



Codex News – April 18, 2023

Upcoming Public Meeting

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on May 16, 2023, from 10am-12pm EDT. 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 42nd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS), which will meet in Budapest, Hungary from June 6-13, 2023.

- The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 42nd Session of the CCMAS will be accessible via the internet at the following website: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCMAS&session=42>.
- Dr. Patrick Gray, U.S. Delegate to the 42nd Session of the CCMAS, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: Patrick.Gray@fda.hhs.gov.
- Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: <http://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlscGupzggEl-PAXtt-4y7k0SI1hwZ2rY>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on May 25, 2023, from 2pm-4pm EDT. 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 54th Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR), which will convene in Beijing, China from June 26–July 1, 2023.

- The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 54th Session of the CCPR will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=54>.
- Mr. Aaron Niman, U.S. Delegate to the 54th Session of the CCPR, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: niman.aaron@epa.gov.
- Attendees must register to attend the public meeting at the following link: <http://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdOurpz8vEw74qzY2IOC-3PUkfxyf2w>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

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

The 26th Session of the CCFICS will meet in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia from May 1-5, 2023. Remote participation (via Zoom) will be possible for listening and verbal interventions. A physical working group (PWG) on the proposed draft consolidated *Guidelines Related to Equivalence* will meet on Sunday, April 30, 2023, from 09:00 to 12:30 AEST with interpretation in English, French, and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 26th Session of the CCFICS will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFICS&session=26>. For additional information, please contact Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

The 47th Session of the CCFL will meet in Gatineau (Ottawa), Québec, from May 15-19, 2023. The report adoption will take place in person on the last day of the session. The session will also be broadcasted in listening mode in English, French, and Spanish. The Working Group on Allergen Labelling will meet virtually the week prior on May 9-10, 2023, from 15:00–18:00 EDT, with interpretation in English, French, and Spanish. Access to the Virtual Working Group meeting will be provided following registration to the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 47th Session of the CCFL will be available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=47>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The 54th Session of the CCPR will meet in Beijing, China from June 26–July 1, 2023. The report adoption will take place in person on the last day of the Session. The Session will also be broadcasted in listening mode in English, Chinese, French and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 54th Session of the CCPR will be available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=54>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Requests for Comments

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

Statements of Principle: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/32-OCS-CAC) requesting comments on the draft guidance on the application of the *Statements of Principle concerning the role of Science in the Codex decision making process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account (SoP)* for consideration by the 46th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC46) (November 2023). The CL is currently available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian 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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by August 15, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by August 31, 2023.

Zilpaterol: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/33-OCS-CAC) requesting comments at step 6 on the draft MRLs for zilpaterol hydrochloride in cattle liver, kidney and muscle for consideration by the 46th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC46) (November 2023). The CL is currently available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian 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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by September 1, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by September 15, 2023.

Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC)

Fruit Juices and Nectars: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/27-OCS-EXEC) requesting comments on a proposal for an amendment of the *General Standard for Fruit Juices and Nectars* (CXS 247-2005). The CL is currently available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian 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 the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by May 15, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 28, 2023.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

STEC: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/28-OCS-FH) requesting comments on the Draft Guidelines for the Control of Shiga Toxin-Producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) in Raw Beef, Fresh Leafy Vegetables, Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses, and Sprouts (General Section, Annex I on Raw Beef and Annex III on Raw Milk and Raw Milk Cheeses) proposed for final adoption at Step 5/8 at the 46th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC46) (November 2023). 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 15, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by August 31, 2023.

Water: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/29-OCS-FH) requesting comments on the Draft Guidelines for the Safe Use and Reuse of Water in Food Production and Processing (General Section and Annex I on Fresh Produce) proposed for final adoption at Step 5/8 at the 46th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC46) (November 2023). 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 15, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by August 31, 2023.

New Work: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/30-OCS-FH) requesting proposals for new work and/or revision of existing proposals. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 15, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP also to Marie Maratos Bhat, CCFH Secretariat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by September 1, 2023.

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

Equivalence: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/10/OCS-FICS) requesting comments on the proposed draft consolidated Codex Guidelines related to Equivalence. 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 Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 10, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 24, 2023.

Food Fraud: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/11/OCS-FICS) requesting comments on the proposed draft Guidelines on the Prevention and Control of 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 Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 10, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 24, 2023.

Remote Audit and Verification: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/12/OCS-FICS) requesting comments on the proposed draft Principles and Guidelines on the Use of Remote Audit and Verification in Regulatory Frameworks. 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 Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by April 10, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by April 24, 2023.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

General Standard Review: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/13/OCS-MAS) requesting comments on the cereals, pulses and legumes workable package in the review of methods in the *General Standard on Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234 – 1999). The CL is currently available in English and French 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 Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 11, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 24, 2023.

Measurement Uncertainty: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/14/OCS-MAS) requesting comments on the Information Document: Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty. The CL is currently available in English 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 Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 13, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 26, 2023.

Sampling: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/15/OCS-MAS) requesting comments

on the revised *General Guidelines on Sampling* (CXG 50-2004). The CL is currently available in English and French 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 Heather Selig (heather.selig@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 17, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 31, 2023.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

MRLs from 2022 JMPR: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/22-PR) requesting comments on recommendations for Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) arising from the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) held in 2022. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 1, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 25, 2023. Concern forms should be sent separately to the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) in Word, also by May 25, 2023.

National Registrations: The Codex Secretariat has issued a revised Circular Letter (CL 2023/25-PR (Rev 1)) requesting comments/data/information on national registrations of pesticides (national registration database of pesticides for periodic review by JMPR) (Groups 1 and 2). The comments submitted will be considered by the 55th Session of the Codex Committee Pesticide Residues (CCPR55, 2024). An interim report on the status of work will be provided to CCPR54 (June 2023) for information. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 15, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP to Karsten Hohgardt, Chair of the CCPR EWG on National Registrations of Pesticides (karsten.hohgardt@bvl.bund.de) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by August 31, 2023.

Schedules and Priority Lists: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/26-PR) requesting comments on the establishment of the Schedules and Priority Lists of Pesticides for evaluation/re-evaluation by JMPR. The CL is currently available in English 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 1, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP to Karina Budd, Chair of the CCPR EWG on Priorities (karina.budd@aff.gov.au) with a copy to the CCPR Secretariat (ccpr@agri.gov.cn) and the Codex Secretariat (codex@fao.org) by May 10, 2023.

Classification: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/34-PR) requesting comments on the revised Class B and E of the *Classification of Food and Feed* (CXA 4-1989). The CL is currently available in English 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 15, 2023. Comments by

Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 31, 2023.

Portion of Commodity: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/35-PR) requesting comments on the revised description for the portion of the commodity to which the MRLs apply and which is analyzed for Group 006 (Assorted Tropical and Sub-tropical fruits - Inedible Peel) and Group 034 (Oilseeds), and the subsequent revision of the *Classification of Food and Feed* (CXA 4-1989) as per these two groups. The CL is currently available in English 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 15, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 31, 2023.

Unsupported Compounds: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/37-PR) requesting comments on the recommendations for the management of unsupported compounds without public health concern scheduled for periodic review. The CL is currently available in English 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 Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by May 15, 2023. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 31, 2023.

Other

FAO/IOC/IAEA: The Joint FAO/Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)/International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) technical guidance for the implementation of early warning systems for harmful algal blooms (HABs) was recently published. The document will guide competent authorities and relevant institutions involved in consumer protection or environmental monitoring to implement early warning systems for HABs present in their areas (marine and brackish waters), specifically those affecting food safety or food security (benthic HABs, fish-killing HABs, pelagic toxic HABs, and cyanobacteria HABs). Additional information may be found on the FAO Website at the following links: <http://www.fao.org/3/cc4794en/cc4794en.pdf> and <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc4794en>.

JECFA Compendium: The “Compendium of Food Additive Specifications” subsequent to the 95th Meeting of the Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) has been published and is available at on the FAO website at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc4895en/cc4895en.pdf>.