaired by Chile and the European Union, working in English, to develop proposed draft guidelines for the safe use and re-use of water in food production. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov) by April 27, 2022. 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 msevilla@senasa.gob.hn by May 1, 2022. As this EWG will operate on the Codex Online Forum, please note that when there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate one as their official representative to participate in the EWG.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)

Cadmium in Cocoa Powder: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/14-CF) requesting comments on Maximum Levels (MLs) for cadmium in cocoa powder (100% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis). 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. 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) by April 28, 2022.

Cadmium Contamination in Cocoa Beans: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/15-CF) requesting comments on the Code of Practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cocoa beans. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by April 28, 2022.

Lead in Certain Food Categories: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/16-CF) requesting comments on MLs for lead in certain food categories. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by April 25, 2022.

Aflatoxins in Cereal: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/18-CF) requesting comments on MLs for total aflatoxins in certain cereals and cereal-based products, including foods for infants and young children and associated sampling plans. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by April 28, 2022.

Aflatoxins in Peanuts: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/19-CF) requesting comments on MLs for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts and the associated sampling plan. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by April 28, 2022.

Mycotoxin Contamination: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/21-CF) requesting comments on the Code of Practice for the prevention/reduction of mycotoxin contamination in cassava and cassava-based products. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by April 30, 2022.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

Tocopherols and Tocotrienols in Avocado Oil: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/13-FO) requesting data submissions on levels of tocopherols and tocotrienols in avocado oils from authentic samples (mg/kg). 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec

(<u>doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov</u>) by September 16, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to <u>codex@fao.org</u> with a copy to <u>codexmex@economia.gob.mx</u> and <u>uscodex@usda.gov</u> by September 30, 2022.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

New Work/Revision of Existing Standards: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/31-FH) requesting proposals for new work and/or revisions 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. 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) by August 18, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to ccfh@usda.gov with a copy to codex@fao.org by September 1, 2022.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

Selection of Methods: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/23-MAS) requesting comments on the *Rules for the selection of Type II methods from multiple Type III methods*. 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 Heather Selig (https://enables.selig@usda.gov) by June 15, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 30, 2022.

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

Follow-up Formula: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/24/OCS-NFSDU) requesting comments on the preamble and structure in the review of the *Standard for Follow-up Formula* (CXS 156-1987). 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 Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.Hendricks@usda.gov) by August 1, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by August 31, 2022.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

Regional Standard for Dried Meat: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/04/OCS-CCAFRICA) requesting comments on the Draft Regional Standard for dried meat. 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 Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by

June 3, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 17, 2022.

New Deputy U.S. Codex Manager

Ms. Julie Chao recently joined the U.S. Codex Office as the new Deputy U.S. Codex Manager. Prior to joining the U.S. Codex Office, Julie worked in the Office of the Chief Economist in the Office of Pest Management Policy at USDA.

New U.S. Delegate

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

U.S. Delegate: Dr. Jonathan Greene, Biologist at the Center for Veterinary Medicine of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was recently confirmed as the new U.S. delegate to the CCRVDF. He follows in the footsteps of Ms. Brandi Robinson who served as U.S. Delegate to CCRVDF for several years prior to her appointment now as Chairperson of CCRVDF.

Calls for Experts

Cell-Based Food Products: FAO has issued a call for experts to participate in an expert consultation and provide scientific advice for informed decision-making on the topic of cell-based food products and food safety considerations. The call for experts is available at the following link: https://www.fao.org/3/cb9296en/cb9296en.pdf. Interested applicants should complete the online application form (link is provided in the call) by April 30, 2022.

Control of Foodborne Pathogens in Poultry Meat: FAO has issued a call for experts to contribute to the future work of its Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA) on the control of non-typhoidal *Salmonella* spp. and *Campylobacter* spp. at all points along the poultry meat value chain. The call for experts is available at the following link: https://www.fao.org/3/cb9432en/cb9432en.pdf. Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to jemra@fao.org and jemra@who.int by June 1, 2022.

Food Additives, Contaminants and Residues of Veterinary Drugs: FAO has issued a reminder for the upcoming deadline on the call for experts on the risk assessment of food additives, contaminants (including toxins), and veterinary drug residues for its Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) Roster. The call for experts is available at the following link: https://www.fao.org/3/cb8393en/cb8393en.pdf. Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to jecfa@fao.org by April 28, 2022.

Toxicological and Epidemiological Experts: The Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) has issued a call for experts on pesticide toxicology to serve as WHO experts and assist the Secretariat in the preparation of working papers. The call for experts is available at the following link: <a href="https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicological-and-detail/call-for-toxicol

<u>epidemiological-experts-joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-pesticide-residues-(jmpr)</u>. Interested applicants are invited to submit their curriculum vitae to <u>jmpr@who.int</u> by August 31, 2022.

Call for Data

JEMRA has issued a call for data and all relevant information on the pre- and post-harvest control of non-typhoidal *Salmonella* spp. and *Campylobacter* spp. in poultry meat. The call for data is available at the following link: https://www.fao.org/3/cb9432en/cb9432en.pdf. Data submissions in response to the call for data should be sent to jemra@mho.int by September 1, 2022.

Other

FAO Publication: FAO issued a new publication on *International and national regulatory strategies to counter food fraud.* The publication can be accessed at the following link: https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb9035en.