



**Codex News – July 24, 2024**

### **Upcoming Committee Meetings**

#### ***Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)***

The 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFFP will meet by correspondence from October 7-11, 2024. The report adoption will take place virtually on Zoom on October 17, 2024 at 11:00 am CET (5:00 EDT). The meeting will be conducted in English, French, and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCFFP36 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFFP&session=36>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

#### ***Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF)***

The 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF will meet in Omaha, Nebraska of the United States from October 21-25, 2024. The meeting will be conducted and broadcasted in English, French, and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCRVDF27 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=27>. For additional information, please contact Kenneth Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

### **Upcoming Public Meetings**

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

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on August 21, 2024 from 1:00-4:00 pm EDT to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS27), which will convene in Cairns, Australia, from September 16-20, 2024. The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to CCFICS27 will be accessible at the following address: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFICS&session=27](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFICS&session=27).

- Dr. Michelle Catlin, U.S. Delegate to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFICS, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [michelle.catlin@usda.gov](mailto:michelle.catlin@usda.gov). Emailed comments should state in the subject line that they relate to activities of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFICS.
- Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting here: [www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltc-6rpzluGPEVvN9FhCzAF2fXU6TBzKA](https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltc-6rpzluGPEVvN9FhCzAF2fXU6TBzKA). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

#### ***Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)***

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on September 3, 2024, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. EDT to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at

the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU44), which will convene in Dresden, Germany, from October 2-6, 2024. The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to CCNFSDU44 will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCNFSDU&session=44>.

- Dr. Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCNFSDU, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov).
- *Registration:* Attendees may register to attend the public meeting here: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltceuoqz4oHyMYdr-E7FAIhAe9uJbwt7w>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## Requests for Comments

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

**CCFH:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/63-CAC) requesting comments on the draft standards and related texts submitted by 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene for adoption by the 47<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 23, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) using the Online Commenting System (OCS) (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

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

**New Work/Amendments to CCFO Standards:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/39-FO) requesting proposals for new work and or amendments to existing Codex Standards on Fats and Oils. 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 February 14, 2025. 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 28, 2025.

### ***Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)***

**Sardines:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/69-FFP) requesting comments on the proposed amendment of the *Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products* (CXS 94-1981). 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)) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 23, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of September 8, 2024.

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

**New Work:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/64-FH) requesting proposals for new work and/or revision of existing standards. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 19, 2025. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP also to Marie Maratos Bhat of the CCFH Secretariat ([Marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:Marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) with a copy to the Codex Secretariat ([Codex@fao.org](mailto:Codex@fao.org)) by September 1, 2025.

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

**Equivalence:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/70-FICS) requesting comments on the proposed draft consolidated Codex guidelines related to equivalence. 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 Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 9, 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 August 23, 2024.

### ***Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)***

**Section 2 of the Codex Procedural Manual:** This is a reminder that the Codex Secretariat recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/25-GP) requesting comments on the proposed changes to Section 2 Elaboration of Codex Standards and related texts, Procedures for the elaboration of Codex Standards and related texts, Part 7 Guide to the Procedure for modification (corrections, amendments, and new editions) of Codex standards and related texts. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 2, 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 August 16, 2024.

**Language Inconsistencies and Superseded Content in the Codex Procedural Manual:** This is a reminder that the Codex Secretariat recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/27-GP) requesting proposals from Members and Observers on inconsistencies in language, and superseded content of the Codex *Procedural Manual*, apart from Section 3. 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 Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 2, 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 August 16, 2024.

### ***Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)***

**NRVs-R:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/51-NSFDU) requesting comments on the draft General principles for the establishment of Nutrient Reference Values - Requirements (NRVs-R) for persons aged 6-36 months. The CL is currently 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](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 3, 2025. 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 September 15, 2025.

### ***Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF)***

**JECFA98 MRLs:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/65-RVDF) requesting comments on the maximum residue limits (MRLs) of veterinary drugs in foods arising from the safety assessment of the 98<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA98, 2024). 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 Kenneth Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 13, 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 September 30, 2024.

**Priority List:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/66-RVDF) requesting comments on the priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation by JECFA. The CL is currently 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 Kenneth Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 13, 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 September 30, 2024.

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

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

**Microbial Omega-3 Oils:** CCFO invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States and co-chaired by China, working in English, to prepare the proposed draft standard for Microbial Omega-3 Oils. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by July 26, 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 CCP to the following email addresses by August 2, 2024: [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov), [Girdhari.sharma@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Girdhari.sharma@fda.hhs.gov), [zhangyan@lswz.gov.cn](mailto:zhangyan@lswz.gov.cn), and [codexchinamoa@126.com](mailto:codexchinamoa@126.com). 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.

**Olive Oil:** CCFO invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Italy and co-chaired by Australia, Canada, Saudi Arabia, and the United States, working in English, to collect global scientific data and information for olive oil. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by September 5, 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 CCP to [piue2.codex@masaf.gov.it](mailto:piue2.codex@masaf.gov.it) and [francesca.ponti@masaf.gov.it](mailto:francesca.ponti@masaf.gov.it) by September 13, 2024. 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.

**Trans Fatty Acids:** CCFO invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Canada and co-chaired by Saudi Arabia, working in English, to revise the following Codex Standards on Fats and Oils to include a prohibition on partially hydrogenated oils (PHO) and/or limits on industrially produced trans-fatty acids (iTFA)s):

- *Standard for Edible Fats and Oils Not Covered by Individual Standards* (CXS 19-1981)
- *Standard for Fat Spreads and Blended Spreads* (CXS 256-1999)
- *Standard for Named Animal Fats* (CXS 211-1999)

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by September 8, 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 CCP to [codex\\_canada@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:codex_canada@hc-sc.gc.ca) with a copy to [Codex\\_CFIA@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:Codex_CFIA@inspection.gc.ca) by September 16, 2024. 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 Additives (CCFA)***

**Baker's Yeast:** CCFA invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by China and co-chaired by France and Turkey, working in English, to prepare a proposed draft standard for baker's yeast. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Kristen Hendricks ([Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) by July 30, 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 CCP to [liuming@cnif.cn](mailto:liuming@cnif.cn) by August 3, 2024. 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 Hygiene (CCFH)***

**Viruses in Food:** CCFH invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Canada and co-chaired by the Netherlands, working in English, to revise *the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the control of Viruses in Food* (CXG 79-2012). Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) by September 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 CCP to [cathy.breau@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:cathy.breau@hc-sc.gc.ca) by September 16, 2024. 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.

***Campylobacter and Salmonella in Chicken Meat:*** CCFH invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States and co-chaired by Australia, Brazil, Denmark, Honduras, and India, working in English, to revise the *Guidelines for the Control of Campylobacter and Salmonella in Chicken Meat* (CXG 78-2011). Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) by July 26, 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 CCP to [william.shaw@usda.gov](mailto:william.shaw@usda.gov) and [william.zaragoza@usda.gov](mailto:william.zaragoza@usda.gov) by August 1, 2024. 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.

**Listeria:** CCFH invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States and co-chaired by Canada, China and France, working in English, to revise *the Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Listeria monocytogenes in Foods* (CXG 61-2007). Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat ([marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov)) by July 26, 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 CCP to [Eric.stevens@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Eric.stevens@fda.hhs.gov) by August 1, 2024. 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 Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)**

**Harmonization:** CCMAS invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Brazil and co-chaired by Chile, working in English, to work on the discussion paper on harmonization of names and format for principles in the *Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234-1999). Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. 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 CCP to [codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br](mailto:codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br) and [ana.firmo@anvisa.gov.br](mailto:ana.firmo@anvisa.gov.br) by July 26, 2024. 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.

**Cocoa and Chocolate Products:** CCMAS invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Serbia and co-chaired by the United States, working in English, to review methods of analysis on the cocoa and chocolate workable package. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. 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 CCP to [marija.vujic-stefanovic@splaboratorija.rs](mailto:marija.vujic-stefanovic@splaboratorija.rs) with a copy to [Patrick.Gray@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Patrick.Gray@fda.hhs.gov) by July 31, 2024. 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**

**New Appointment:** Dr. Sarah Cahill has been appointed the new Codex Secretary in the Codex Secretariat. To learn more about her appointment please click [here](#).

### **FAO**

- **AMR Webinars:** FAO is organizing a series of bimonthly webinars (that are planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month), on specific scientific and technical topics related to antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and its containment. Additional information may be found at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/antimicrobial-resistance/news-and-events/events/en/>.
- **Environmental Inhibitors:** The summary report of the recent webinar on *Food safety implications from the use of environmental inhibitors in agrifood systems* was published. Additional information on this may be found at: <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/news/news-details/en/c/1698034/>. The link to the summary report may be found at: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/f140db7d-27fd-4dd3-aa33-abf5fce5a4b/content>

- **Bivalve mollusks:** The FAO and the United Kingdom Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS), in its role as FAO Centre for Bivalve Sanitation, have developed a course series to support the implementation of bivalve mollusk sanitation systems. The focus of the series is the primary production of bivalve mollusks for consumption as live or raw bivalves and, in particular, how to manage microbiological hazards at this stage. The course is available in English, French and Spanish at the following link: <https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?lang=en&id=481>.

#### FAO/WHO

- **Codex E-Learning Courses:** The FAO Agrifood Systems and Food Safety Division (FAO-ESF), in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the FAO eLearning Academy, has published a four-part series of certified e-learning courses on Codex-- Introduction to Codex; Engaging in Codex; Science and risk analysis in Codex; and Codex collaboration at regional level. . These courses are available in English, French, and Spanish, and are offered free of charge as a global public good through the [FAO elearning Academy](#).
- **Fish Consumption:** The FAO/WHO Background Report on the risks and benefits of fish consumption recently published. This document aims to provide scientific evidence to update the 2010 Report of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on the Risks and Benefits of Fish Consumption. The report is available at the following link: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd1548en>.
- **JECFA:** The summary report on the 99<sup>th</sup> Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) was recently published. The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate the safety of certain food additives and flavorings. The summary report may be accessed at the following link: FAO : <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/8ac2857a-3217-4171-b302-d4c2734b306d>.