



**Codex News – September 4, 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](mailto:Kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

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

The 47<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC47) will meet in Geneva, Switzerland from November 25-30, 2024. The meeting will be broadcast in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CAC47 are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=47>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery ([Ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:Ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office with a copy to the [uscodexoffice@usda.gov](mailto:uscodexoffice@usda.gov).

### **Upcoming Public Meetings**

#### ***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](http://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: [melissa.abbott@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:melissa.abbott@fda.hhs.gov).
- *Registration:* Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: [www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlSd-ggqTsiHHGGEd7V1l\\_Owk1\\_oITgOh0](https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlSd-ggqTsiHHGGEd7V1l_Owk1_oITgOh0). 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](http://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: [Jonathan.greene1@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jonathan.greene1@fda.hhs.gov).
- *Registration:* Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: [www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsdeirqD4pHzJ0pShiJTalwXbnR8lqyTA](http://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsdeirqD4pHzJ0pShiJTalwXbnR8lqyTA). 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: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=48](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=48).

- 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: [douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov).
- *Registration:* Attendees may register to attend the public meeting here: [www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdeGspz4sGTffT2fy17VYU0VHQWyD2eg](http://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdeGspz4sGTffT2fy17VYU0VHQWyD2eg). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

### **Requests for Comments**

#### ***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: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by October 17, 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 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: <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 as soon as possible. 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 8, 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) (CX 1-1985). 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 Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) 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 (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) 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, 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 Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) 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 (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by October 2, 2024.

**Pre-packaged Foods:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/56-FL) requesting comments on the amendments to the *General standard for the labelling of pre-packaged foods* (CX 1-1985) (GSLPF): provisions relevant to joint presentation and multipack formats. 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 Alexandra Ferraro ([Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov)) 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 (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by October 9, 2024.

### ***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, 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.

**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: <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.

**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: <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 20, 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 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: [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)
- FAO: <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](mailto: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 Codex Contact Point (CCP) to [shaoyi@cfsa.net.cn](mailto:shaoyi@cfsa.net.cn) with a copy to [wuyongning@cfsa.net.cn](mailto:wuyongning@cfsa.net.cn) 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 Electronic Working Group (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](mailto: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](mailto:codex-india@nic.in) with a copy to [reeba@apeda.gov.in](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:codex-india@nic.in) with a copy to [ushad@cftri.res.in](mailto: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.

**Pyrrrolizidine 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 Pyrrrolizidine 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](mailto: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 [ccpturkiye@tarimorman.gov.tr](mailto:ccpturkiye@tarimorman.gov.tr) with a copy to [kodeks@tarimorman.gov.tr](mailto:kodeks@tarimorman.gov.tr) 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](mailto: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](mailto:codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br) with a copy to [ligia.schreiner@anvisa.gov.br](mailto:ligia.schreiner@anvisa.gov.br) and [larissa.porto@anvisa.gov.br](mailto:larissa.porto@anvisa.gov.br) 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 Additives (CCFA)***

**Revision to the INS:** CCFA invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Belgium and co-chaired by Iran, working in English, on the Revision of the Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives (INS) (CXG 36-1989). 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 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 [apf.food.additives@health.fgov.be](mailto:apf.food.additives@health.fgov.be) 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 Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)***

**Alignment of Standards:** CCFFV invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Germany, working in English to work on the alignment of existing standards with the new layout for FFV standards. 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 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 [qualitaetskontrolle@ble.de](mailto:qualitaetskontrolle@ble.de) 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.

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

**Dietary Guidelines:** CCEURO invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Germany and co-chaired 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 ([Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) 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 [cceuro@bmel.bund.de](mailto:cceuro@bmel.bund.de) 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/>.
- **WGS Global Meeting:** The FAO is organizing a global meeting on whole genome sequencing (WGS) from May 6-8. Applications can be found at the following link: [call for applications](#) and is available until November 4, 2024.
- **Risk Assessment of 3-MCPD and Fatty Acid Esters:** FAO has released a briefing note that summarizes key messages from the report "*Food safety in the context of limited food availability – Risk assessment of 3-MCPD and fatty acid esters in nutrient supplements and therapeutic food*". Further information can be found at the following links: **limited food availability**.
  - NEWS: <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/news/news-details/en/c/1708800/>

- BRIEFING NOTE: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/d5c394fa-8f2b-4723-b16c-75b723c4055a>
- FULL REPORT: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/edad8a64-d912-4a6a-b663-a6c3fe955725>

## 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 \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/request-for-data-on-total-aflatoxins-in-cereals-and-cereal-based-products)
  - “Total aflatoxins in Ready-to-Eat Peanuts”
    - FAO: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/88edf68a-3336-46f4-b5d0-3ad6f6182900>
    - WHO : [Request for data on total aflatoxins in Ready-to-Eat Peanuts \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/request-for-data-on-total-aflatoxins-in-ready-to-eat-peanuts)