



Codex News – August 9, 2022

Upcoming Public Meeting

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a virtual public meeting on August 22, 2022, from 1:00 – 2:30PM ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 6th Session of the CCSCH, which will take place from September 26 – October 3, 2022. Documents related to the 6th Session of the CCSCH will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCSCH&session=6>.

- Mr. Dorian LaFond, U.S. Delegate to the 6th Session of the CCSCH, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: dorian.lafond@usda.gov.
- Please register to attend the virtual public meeting here: www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsc--rqDwrHUQoI8la985vjKzMsfUOnFA.

Upcoming Committee Meeting

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CAFRICA)

The 24th Session of CAFRICA will meet virtually on September 5-9, 2022, from 7:00AM – 10:00AM EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET), with report adoption on September 13, 2022, from 7:00AM – 10:00AM EDT (13:00 – 16:00 CET). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 24th Session of the CAFRICA are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/tr/?meeting=CAFRICA&session=24>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)

Kimchi: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2021/91/OCS-EXEC) requesting comments on a proposal for revision of the Standard for Kimchi (CXS 223-2001). The CL is currently available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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) by August 19, 2022. 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 September 2, 2022.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

Sunflower Seed Oils: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2021/93/OCS-FO) requesting comments on the proposed revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999) – Essential composition of Sunflower Seed oils. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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) by August 19, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 2, 2022.

Avocado Oil: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2021/94/OCS-FO) requesting comments on the proposed revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999) – Inclusion of Avocado oil. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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) by August 19, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 2, 2022.

List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2021/95/OCS-FO) requesting proposals for amendments to Appendix 2: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes of the Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk (CXC 36-1987). The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circularletters>.

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 August 19, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 2, 2022.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)

Fermented Soybean Products: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/52/OCS – ASIA) requesting comments on the proposed draft Regional Standard for Soybean Products Fermented with *Bacillus* Species. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) by August 15, 2022. Comments by

Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by August 21, 2022.

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

Alignment of Food Additive Provisions: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2022/51/OCS-LAC) requesting comments on the alignment of food additive provisions in CCLAC regional standards with the General Standard on Food Additives. The CL is currently available in English 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) by September 5, 2022. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 18, 2022.

Recent U.S. Delegate Report

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The report of the U.S. Delegate on the 53rd Session of the CCPR has been published. The report can be found at the following link: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/draft-ccpr53-delegate-report.pdf>.

Calls for Data

Lead in Herbs and Spices: The 15th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF15) agreed to issue a call for data on lead in fresh and dried culinary herbs and dried spices (including floral parts bark, rhizomes, bulbs, and roots) for consideration by CCCF17. More information about the call for data is available at the following link: https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/food-safety/call-for-data/call-for-data-cccf-lead-2022.pdf?sfvrsn=886c8a26_3. Data submissions in response to the call for data should be submitted to the World Health Organization (WHO) through the GEMS database by October 10, 2022.

Toxicological Data: The Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) has issued a call for data contributions to the toxicological evaluations, the preparation of specifications, and estimating the intake of substances scheduled for evaluation at JECFA96. The call for data can be accessed at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc0733en/cc0733en.pdf>. Data submissions should be submitted to the FAO at JECFA-Call@fao.org and to WHO at jecfa@who.int by December 31, 2022.

Call for Experts

Microbiological Hazards: The Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA) has issued a call for experts on risk assessment of microbiological hazards related to food safety to serve on the JEMRA roster. The call for experts can be accessed at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc0842en/cc0842en.pdf>. Interested applicants are invited to complete an online application and submit their curriculum vitae to jemra@fao.org and jemra@who.int by October 1, 2022.