



Codex News - July 28, 2020

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Committee (CCEXEC)

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Committee (CCEXEC)

The 79th Session of CCEXEC, originally scheduled for a physical meeting from July 29 to July 3, 2020, was held as a virtual meeting on July 13, 14, 17, and 20, 2020. During the streamlined meeting, CCEXEC went through the critical review agenda for each committee. Also covered in the critical review process was the discussion paper titled *Codex and the pandemic - Strategic challenges and opportunities*, which examined how to continue Codex work during the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting report and other 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>.

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, 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 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 Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

Extension of Deadline: The Codex Secretariat extended the deadline for comments on 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: <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 November 17, 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 December 1, 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, 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 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.

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.

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 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>