



Codex News – October 16, 2024

Upcoming Committee Meetings

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

The 27th Session of the CCRVDF (CCRVDF27) will meet in Omaha, Nebraska, United States, from October 21-25, 2024. Physical Working Groups (WGs) will take place on October 20 for: Priority List of Veterinary Drugs for Evaluation/Re-evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (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. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCRVDF27 will be provided as they become available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=27>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery (Ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)

The 48th Session of the CCFL (CCFL48) 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. Two virtual WGs are planned which will also be conducted in English, French, and Spanish: E-Commerce (October 16) and Food Allergen Labeling (October 21-22). The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCFL48 will be provided as they become available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=48>. For additional information, please contact Alexandra Ferraro (Alexandra.ferraro@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)

The 87th Session of the CCEXEC (CCEXEC87) will meet in Geneva, Switzerland from November 18-22, 2024. The meeting will be held in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCEXEC87 will be provided as they become available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCEXEC&session=87>. 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 CAC (CAC47) will meet in Geneva, Switzerland from November 25-30, 2024. The hybrid meeting will be conducted 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 Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on November 14, 2024, from 1:00 to 4:00pm 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 47th Session of the CAC (CAC47), which will meet in Geneva, Switzerland from November 25-30, 2024. The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to CAC47 will be accessible at the following address: www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=47.

- The U.S. Codex Office invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email addresses: Ken.Lowery@usda.gov and uscodex@usda.gov. Emailed comments should state in the subject line that they relate to activities of CAC47.
- *Registration:* Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlscO2gqTksGsA8Tkj9C4wKEgJcqBY5PMI. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Requests for Comments

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

Strategic Plan 2026-2031: The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL-2024/82-CAC) requesting comments on the draft goals and outcome statements for the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031. The CL is available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese and Russian 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 Ken Lowery (ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office by 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, on the draft guidelines on prevention and control of food fraud. The CL is 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 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 OC (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) prior to the deadline of October 31, 2024.

Other

JECFA98

- The FAO JECFA Monographs for the 98th JECFA, which met in Rome, Italy, from February 20–29, 2024, and evaluated three veterinary drugs, have just been published and are available at the following link: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240095533>.

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.
- **Food Safety Foresight Technical Meeting:** FAO has published the report of the 2023 Food Safety Foresight Technical Meeting, along with a series of video interviews and an infographic. The meeting report delves into the key food safety issues, nutritional characteristics, environmental aspects, and consumer perceptions related to plant-based food products that mimic animal-derived foods, precision fermentation and 3D food printing. The Meeting report may be found at the following link: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/b76e8755-e4f0-4b51-b880-4e58e26f4880>.

FAO/WHO

- The updated [Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on the Risks and Benefits of Fish Consumption: Meeting report](#) was just published. Since the original 2010 *Joint FAO /WHO Expert Consultation on the Risks and Benefits of Fish Consumption*, new evidence has become available and so FAO and WHO decided to hold another expert consultation in 2023 to update the conclusions and recommendations of the previous expert consultation. The 2023 Meeting report may be accessed at the following link: [Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on the Risks and Benefits of Fish Consumption](#).