



Codex News – January 12, 2021

### Upcoming Codex Committee Sessions

#### ***Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)***

The Codex Secretariat has released a provisional agenda for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee on General Principles, which will convene virtually from February 8-17, 2021. Documents related to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCGP&session=32>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

### Rescheduled Codex Committee Sessions

#### ***Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)***

The 14<sup>th</sup> Session of CCCF is now rescheduled for May 3-7, 2021, in the Netherlands (Location to be announced (TBA)). Documents related to the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of CCCF will be available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=14>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

#### ***Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)***

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCFA is now tentatively rescheduled for March 8-12, 2021, in China (Location TBA). Documents related to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCFA will be available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFA&session=52>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

#### ***Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)***

The 25<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFICS, which is now rescheduled for May 31-June 8, 2021, will convene virtually. Documents related to the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFICS will be available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFICS&session=25>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) the U.S. Codex Office.

#### ***Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)***

The 46<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFL is now rescheduled for September 26-October 1, 2021, in Quebec City, Canada. Documents related to the 46<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFL will be available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/related-meetings/en/?committee=CCFL>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

***Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)***

The 41<sup>st</sup> Session of CCMAS is now rescheduled for May 17-21, 2021, in Budapest, Hungary.

Documents related to the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of CCMAS will be available at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCMAS&session=41>. For additional information, please contact Heather Selig ([heather.selig@usda.gov](mailto:heather.selig@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

***Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)***

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCPR is now rescheduled for July 26-31, 2021, in China (Location TBA).

Documents related to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCPR will be available at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=52>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

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

The 25<sup>th</sup> Session of CCRVDF is now rescheduled for July 12-16, 2021, in Cleveland, Ohio, United States. Documents related to the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of CCRVDF will be available at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=25>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

***Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)***

The 27<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFO is now rescheduled for October 10-18, 2021, in Malaysia (Location TBA).

Documents related to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFO will be available at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/related-meetings/en/?committee=CCFO>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

***Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)***

The 5<sup>th</sup> Session of CCSCH, which is now rescheduled for April 20-29, 2021, will convene virtually.

Documents related to the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of CCSCH will be available at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCSCH&session=5>. For additional information, please contact Heather Selig ([heather.selig@usda.gov](mailto:heather.selig@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

***Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)***

The 8<sup>th</sup> Session of TFAMR is now rescheduled for October 4-9, 2021, however whether it will convene in-person or virtually will be determined at a later date. Documents related to the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of TFAMR will be available at the following link:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=TFAMR&session=8>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.MaratosBhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

## Requests for Comments

### ***Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)***

**Aflatoxins in Certain Cereals and Cereal-Based Products:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/60/OCS-CF) requesting comments on sampling plans and performance criteria for total aflatoxins in certain cereals and cereal-based products including foods for infants and young children. The CL is currently available in English 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 5, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by March 20, 2021.

### ***Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)***

**Sardines:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/61/OCS-FFP) requesting comments on the establishment of an Electronic Working Group (EWG) to evaluate a proposed amendment of *the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products*. The CL is currently available in English 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 Heather Selig ([Heather.Selig@usda.gov](mailto:Heather.Selig@usda.gov)) by January 15, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by January 31, 2021.

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

**MRLs:** The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for a Circular Letter (CL 2020/17(REV1)-RVDF) requesting comments on the MRLs for veterinary drugs. The CL is currently available in English 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 February 12, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the CCRVDF Secretariat ([CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov](mailto:CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by February 28, 2021.

**Priority List:** The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for a Circular Letter (CL 2020/18(REV1)-RVDF) requesting comments/information on the Priority List of Veterinary Drugs for Evaluation or Re-evaluation by JECFA. 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](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by February 12, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the CCRVDF Secretariat ([CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov](mailto:CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by February 28, 2021.

**Extrapolation of MRLs:** The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for a Circular Letter (CL 2020/42(REV1)-RVDF) requesting comments on the approach for the extrapolation of maximum residue limits (MRLs) for veterinary drugs to one or more species and proposals for

MRLs based on the approach proposed for extrapolation of MRLs to one or more species. The CL is currently available in English 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 February 12, 2021. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the CCRVDF Secretariat ([CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov](mailto:CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)) by February 28, 2021.

### Electronic Working Groups (EWGs)

#### ***FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)***

**Cooked Rice Wrapped in Plant Leaves:** The Committee invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by China, working in English, to continue work on the draft regional standard for cooked rice wrapped in plant leaves. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. 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 [chinacacwg@163.com](mailto:chinacacwg@163.com) and [lu.zhen@cgcc.org.cn](mailto:lu.zhen@cgcc.org.cn) by January 20, 2021. 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.

**Quick Frozen Dumpling:** The Committee invites members and observers to join an EWG, chaired by China, working in English, to continue work on the draft regional standard for quick frozen dumpling. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. 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 [chinacacwg@163.com](mailto:chinacacwg@163.com) and [lu.zhen@cgcc.org.cn](mailto:lu.zhen@cgcc.org.cn) by January 20, 2021. 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.

### Other

**FAO E-Learning Academy:** An e-learning course titled "Monitoring and Preventing Ciguatera Poisoning" has been published on the FAO's e-Learning Academy website. Ciguatera poisoning is one of the most common foodborne illnesses related to consumption of fishery products. The course is a joint effort of FAO, IAEA, IOC, and WHO, and it is available to all who are interested free of charge. Participants can find the course at the following link: <https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=648>.