



Codex News – January 22, 2025

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

The 25th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA25) is scheduled to take place in Kampala, Uganda from January 27-31, 2025. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCAFRICA25 will be provided as they become available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCAFRICA&session=25>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery (Ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific (CCNASWP)

The 17th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific (CCNASWP) is scheduled to take place in Nadi, Fiji from February 3-7, 2025. The meeting will have hybrid capabilities and will be conducted in English only. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCNASWP17 will be provided as they become available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCNASWP&session=17>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)

The 23rd Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables is scheduled to take place in Mexico City, Mexico, from February 25-March 1, 2025. The session will be conducted in English, French, and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCFFV23 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFFV&session=23>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Mouleuc (doreen.chenmouleuc@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

The 55th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives is scheduled to take place in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from March 24-28, 2025. Prior to plenary, on March 21-22, 2025, there will be two physical working group (PWGs) meetings as follows:

- i) the *General standard for food additives*, Friday 21 March (09.00–18.00) and Saturday 22 March (09.00–12.30); and
- ii) endorsement/alignment of the food additive provisions, Saturday 22 March (14.30–18.00).

The session will be conducted in English, French, Spanish and Chinese. The provisional agenda and other

working documents related to CCFA55 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFA&session=55>. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Upcoming Public Meetings

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on Feb 5, 2025 from 11:00 am-12:30 pm ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 22nd Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV22), which will meet in Mexico City, Mexico, from February 25 – March 1, 2025.

The public meeting will take place via video teleconference only.

Documents related to the CCFFV23 will be accessible via the internet at the following address:

www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFFV&session=23.

Mr. Dorian LaFond, U.S. Delegate to CCFFV23, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: Dorian.LaFond@usda.gov.

Attendees may register for the public meeting at the following link:

www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlscOihRD8uGX42lENVyIB4gIMrirpf_SE. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on February 18, 2025, from 9:00 am-12:00 pm ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 55th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA55), which will meet in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from March 24-28, 2025.

The public meeting will take place in a hybrid format. The on-site location is Meeting Room 1A-001 and 1A-002 at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Harvey Wiley Federal Building, 5001 Campus Drive, College Park, MD, 20740-3835.

Documents related to CCFA55 will be accessible via the internet at the following address: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFA&session=55.

Dr. Daniel Folmer, U.S. Delegate to CCFA55, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: Daniel.Folmer@fda.hhs.gov.

In-person attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following email address:

ccfa@cfsan.fda.gov. Virtual attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link:

fda.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlscOmgpj4iHgEoL7A3kCqQesR5F9ClcMQ. Both in-person and virtual attendees should register by February 14, 2025. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting

Request for Comments

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2025/06-CF) requesting information on foresight on emergency issues in food and feed safety relevant to contaminants in food and feed. The CL is available in English at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>. If you are interest in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Alexandra

Ferraro (alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 9, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS at the following link: <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org> prior to the deadline of May 15, 2025.

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/90-FFV) requesting comments on the proposed standard for fresh curry leaves. The CL is available in English at the following link: <https://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) of the U.S. Codex Office by January 31, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the Online Commenting System OCS at the following link: <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/> prior to the deadline of February 10, 2025.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/91-MAS) requesting information on ISO 1871 (determination of protein in quinoa). The CL is available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: <https://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) of the U.S. Codex Office by March 17, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS at the following link: <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/> prior to the deadline of March 31, 2025.

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Food Labeling (CCFL)

Joint Presentation and Multipack Formats: CCFL invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Columbia and co-chaired by Canada, India, and Jamaica, working in English and Spanish, to continue drafting the provisions relevant to joint presentation and multipack formats. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alex Ferraro (alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) as soon as possible. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, and email address via their CCP to sosorioa@invima.gov.co with a copy to codex_canada@hc-sc.gc.ca by January 22, 2025. As the EWG will operate on the EWG Forum, 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.

Food Labeling in Emergencies: CCFL invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States, working in English, on the Proposed Guidelines on the Application of Food Labeling in Emergencies. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alex Ferraro (alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by February 3, 2025. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, and email address via their CCP to uscodex@usda.gov, Bryce.carson@usda.gov, and Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov by February 7, 2025. As the EWG will operate on the EWG Forum, 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 Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

NRVs-R: CCNFSDU invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Ireland and co-chaired by Costa Rica and the United States, working in English and Spanish, on updating the tables presented in Appendix II of CX/NFSDU 24/44/4 (Part B rev) and the Application of the Stepwise Process to propose *NRVs-R* for persons aged 6 to 36 months. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alex Ferraro (alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by January 27, 2025. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, and email address via their CCP to mflynn@fsai.ie and nclarke@fsai.ie with a copy to catherine.mcginn@agriculture.gov.ie by January 31, 2025. As the EWG will operate on the EWG Forum, 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.

Methods of Analysis related to CCNFSDU: CCNFSDU invites members and observers to join and EWG chaired by the United States, working in English, to consider existing methods of analysis in the *Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234-1999) for standards falling under the CCNFSDU remit. The EWG will check fitness for purpose and make proposals for additional methods/replacement methods as well as other corrections/revocations. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alex Ferraro (alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by February 10, 2025. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, and email address via their CCP to uscodex@usda.gov with a copy to douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov and alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov by February 15, 2025. As the EWG will operate on the EWG Forum, 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.

Standard for foods for older infants and young children: CCNFSDU invites members and observers to join and EWG chaired by the United States and co-chaired by the European Union, Kenya, and Panama, working in English and Spanish, on the proposed standard for foods for older infants and young children.. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alex Ferraro (alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by February 10, 2025. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, and email address via their CCP to uscodex@usda.gov with a copy to anna.waller@usda.gov by February 15, 2025. As the EWG will operate on the EWG Forum, 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

GSFA

- The updated *General Standard for Food Additives* (STAN 192-1995), reflecting changes up to the 47th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC47) (November 2024), is now available on the Codex website in online and PDF versions in English, French, Spanish, and Chinese. The links to access the English version of the GSFA may be found below:
 - Online Version: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/dbs/gsfa/en/>
 - PDF Version: https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FStandards%252FCXS%2B192-1995%252FCXS_192e.pdf

FAO

- **Call for Experts and Data:** The FAO is seeking experts and data for the FAO expert meeting on microbiological risk assessment of *Clostridium spp.* in foods, scheduled to meet in Rome, Italy from February 17-21, 2025. Experts are requested to submit CVs as soon as possible. The review of applications and candidates will continue until sufficient suitable candidates are identified. Kindly submit any relevant data and information by January 31, 2025. The call for experts and data may be found at the following link: [FAO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment. Call for experts and data on microbiological risk assessment of Clostridium spp. in foods.](#) For additional information please contact: Kang.Zhou@fao.org.

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

- **Monograph 34:** The Compendium of Food Additive Specifications, Monograph 34, resulting from the 99th JECFA meeting (June 2024) has been published. Monograph 34 can be accessed via the following link: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd3748en>.