



Codex News – October 2, 2024

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)

The 36th 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 pm ET). 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) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

The 48th Session of the Committee on Food Labelling will meet in Quebec City, Canada from October 27 – November 1, 2024. The session will be broadcasted in listening mode in English, French, and Spanish. There will be two virtual Working Groups (WGs) also conducted in English, French, and Spanish: E-Commerce (October 16) and Food Allergen Labeling (October 21-22). For additional information, please contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

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

The 27th Session of the Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods will meet in Omaha, Nebraska, United States, from October 21-25, 2024. Physical WGs will take place on October 20 on the following agenda items: Priority List of Veterinary Drugs for Evaluation/Re-evaluation by JECFA, Extrapolation of MRLs to one or more species, and Criteria and Procedures for the Establishment of Action Levels. The plenary sessions and the physical WGs will be webcast on YouTube in listening mode in English, French, and Spanish. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery (Ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

The 47th 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) of the U.S. Codex Office with a copy to the uscodexoffice@usda.gov.

Upcoming Public Meetings

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.

- 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.
- *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)

Codex Strategic Plan: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2024/82-CAC) requesting comments on the proposed draft goals and outcome statements for the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031. 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 Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office October 21, 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 November 4, 2024.

Food Fraud: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/83-CAC) requesting comments at Step 5 (interim adoption) on the draft guidelines on prevention and control of food fraud. 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) of the U.S. Codex Office by October 25, 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 November 8, 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: <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) 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 (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 31, 2024.

Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

CCPR/JMPR Enhancement: CCPR invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by the United States and co-chaired by Costa Rica and Uganda, working in English and Spanish, on the Enhancement of work between the CCPR and the FAO/WHO Joint Expert Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR). 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 October 4, 2024. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, email address, via their CCP to the U.S. Codex Office (uscodex@usda.gov) by October 10, 2024.

Monitoring Guidelines: CCPR invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by India and co-chaired by Canada, Iran, and Singapore, working in English, on Guidelines for monitoring the stability and purity of reference materials and related stock solutions of pesticides during prolonged storage. 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 October 4, 2024. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, email address, via their CCP to codex-india@nic.in with a copy to vs_agch@yahoo.com by October 10, 2024.

Management of Unsupported Compounds and National Registration Database: CCPR invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Chile and co-chaired by Australia, Ecuador, India, and Kenya, working in English, to further the work on the Management of unsupported compounds without public health concerns scheduled for periodic review by JMPR and on the national registration database—two separated EWGs that have now been merged into one. Individuals in the United States interested in working on the U.S. contribution to the EWG should contact Marie Maratos Bhat (<mailto:marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov>) by October 8, 2024. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, email address, via their Codex Contact Point (CCP) to codex.contact@agriculture.gov.au by October 13, 2024.

Schedules and Priority Lists: CCPR invites members and observers to join an EWG chaired by Australia, working in English, on the establishment of the CCPR schedules and priority lists for the evaluation of pesticides by JMPR. 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 October 8, 2024. Other countries and observers should send their full contact details, including participant's name, official title or position, country or organization, email address, CCP to codex.contact@agriculture.gov.au by October 13, 2024.

Other

U.S.-EU Joint Event on Codex Alimentarius: On Thursday, September 5, 2024, the U.S. Codex Office, La Maison française, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, and the European Commission hosted an event celebrating Codex Alimentarius at the Embassy of France to the United States in Washington, D.C., entitled: "A U.S. – E.U. commitment to safe food-- A reflection on the collaboration between the United States and the European Union and their commitment to international food standards." For more information, please visit: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/news-and-events/news-details/en/c/1709668/>.

Survey on Codex Texts: The CAC is launching an annual survey to measure the use and impact of Codex texts to examine the reach, usefulness, and use of Codex texts by Codex members. CCPs are invited to complete the survey by October 25, 2024 at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CodexTexts2024>.

FAO

- **AMR Webinars:** FAO is organizing a series of bimonthly webinars (that are planned for the 2nd Thursday and 4th 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.

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