



## **Codex News – January 24, 2024**

### **Upcoming Committee Meetings**

#### ***Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)***

The 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants (CCCF17) is scheduled to take place physically in Panama City, Panama from April 15-19, 2024. The report adoption will take place in person on the last day of the session. The meeting will be broadcast in English, French, and Spanish for those unable to attend in person. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCCF17 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/de/?meeting=CCCF&session=17>. For additional information, please contact Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

#### ***Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)***

The 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA54) is scheduled to take place physically in Chengdu, China from April 22-26, 2024. Physical Working Group meetings are scheduled in advance of plenary on April 19-20, 2024, and will be webcast in English, French, Spanish, and Chinese. The report adoption will take place in person on the last day of the session. The meeting will be broadcast in English, French, Spanish, and Chinese for those unable to attend in person. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCFA54 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFA&session=54>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

#### ***Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)***

The 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH54) is scheduled to take place physically in Nairobi, Kenya from March 11-15, 2024. Physical Working Group meetings are scheduled in advance of plenary on March 10-11, 2024, and will be webcast in English, French, and Spanish. The report adoption will take place in person on the last day of the session. The meeting will be broadcast in English, French, and Spanish for those unable to attend in person. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCFH54 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/%20%20%20detail/en/?meeting=CCFH&session=54>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

### **Upcoming Public Meetings**

#### ***Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)***

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on February 5, 2024, from 2:00-4:00 pm EST. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH54), which will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from March 11-15, 2024. The public meeting will take place via Video

Teleconference only. Documents related to CCFH54 will be accessible via the internet at the following address: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFH&session=54](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFH&session=54). The U.S. Delegate to CCFH54 invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [benjamin.warren@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:benjamin.warren@fda.hhs.gov). Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: [www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlItc-6qqzMuH510Gf6uXw7xtk9Jq-9tGis](http://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlItc-6qqzMuH510Gf6uXw7xtk9Jq-9tGis). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## Upcoming Virtual Working Groups

### **Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)**

In preparation for the 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH54), a virtual Working Group (VWG) meeting to consider comments on the Proposed draft revision on the *Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Pathogenic Vibrio Species in Seafood* will be convened on February 26, 2024, from 9:00 am-12:00 pm EST (15.00-18.00 CET). The event will be held in English, French and Spanish. Please register in advance at the following link to participate in the VWG: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlItcu-vrD0rHsIQlv2cktZlhT6uEMmBKcY>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## Requests for Comments

### **Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC)**

**Strategic Plan:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/10-EXEC) requesting comments on the first draft of the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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 the U.S. Codex Office ([uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)) by March 22, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 5, 2024.

### **Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)**

**Lead:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/2-CF) requesting comments on maximum levels for lead in certain food categories. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <https://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 Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) by March 11, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of March 25, 2024.

**Ciguatera Poisoning:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/6-CF) requesting comments on the Code of practice for the prevention or reduction of ciguatera poisoning. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <https://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 Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) by March 10, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of March 24, 2024.

**Food and Feed Safety:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/7-CF) requesting information on foresight on emerging issues in food and feed safety relevant to contaminants. The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: <https://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 Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) by March 11, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of March 25, 2024.

#### ***Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)***

**Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/61/OCS-FO) requesting comments on the proposed draft revision to the *Standard for Olive Oils and Olive Pomace Oils* (CXS 33-1981). The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <http://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](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by January 26, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of February 9, 2024.

#### ***Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)***

**Water:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/01-FH) requesting comments on Annex II on Fish and Fishery Products, Annex III on the Production of Milk and Milk Products, and the proposed Annex IV on Technologies for recovery and treatment of water for reuse for inclusion in the *Guidelines for the Safe Use and Re-use of Water in Food Production* (CXG 100-2023). The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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 Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) by January 28, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of February 11, 2024.

**Vibrio:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/09-FH) requesting comments on the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Pathogenic Vibrio Species in Seafood (CXG 73-2010). The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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 Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) by February 1, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of February 15, 2024.

**Traditional Markets:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/11-FH) requesting comments on the proposed draft Guidelines for Food Hygiene Control Measures in Traditional Markets for Food. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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 Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) by February 3, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of February 17, 2024.

**Alignment:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/12-FH) requesting comments on the proposal for alignment of the Codex texts developed by CCFH with the General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969). The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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 Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) by February 3, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of February 17, 2024.

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

**New Work on Emerging Issues:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/66/FICS) requesting comments on Appendix A and Proposals for New Work on Emerging Issues. The CL is currently 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 Heather Selig ([heather.selig@usda.gov](mailto:heather.selig@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 5, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of April 19, 2024.

### ***Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)***

**Alcohol Labelling:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/13-FL) requesting information on the labelling of alcoholic beverages. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <http://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 Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by March 17, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of March 31, 2024.

### ***Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)***

**Methods of Analysis:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/8-MAS) requesting information relating to methods of analysis/examples of methods of analysis. The CL is currently 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 Heather Selig ([heather.selig@usda.gov](mailto:heather.selig@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by March 17, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of March 31, 2024.

### **Electronic Working Groups (EWG)**

#### ***Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)***

**Brix Levels:** CAC invites Members and Observers to join an EWG, chaired by Brazil, working in English, French, and Spanish, working on a proposed amendment to the *General Standard for Fruit Juices and Nectars* (CXS 247-2005) as set out in CRD51 of CAC46 regarding the Brix levels for *Vitis labrusca* and hybrids. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contributions to the EWG should contact the U.S. Codex Office [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov) by February 10, 2024. 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 Codex Contact Point (CCP) to [codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br](mailto:codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br) by February 15, 2024. 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 in the EWG.