



Codex News- June 4, 2019

Public Meetings

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on June 21, 2019, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. EDT to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 42nd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, in Geneva, Switzerland, July 8-12, 2019. The public meeting will take place in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Jamie L. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 107-A, Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 42nd Session of the CAC will be accessible via the internet at the following address: www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en.

- Mary Frances Lowe, U.S. Delegate to the 42nd Session of the CAC, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: uscodex@usda.gov.
- Please register to attend by emailing uscodex@usda.gov by June 18, 2019. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building, for which attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through federal building security screening systems.
- Attendees who are not able to attend in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone/conference call; please use the call-in number: 1-888-844-9904, participant code 5126092.

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

General Standard for Food Additives: CCFA invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States, working in English, to work on the *General Standard for Food Additives* (GSFA) to the 52nd Session of the CCFA. Individuals interested in working on the EWG should send their contact information, including name(s), affiliation, and email address to Dr. Paul Honigfort at ccfa@cfsan.fda.gov by June 21, 2019. 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.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF)

General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/45/OCS-CF) requesting comments on proposed draft revised maximum levels in selected commodities in the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed*. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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) by June 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted through their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 15, 2019.

Cadmium in Chocolates: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/46/OCS-CF) requesting comments on a proposed draft maximum level for cadmium for chocolates containing or declaring <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis at Step 5/8. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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) by June 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted through their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 15, 2019.

Refined Oils and Food Products Made with Refined Oils: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/47/OCS-CF) requesting comments on a draft Code of Practice for the reduction of 3-monochloropropane-1,2-diol esters (3-MCPDEs) and glycidyl esters (GEs) in refined oils and food products made with refined oils at Step 8. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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) by June 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted through their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 15, 2019.

Rapid Risk Analysis: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL/48/OCS-CF) requesting comments on draft guidelines for rapid risk analysis following instances of detection of contaminants in food where there is no regulatory level at Step 8. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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) by June 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted through their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 15, 2019.

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

Nitrates and Nitrites: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/49-FA) requesting general information on the availability of data related to nitrates and nitrites. The CL can be found in English at the following link: 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 Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by September 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted through their CCP to codex@fao.org with a copy to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn by September 15, 2019.

Changes/Additions to Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food

Additives: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/39-FA) requesting proposals for changes and/or additions to Section 3 of the *Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives*. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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 Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by September 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted through their CCP to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by September 15, 2019.

Food Additive Provision of the GSFA: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/40-FA) requesting proposals for new provisions and/or revisions of the Food Additive Provision of the GSFA. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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 Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by January 3, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted through their CCP to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 15, 2020.

Priority List of Substances: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/41-FA) requesting information and comments on the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA). The CL is available in English at the following link: 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 Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by January 3, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted through their CCP to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 15, 2020.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

New Work and/or Revisions of Existing Standards: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/50-FH) requesting proposals for new work and/or revisions of existing standards. The CL is available in English at the following link: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en. If you are interested in having your comments considered for the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by August 30, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted to ccfh@usda.gov with a copy to codex@fao.org by September 1, 2019.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

List of Acceptable Previous Cargo: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/51/OCS-FO) requesting proposals for amendments to Appendix 2: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes of [CAC/RCP 36-1987](#). The CL is available in English at the following link: 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 (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by December 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by December 15, 2019.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

Pesticides in Food and Feed: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/43-OCS/PR) requesting comments on maximum residue limits (MRLs) for pesticides in food and feed at Step 5/8. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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 (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by June 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 15, 2019.

Classification of Food and Feed: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/44/OCS-PR) requesting comments of the *Classification of Food and Feed: Miscellaneous Commodities Not Meeting the Criteria for Crop Grouping (Any Class, Single Type, One Group)* at Step 5/8. The CL is available in English at the following link: 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 (marie.maratos@usda.gov) by June 5, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by June 15, 2019.

Other

51st Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues: The Delegate Report for the 51st Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) was held in April 2019 has been published. It was posted on the USDA website at: www.usda.gov/topics/trade/international-food-standards/codex-delegation-reports.

World Food Safety Day: The first World Food Safety Day (WFSD) will be celebrated on June 7, 2019 to draw attention to help prevent, detect, and manage foodborne risks; contributing to

food security, human health, economic prosperity, agriculture, market access, tourism, and sustainable development. This year's theme is "food safety, everyone's business." Visit www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/WFSD/en/ for more information.