



Codex News – February 5, 2025

Upcoming Committee Meetings

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-Moulec (doreen.chenmoulec@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 (PWG) 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. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items to be discussed at the 22nd Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV), 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/vJlscOihRD8uGX42IENVyIB4gIMrirpf_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 to 12:00 PM ET. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items to be discussed at the 55th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, which is scheduled to be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from March 24-28, 2025.

- **(UPDATE)** The public meeting will take place via video teleconference only. There is no longer an option to attend in person. Documents related to the 55th Session of the CCFA will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFA&session=55>.
- Dr. Daniel Folmer, U.S. Delegate to the 55th Session of the CCFA, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: daniel.folmer@fda.hhs.gov.
- **(UPDATE) Registration:** If you have already registered, kindly re-register for the meeting as the previous Zoom link has been updated. Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following updated link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/ZdshdEUkRMGkZLLq1bT9-A>. 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 emergency issues 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 interested 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 Fats and Oils (CCFO)

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/38-FO) requesting information on the method for the determination of gamma oryzanol in rice bran oil in the Standard for Named Oils (CXS 210-1999). 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 February 24, 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 February 28, 2025.

Codex Committee on Food Additives

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2025/01-FA) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed draft specifications for the identity and purity of food additives arising from the JECFA meeting. 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by February 12, 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 February 16, 2025.

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2025/02-FA) requesting comments at Step 3 on the proposed changes and/or addition to the *Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives* (CXG 36-1989). 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 Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by February 12, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted to the Codex Contacts Points at the following email address: ccfa@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to: codex@fao.org prior to the deadline of February 16, 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 as soon as possible. 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.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/89-PR) requesting comments on the establishment of the schedules and priority lists of pesticides for evaluation/re-evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPPR). 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 Marie Maratos-Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by March 20, 2025. Comments by Countries and Codex Observers who are members of the CCPR-EWG/PL can lodge their comments in reply on the “Priority List” forum on the Codex web platform at the following link: <https://forum.codex-alimentarius.net/viewforum.php?f=396> prior to the deadline of March 25, 2025. Comments by Countries and Codex Observers who are not members of the CCPR-EWG/PL should send their comments in a Word or Excel file to the following email address: james.deller@aff.gov.au with a copy to ccpr@agri.gov.cn and codex@fao.org prior to the deadline of March 25, 2025.

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

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

Appeal Mechanism for the Rejection of Imported Food: CCFICS invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by India and co-chaired by Australia, Chile, Kenya, and Nigeria, working in English, to prepare proposed guidelines on appeal mechanism for the rejection of imported food for consideration by CCFICS28. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks (kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) by February 12, 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 codex-india@nic.in by February 17, 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 Food Labeling (CCFL)

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) 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 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.

Use of Precautionary Allergen Labeling: CCFL invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States and co-chaired by Australia and the United Kingdom, working in English, on drafting the guidelines, taking into account the discussions and decisions at CCFL48, on written comments submitted at the session and advice from CCMAS, for circulation for comments at Step 6 and consideration by CCFL49. 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 24, 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, douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov, and alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov by February 28, 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)

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/gsf/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)

- **JECFA Toolbox:** The FAO has launched a toolbox designed to help those assessing the risks of veterinary drug residues in food. The JECFA Toolbox for Veterinary Drug Residues Risk Assessment describes the process used by JECFA when assessing the risks of veterinary drug residues in animal-derived food products consumed by humans. Join the launch of the JECFA Toolbox on Thursday, February 27, 2025, from 3pm-4pm Central European Time (CET). A background behind the development, live demonstration, and a question-and-answer session will take place. Register at the following link: https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_we34u6xtTUKOHZr0Dia3sA#/registration. You may find the launch event agenda at the following link: https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/food-safety/JECFA/JECFA_Toolbox_Launch_webinar_Agenda.pdf. More information can be found at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/news/news-details/en/c/1732832/>.

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA)

- **Listeria monocytogenes in Foods Report:** In response to a request from the 52nd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH), JEMRA convened a meeting to develop formal risk assessment models for *Listeria monocytogenes*. As a result, JEMRA has published the following the “*Risk assessment of Listeria monocytogenes in foods: Part 1: Formal models*” meeting report. The report can be accessed via the FAO website at the following link: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd3383en> or via the WHO website at the following link: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240074507>.