



Codex News- November 19, 2019

Public Meetings

Codex Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on November 21, 2019 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. EST to provide information and receive public comment on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 7th Session of the Codex *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance, in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, December 9-13, 2019. The public meeting will take place in Meeting Room 107-A of the Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 7th Session of the TFAMR will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/en/>.

- Dr. Donald A. Prater, U.S. Delegate to the 7th Session of the TFAMR, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: donald.prater@fda.hhs.gov.
- Please register to attend by emailing uscodex@usda.gov as soon as possible. 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.

Requests for Comments

Codex Committee on Cereal, Pulses and Legumes (CCCPL)

Grain Size: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/92-CPL) requesting comments at Step 6 on the provision for grain size in the standard for quinoa. 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) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to marie.maratos@usda.gov with a copy to ussec-cccpl@usda.gov, henry.kim@fda.hhs.gov, and codex@fao.org by December 1, 2019.

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

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 General Standard for Food Additives (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 via 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 via their CCP to ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to codex@fao.org by January 15, 2020.

Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) Voluntary Third-Party Assurance Programs: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/93/OCS-FICS) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft principles and guidelines for the assessment and use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (v-TPA) programs. 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by December 20, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by December 31, 2019.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

Innovation and Technology in Food Labelling: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/82-FL) requesting information for innovation and technology in food labelling. 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to hc.codex.canada.sc@canada.ca with a copy to codex@fao.org by November 30, 2019.

Labelling of Non-Retail Containers: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/85/OCS-FL) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft guidance for the labelling of non-retail containers. 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 Kristen Hendricks

(kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by May 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by May 30, 2020.

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)

Request for Data and Information on Avocado Oil: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/52-FO) requesting data and information on the characteristics and origins of avocado oil (part of the fruit from which oil is derived). 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to codex@fao.org with a copy to codexmex@economia.gob.mx and uscodex@usda.gov by November 29, 2019.

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. 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@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.

Request for Data and Information on Sunflowerseed Oil: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/53-FO) requesting data and information on refractive index, saponification value, iodine values, and relative density for sunflower seed oil. 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by January 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to codex@fao.org with a copy to codex@magyp.gov.ar, mlarre@magyp.gob.ar, codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br, and ana.peretti@anvisa.gov.br by January 31, 2020.

New Work and/or Amendments to Existing Codex Standards: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/54-FO) requesting proposals for new work and/or amendments to existing Codex 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 in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by May 19, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to sante-codex@ec.europa.eu with a copy to ccpr@agri.gov.cn, codex@fao.org, and hermine.reich@efsa.europa by May 29, 2020.

Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)

Gochujang: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/87/OCS-PFV) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft standard for gochujang. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by November 30, 2019.

Chili Sauce: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/88/OCS-PFV) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft standard for chili sauce. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by November 30, 2019.

Mango Chutney: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/89/OCS-PFV) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft standard for mango chutney. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by November 30, 2019.

Dried Fruits: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/90/OCS-PFV) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft standard for dried fruits. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by November 30, 2019.

Canned Fruit Salads: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/91/OCS-PFV) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft standard for canned fruit salads. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by November 30, 2019.

Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

Saffron: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/94/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for saffron. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Floral Parts—Dried Cloves: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/95/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried floral parts—dried cloves. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Leaves—Dried Basil: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/96/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried leaves—dried basil. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Roots, Rhizomes, and Bulbs—Dried or Dehydrated Ginger: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/97/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried roots, rhizomes, and bulbs—dried or dehydrated ginger. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Oregano: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/98/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried oregano. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

New Work: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/100-SCH) requesting proposals for new work for CCSC. 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 May 21, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to codex-india@nic.in, dinesh.bish899@nic.in, and codex.sb-ker@gov.in, with a copy to codex@fao.org by May 31, 2020.

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)

Statements of Principles Concerning the Role of Science: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/99/OCS-EXEC) requesting input to the development of practical guidance for Codex subsidiary bodies and their chairpersons on the operationalization of the Statements of Principle Concerning the Role of Science. 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 Mary Frances Lowe (maryfrances.lowe@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by November 30, 2019.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CAFRICA)

Cassava-Based Products: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/102/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for fermented cooked cassava-based products. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

***Gnetum Spp*:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/103/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for fresh leaves of *Gnetum Spp*. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Dried Meat: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/104/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 5 on the draft standard for dried meat. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Shea Butter: The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/105/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments on the proposed amendments to Sections 3.2.2 and 3.4 of the regional Standard for Shea Butter. 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 March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (ocs.codexalimentarius.org) by March 31, 2020.

Calls for Data

Call for Experts and Data: A call for experts and data for work on STEC has been issued and is available on the following websites: www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/ and www.who.int/foodsafety/call-experts/en/. The deadline for experts of October 31, 2019 has since passed, but the deadline for data is January 31, 2019.

Call for Candidates for Training of New JMPR Experts: A call for candidates for training of new experts for the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) has been issued. Experts interested in being selected to participate should send their application, including a curriculum vitae, to the WHO JMPR Secretariat by December 31, 2019. More information is available on the following website: [www.who.int/foodsafety/Call for candidates for training of new JMPR experts final.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/Call%20for%20candidates%20for%20training%20of%20new%20JMPR%20experts%20final.pdf?ua=1).

Call for Data: A call for data for the 90th meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) has been issued and is available on the following websites: www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/ and www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/. The deadline for data is April 15, 2020.

Call for Data: A call for data of the Addendum to the 9th JECFA meeting for eight enzyme preparations has been issues on the following websites: [www.who.int/foodsafety/JECFA 89 Call for data Oct 2019 enzymes.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/JECFA%2089%20Call%20for%20data%20Oct%202019%20enzymes.pdf?ua=1) and www.fao.org/3/ca6809en/ca6809en.pdf. The deadline for data is February 15, 2020.

Other

88th Meeting of JECFA: The summary and conclusions of the 88th Meeting of JECFA, dedicated to the evaluation of residues of veterinary drugs, held in Rome, Italy on October 22-31, 2019 has published. It can be found on the following websites: www.fao.org/3/ca7030en/ca7030en.pdf and www.who.int/docs/default-source/food-safety/jecfa-88-summary-report.pdf?sfvrsn=172caf86_0.