

## Codex News - August 21, 2024

## **Upcoming Committee Meetings**

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

The 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification System (CCFICS27) will meet in Cairns, Australia from September 16-20, 2024. The meeting will be broadcast in English, French, and Spanish. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCFICS27 are available at the following link: https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/jp/?meeting=CCFICS&session=27. For additional information, please contact Kristen Hendricks (Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

#### **Upcoming Public Meetings**

## 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 PM ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 44th Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU44), which will meet 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.
- Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting here: <a href="https://www.zoomgov.com/">https://www.zoomgov.com/</a> meeting/register/vJltceuoqz4oHyMYdr-E7FAlhAe9uJbwt7w. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on September 11, 2024, from 2:00-3:00 PM ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 36th Session of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP36), which will meet by correspondence, from October 7-11 and 17, 2024. The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 36th Session of the CCFFP will be accessible via the Internet at the following address: www.fao.org/fao-who-

codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/de/?meeting=CCFFP&session=36.

- Ms. Melissa Abbott, U.S. Delegate to the 36th Session of the CCFFP, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: <a href="mailto:melissa.abbott@fda.hhs.gov">melissa.abbott@fda.hhs.gov</a>.
- Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following
  link: <a href="www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsd-qgqTsiHHGGEd7V11\_Owk1\_olTgOh0">www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsd-qgqTsiHHGGEd7V11\_Owk1\_olTgOh0</a>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on October 1, 2024, from 2:00-4:00 PM ET to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 27th Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF), which will meet in Omaha, Nebraska, from October 21-25, 2024. The public meeting will take place via video teleconference only. Documents related to the 27th Session of the CCRVDF will be accessible via the Internet at the following address: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/pt/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=27.

- Dr. Jonathan Greene, U.S. Delegate to the 27th Session of the CCRVDF, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: <a href="mailto:Johnathan.greene1@fda.hhs.gov">Johnathan.greene1@fda.hhs.gov</a>.
- Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: <a href="www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsdeirqD4pHzJ0pShiJTalwXbnR8lqyTA">www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsdeirqD4pHzJ0pShiJTalwXbnR8lqyTA</a>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on October 9, 2024, from 1:00-4:00 PM ET. 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 48th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL48), which will meet in Quebec City, Canada, from October 27 – November 1, 2024. The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 48th Session of the CCFL will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <a href="www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=48">www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=48</a>.

- Dr. Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 48th Session of the CCFL, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: <a href="mailto:douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov">douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov</a>.
- Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting
  here: www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdeGspz4sGTffT2fy17VYU0VHQWyD2eg. After
  registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

#### **Requests for Comments**

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

**CCMAS:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/76-CAC) requesting comments on the methods of analysis, performance criteria, and annex on nitrogen conversion factors (NCF) submitted by the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling 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: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec

(<u>Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov</u>) 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) (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

**CCCF:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/77-CAC) requesting comments on the draft standards and related texts submitted by the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods 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: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Alexandra Ferraro (<a href="https://exandra.ferraro@usda.gov">Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 23, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

**CCPR:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/78-CAC) requesting comments on the draft standards and related texts submitted by the 55<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues for adoption by the 47<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (<a href="maratosbhat@usda.gov">marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 23, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of October 1, 2024.

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

Acrylamide: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/79-CF) requesting data and information on risk management measures to prevent or reduce acrylamide contamination in foods. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex alimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex alimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Alexandra Ferraro (<a href="mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov">Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by October 17, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of October 31, 2024.

# 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, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (<a href="marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov">marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by August 23, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) 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: <a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them

to Marie Maratos Bhat (<a href="maratosbhat@usda.gov">maratosbhat@usda.gov</a>) 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 (<a href="maratosbhat@usda.gov">Marie Marie Marie Marie Maratos Bhat of the CCFH Secretariat (<a href="maratosbhat@usda.gov">Marie Marie Marie

# 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, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex</a> alimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks (<a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex">Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of August 23, 2024.

**Food Fraud:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/71-FICS) requesting comments on the draft Guidelines on the Prevention and Control of Food Fraud. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex</a> alimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks (<a href="mailto:Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov">Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of September 3, 2024.

**Traceability:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/72-FICS) requesting comments on the Draft revision and updating of the *Principles for Traceability/Product Tracing as a Tool Within a Food Inspection and Certification System* (CXG 60-2006). The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks (<a href="mailto:Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov">Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of September 3, 2024.

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

Allergen Labelling: The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/53-FL) requesting comments on the revision to the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (GSLPF) (CXS 1-1985). The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Alexandra Ferraro (<a href="mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov">Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 25, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) by October 9, 2024.

**E-Commerce:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/54-FL) requesting comments on the proposed draft Guidelines on the Provision of Food Information for Prepackaged Foods Offered via E-Commerce. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Alexandra Ferraro (<a href="mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov">Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 25, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) by October 9, 2024.

**Technology Use:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/55-FL) requesting comments on the guidelines on the use of technology to provide food information. The CL is currently available in English at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Alexandra Ferraro (<a href="mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov">Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 18, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) by October 2, 2024.

#### Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)

**New Work Proposals:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/75-FFV) requesting proposals on new work for the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec (<a href="mailto:Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov">Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by October 18, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of November 1, 2024.

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

Section 2 of the Codex *Procedural Manual*: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline to September 2, 2024, for 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: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (<a href="marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov">marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of September 2, 2024.

Language Inconsistencies and Superseded Content in the Codex *Procedural Manual*: The Codex Secretariat has extended the deadline to September 2, 2024, for 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: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resourcescircular-letters/en/">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resourcescircular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Marie Maratos Bhat (<a href="marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov">marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of September 2, 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, 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 Alexandra Ferraro (<u>Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov</u>) 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 (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) 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: <a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov">ken.lowery@usda.gov</a>) 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 (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) 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, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/</a> response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/</a> response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/</a> response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/</a> response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/</a> response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/</a> response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.fao.org/">https://www.fao.org/<a href="https://www.fao.org/">https://www.fao.org/<a href="https://www.fao.org/">https://www.fao.org/<a href="https://www.fao.org/">https://www.fao.org/<a href="https://www.fao.org/">https://www.fao.org/<a href="https://www.fao.org/">ht

MRL Extrapolation: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/67-RVDF) requesting comments on extrapolation of maximum residue limits for veterinary drugs in foods. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov">ken.lowery@usda.gov</a>) 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 (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of September 30, 2024.

Action Levels: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/68-RVDF) requesting comments on criteria and procedures for the establishment of action levels for veterinary drugs in food of animal origin resulting from unavoidable and unintentional veterinary drug carry-over in non-target animal feed. The CL is currently available in English, French, and Spanish at the following link: <a href="https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/">https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/</a>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kenneth Lowery (<a href="https://www.gusda.gov">hen.lowery@usda.gov</a>) of the U.S. Codex Office by September 20, 2024. Comments by Member Countries and Codex Observers should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<a href="https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org">https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org</a>) prior to the deadline of October 5, 2024.

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

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

**Tropane Alkaloid Contamination**: CCCF invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by China and co-chaired by Saudi Arabia, working in English, on submitting data in reply to the JECFA call for data on

tropane alkaloids contamination in food and feed at different production stages with further information available at the following FAO and WHO websites:

- WHO: <a href="https://www.who.int/groups/joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-(jecfa)/calls-for-data">https://www.who.int/groups/joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-(jecfa)/calls-for-data</a>
- FAO: <a href="https://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/calls-for-data-and-experts-expert-rosters/en/">https://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/calls-for-data-and-experts-expert-rosters/en/</a>

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by September 25, 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 <a href="mailto:shaoyi@cfsa.net.cn">shaoyi@cfsa.net.cn</a> with a copy to <a href="mailto:wuyongning@cfsa.net.cn">wuyongning@cfsa.net.cn</a> by September 30, 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.

Aflatoxin (AFT) in RTE Peanuts: CCCF invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by India and co-chaired by the United States, working in English, to develop the maximum level (ML) for AFT in RTE peanuts and the associated sampling plan. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by September 25, 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-india@nic.in with a copy to reeba@apeda.gov.in by September 30, 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.

Acrylamide: CCCF invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by India and co-chaired by Saudi Arabia, working in English, to revise the *Code of Practice for the Reduction of Acrylamide in Foods* (CXC 67-2009). Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by September 25, 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-india@nic.in with a copy to ushad@cftri.res.in by September 30, 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.

Pyrrolizidine Alkaloids: CCCF invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Türkiye and co-chaired by the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, working in English, to revise the Code of Practice to Prevent and Reduce Pyrrolizidine Alkaloid Contamination in Food and Feed (CXC 74-2014). Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by September 9, 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 <a href="mailto:ccpturkiye@tarimorman.gov.tr">ccpturkiye@tarimorman.gov.tr</a> with a copy to <a href="mailto:kodeks@tarimorman.gov.tr">kodeks@tarimorman.gov.tr</a> by September 15, 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.

MLs for Lead in Dried Bark and Dried Culinary Herbs: CCCF invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Brazil, working in English, to work on MLs for lead in dried bark and dried culinary herbs and to consider the relevance of the note on moisture content to the ML for fresh culinary herbs. In addition, Codex members and observers who may wish to join this EWG or are interested in the topic are invited to submit data in reply to the JECFA call for data available to assist the EWG with its task (https://www.fao.org/food-

safety/scientific-advice/calls-for-data-and-experts-expert-rosters/en/).

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) by September 9, 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 codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br with a copy to <a href="ligia.schreiner@anvisa.gov.br">ligia.schreiner@anvisa.gov.br</a> and <a href="larissa.porto@anvisa.gov.br">larissa.porto@anvisa.gov.br</a> by September 15, 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)

General Principles Alignment: CCFH invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by China and cochaired by the United Kingdom and the European Union, working in English, on the alignment of Codex texts with the revised *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969). 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) by August 16, 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 dinghao@cfsa.net.cn with a copy to kris.de-smet@ec.europa.eu, narriman.looch@food.gov.uk, and monica.mann@food.gov.uk by August 20, 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 Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)

**Coriander**: CCSCH invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by India and co-chaired by Iran, working in English to work on the proposed draft standard for Coriander. 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 August 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 <a href="mailto:codex-india@nic.in">codex-india@nic.in</a> with copy to <a href="mailto:ranjith.a@nic.in">ranjith.a@nic.in</a> by August 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.

#### FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO)

**Dietary Guidelines**: CCEURO invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Germany and cochaired by Kazakhstan, Türkiye, and Spain, working in English, Russian, and Spanish, to work on the following terms of reference:

- a) Scope the needs and experiences of the Members in the European region regarding the development of dietary guidelines, and inclusion of sustainability considerations therein.
- b) Review existing international tools; and
- c) Propose follow-up actions for considerations by CCEURO34, including the possible development of guidance to assist Members from the region in the development of dietary guidelines including sustainability considerations and a food systems approach.

Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Doreen Chen-Moulec (<a href="Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov">Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov</a>) by September 23, 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 <a href="mailto:cceuro@bmel.bund.de">cceuro@bmel.bund.de</a> by September 30, 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

#### **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 the following link: <a href="https://www.fao.org/food-safety/news/news-details/en/c/1698034/">https://www.fao.org/food-safety/news/news-details/en/c/1698034/</a>. The link to the summary report may be found at the following link: <a href="https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/f140db7d-27fd-4dd3-aa33-abf5fce5a4b/content">https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/f140db7d-27fd-4dd3-aa33-abf5fce5a4b/content</a>
- **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: <a href="https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?lang=en&id=481">https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?lang=en&id=481</a>.

## 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 following link at: 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: <a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cd1548en">https://doi.org/10.4060/cd1548en</a>.

#### **JECFA**

- **JECFA99:** 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: https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/8ac2857a-3217-4171-b302-d4c2734b306d.
- Call for Data: The 17th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF17) agreed to request the JECFA Secretariat to issue a call for data on total aflatoxins in cereals and cereal-based products, including for infants and young children, and total aflatoxins in ready-to eat peanuts. The call for data deadline is October 31, 2024, and has been published at the following links:
  - "Total aflatoxins in cereals & cereal-based products: maize grain; flour, meal, semolina & flakes derived from maize; husked & polished rice; sorghum grain destined for further

processing; & cereal-based foods for infants & young children"

- FAO: https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/CD1818EN
- WHO: Request for data on total aflatoxins in cereals and cereal-based products (who.int)
- o "Total aflatoxins in Ready-to-Eat Peanuts"
  - FAO: <a href="https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/88edf68a-3336-46f4-b5d0-3ad6f6182900">https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/88edf68a-3336-46f4-b5d0-3ad6f6182900</a>
  - WHO: Request for data on total aflatoxins in Ready-to-Eat Peanuts (who.int)