



Codex News - July 14, 2020

Rescheduled Codex Committee Sessions

Please note that the following sessions that were recently postponed/cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic have tentatively been rescheduled for late 2020/early 2021. Specific details for each session may be found below.

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Committee (CCEXEC)

The 79th Session of CCEXEC, originally scheduled for a physical meeting from July 6-10, 2020, will now be held as a virtual meeting July 13, 14, 17, and 20, 2020. The meeting is expected to be streamlined and will focus on the CCEXEC's Critical Review role. Documents related to the 79th Session of the CCEXEC are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEXEC&session=79>. For additional information, please contact Mary Frances Lowe (MaryFrances.lowe@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

The 43rd Session of the CAC, originally scheduled for July 6-11, 2020, has been postponed and will now most likely be in the form of a virtual session with an abbreviated agenda, planned for mid-September 2020. Documents related to the 43rd Session of the CAC are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=43>. For additional information, please contact Mary Frances Lowe (MaryFrances.lowe@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

The 5th Session of CCSCH is now rescheduled for April 26-30, 2021, in Kochi, Kerala, India. Documents related to the upcoming 5th Session of CCSCH may be found at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCSCH&session=5>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

The 46th Session of is in the process of being rescheduled for September 2021 most likely, dates still to be determined, in Canada. Documents related to the 46th Session of CCFL will be available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFL>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

The 52nd Session of the CCFH is now rescheduled for November 29-December 3, 2021, in San Diego, California, United States. Documents related to the 52nd Session of CCFH will be available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who->

[codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFH](http://www.codexalimentarius.org/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFH). For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos (Marie.maratos@usda.gov) and River Scrantz (River.scrantz@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office with a copy to the CCFH Secretariat (CCFH@usda.gov).

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

The 42nd Session of CCNFSDU is now rescheduled for November 22-26, 2021, in a location to be determined. Documents related to the 42nd Session of CCNFSDU will be available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCNFSDU>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Ad-Hoc Task Force on Anti-Microbial Resistance (TFAMR)

The 8th Session of TFAMR is now rescheduled for June 14–19, 2021, in the Republic of Korea, city to be determined. Documents related to the 8th Session of TFAMR will be available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=TFAMRF>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos (marie.maratos@usda.gov) and Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

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

Recommendations on Tackling Food Fraud: The Codex Secretariat has issued a request for comments on a Circular Letter (CL 2020/41-FICS) on the Recommendations included in the Discussion Paper on the Role of CCFICS with Respect to Tackling Food Fraud in the Context of Food Safety and Fair Practices in Food and Appendix 1 (Draft Project Document for the Development of Guidance on Food Fraud). 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by September 16, 2020. Comments by other countries and observers should be submitted via their CCP to the Codex Online Commenting System (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 30, 2020.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

New Work: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline on the Circular Letter (CL 2019/54-FO) requesting proposals for new work and or amendments to existing Codex Standards in CCFO. The CL is available in English, French and Spanish 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 Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by December 4, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) with a copy to the CCFO Secretariat (ccfo_malaysia@moh.gov.my) by December 18, 2020.

Codex Committee on Pesticides Residues (CCPR)

Management of Unsupported Compounds: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (2020/40-PR) requesting comments on the management of unsupported compounds without public health concerns scheduled for periodic review. 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) and Aaron Niman (niman.aaron@epa.gov) by September 7, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Codex Contact Point of Chile (codex@achipia.gob.cl) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 20, 2020.

Revision of Representative Commodities for Class C and D: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (2020/12-PR) requesting comments on the Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989): Proposed tables on examples of representative commodities for commodity groups in different types under Class C – Primary Animal Feed Commodities and Class D – Processed Foods of Plant Origin (For inclusion in the Principles and Guidance for the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides to Commodity Groups (CXG 84-2012). 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) and Aaron Niman (niman.aaron@epa.gov) by September 1, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Classification electronic Working Group (EWG) Chair Bill Barney (barney@njaes.rutgers.edu) and Co-Chair Dorin Poelmans (D.A.M.POELMANS@NVWA.NL) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 15, 2020.

Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (Class D: Processed Foods of Plant Origin): The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (2020/11-PR) requesting comments on the Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989, Class D: Processed Foods of Plant Origin). 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) and Aaron Niman (niman.aaron@epa.gov) by September 1, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Classification EWG Chair Bill Barney (barney@njaes.rutgers.edu) and Co-Chair Dorin Poelmans (D.A.M.POELMANS@NVWA.NL) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 15, 2020.

Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (Class C: Primary Animal Feed Commodities):

The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (2020/10-PR) requesting comments on the Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989, Class C: Primary Animal Feed Commodities). 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) and Aaron Niman (niman.aaron@epa.gov) by September 1, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to the Classification EWG Chair Bill Barney (barney@njaes.rutgers.edu) and Co-Chair Dorin Poelmans (D.A.M.POELMANS@NVWA.NL) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 15, 2020.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

Request for comments, on the Proposed Draft Standard for Nutmeg: The Codex Secretariat has issued a request for comments on a Circular Letter (CL 2020/38-SCH) on the proposed draft standard for nutmeg. 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 September 16, 2020. Comments by other countries and observers should be submitted via their CCP to the Codex Online Commenting System (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 30, 2020.

Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

Regional Coordinator Nomination: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline for the Circular Letter (CL 2020/33/AFRICA) requesting CCAFRICA members to provide names for nomination as the next Regional Coordinator for CCAFRICA. The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters>. 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 July 31, 2020. U.S. Stakeholders may contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office for additional information.

Electronic Working Groups**Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)**

CCFICS Food Fraud: Due to the cancellation of the CCFICS25 meeting that was scheduled for 27 April – 1 May 2020, the Chair of CCFICS and the Codex Secretariat have agreed that the Electronic Working Groups established by CCFICS24 should continue to work and report to the next session of CCFICS when it is held. All Codex Members and Observers that are not already registered for this EWG are invited to register their experts for this EWG, which will be working through an online platform. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov). 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) with a copy to the US Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov). The work program and timelines will be posted on the EWG platform in the coming weeks. 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.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

Dried Cloves: Due to the cancellation of the CCSCH5 meeting scheduled for September 21 – 26, 2020, the Committee has extended the deadline for registration and invites members and observers to join the EWG chaired by Nigeria, working in English, to continue work on the draft standard for dried cloves. Countries and observers should only register if they have not already registered for this EWG. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG who have not previously expressed interest should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) by July 20, 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 codexsecretariat@son.gov.ng; chiokeyegwu@yahoo.com; and fyne.okita@gmail.com by July 24, 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.

Dried Ginger: Due to the cancellation of the CCSCH5 meeting scheduled for September 21 – 26, 2020, the Committee has extended the deadline for registration and invites members and observers to join the EWG chaired by Nigeria, working in English, to continue work on the draft standard for dried ginger. Countries and observers should only register if they have not already registered for this EWG. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG who have not previously expressed interest should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) by July 20, 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 codexsecretariat@son.gov.ng; chiokeyegwu@yahoo.com; and fyne.okita@gmail.com by July 24, 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.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA)

Soybean Products Fermented with *Bacillus* Species: The Committee invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Japan, working in English, to continue work on the draft regional standard for soybean products fermented with *Bacillus* species. Individuals in the U.S. interested in working on U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) by August 24, 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 food_manufacture.codex@maff.go.jp by August 31, 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

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

JECFA published its report for the 89th meeting on food additive safety evaluation, which took place virtually from June 1-12, 2020. The committee had four main tasks: (a) to further elaborate principles governing the evaluation of food additives, (b) to undertake safety evaluations of certain food additives, (c) to review and prepare specifications for certain food additives and (d) to establish specifications for certain flavouring agents. The meeting report can be found at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca9918en/ca9918en.pdf>.

FAO/WHO Nutrient Requirements for Children Aged 0 – 36 Months

The FAO and WHO have initiated work on updating nutrient requirements for children aged 0 – 36 months, following the WHO guideline development process and in line with Article 6 of the FAO Constitution, and are requesting consultation from FAO and WHO member states and stakeholders. The first nutrients prioritized to be updated will be calcium, vitamin D and zinc. The work done in this area will likely have an impact on future work in the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU).

More information about how to participate in this public consultation can be found at the following websites:

<https://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/nutrient-requirements-children-overview/en/>
<https://extranet.who.int/dataform/368367>