



Codex News- May 5, 2020

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

New Work: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/32-FH) requesting proposals for new work and/or revision of existing standards. The CL is currently available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Jenny Scott (jenny.scott@fda.hhs.gov) by August 14, 2020. Comments by other countries and observers should be submitted via their CCP to Marie Maratos, CCFH Host Secretariat (CCFH@usda.gov) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 1, 2020.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

Measurement Uncertainty and Criteria for Typing: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/31/OCS-MAS) requesting comments on: (i) the proposed revised Guideline on Measurement Uncertainty; (ii) Information document on procedures for the estimation of measurement uncertainty; and (iii) criteria to select Type II methods from multiple Type III methods. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 June 15, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 30, 2020.

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

New Work: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/30/NFSDU) requesting proposals for new work and emerging issues. The CL is currently available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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 August 14, 2020. Comments by other countries and observers should be submitted via their CCP to Alina Steinert, CCNFSDU Host Secretariat (Alina.Steinert@bmel.bund.de) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 1, 2020.

Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

Regional Coordinator Nomination: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/33/AFRICA) requesting CCAFRICA members to express interest in being considered for nomination as the next Regional Coordinator for CCAFRICA. The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. Nominations from CCAFRICA members should be sent to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) with a copy to the current Regional Coordinator of CCAFRICA (kimutaimaritim@yahoo.co.uk) and the Kenya Bureau of Standards

(info@kebs.org) by June 26, 2020. U.S. Stakeholders may contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) for additional information.

Extensions to Requests for Comments

The Codex Secretariat would like to inform all Codex members and observers that the commenting period for the following Circular Letters (CLs) previously issued have been extended as noted below. The CLs can be downloaded from the Codex website through the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>

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

- CL 2020/17-RVDF: Request for comments on MRLs for veterinary drugs tissues
- CL 2020/18-RVDF: Request for comments on the priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the CCRVDF Secretariat (CCRVDF-USSEEC@usda.gov) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by the new deadline of November 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by November 1, 2020.

Electronic Working Groups

Codex Committee for Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)

Given the postponement of the 25th Session of the CCFICS, originally scheduled for April 27-May 1, 2020, in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, due to the global outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Codex Secretariat has issued an invitation on the extension/continuation of the eWG on the Guidelines on recognition and maintenance of equivalence of National Food Control Systems (NFCS). Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG who have previously not signed up should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Codex Members and Observers that have not previously registered for this EWG are invited to register their experts by May 12, 2020 by emailing: CodexNZ@mpi.govt.nz.

Committee Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)

Given the postponement of the 32nd Session of the CCGP, originally scheduled for March 23-27, 2020, in Bordeaux, France, due to the global outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Codex Secretariat has issued an invitation on the extension/continuation of the eWG on the Committees Working by Correspondence. The specific terms of reference are to develop criteria to identify work appropriate to be undertaken by committees working by correspondence and to develop procedural guidance for such committees; and to consider and make recommendations as appropriate, whether procedural changes related to committees working by correspondence are necessary (see report of CCGP31 for full terms of reference). Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG who have previously not signed up should contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Codex Members and Observers that have not previously registered for this

EWG are invited to register their experts as soon as possible by emailing: codexnz@mpi.govt.nz with a copy to codex.germany@bmel.bund.de, codex_maff@maff.go.jp, and uscodex@usda.gov.

Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

The committee invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Kenya and co-chaired by Morocco and Senegal, working in English and French, to draft guidelines for supporting development of harmonized food laws for the CCAFRICA Region. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by June 1, 2020. 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 info@kebs.org with a copy to: codexsenegal@sante.gouv.sn; cnc-maroc@onssa.gov.ma; bouchring@yahoo.fr; and lnamu@kephis.org by June 5, 2020. 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

General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) - Implementation of the revised approach

relating to Table 3: Following recent decisions of the Codex Committee of Food Additives at its 50th Session (2018; relevant text in REP18/FA paras 41, 42, 60 and 61) and 51st Session (2019; relevant text in REP19/FA paras 129-135), the revised approach to listing corresponding commodity standards in Table 3 of the GSFA in both the PDF and online versions have been implemented. The updated GSFA is now available on the Codex website as follows: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/dbs/gsfa/en/>