



Codex News – November 1, 2023

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

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

The 46<sup>th</sup> Session of CAC will meet in Rome, Italy from November 27 to December 2, 2023, from 4:00-7:00 EST (10:00-13:00 CET) and 9:00-12:00 EST (15:00-18:00 CET). The report adoption will take place in person from the last day of the session from 3:00-12:00 EST (9:00-18:00 CET). Remote participation (via Zoom) will be possible for listening and verbal interventions. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to the 46<sup>th</sup> session of CAC are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CAC&session=46>. For additional information, please contact the U.S. Codex Office ([uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)).

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

The 28<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFO will convene physically in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from February 19-23, 2024. The report adoption will take place on the last day of the session. The session and side events will be webcasted in listening mode in English, French and Spanish. The provisional agenda and other documents related to the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of CCFO are available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFO&session=28>. For additional information, please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office.

## Requests for Comments

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

**Maamoul:** The Codex Secretariat has issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/85/OCS-CAC) requesting comments on the draft standard for maamoul. 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 Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible. 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 15, 2023.

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

**Calanus Oil:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/62/OCS-FO) requesting comments on the proposed amendment/revision to the *Standard for Fish Oils* (CXS 329-2017) – Inclusion of Calanus oil. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by January 5, 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 January 19, 2024.

### ***Codex Committee on Fruits and Vegetables (CCFV)***

**Fresh Dates:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/84/OCS-FFV) requesting comments on the draft standard for fresh dates. 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 Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by January 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 January 31, 2024.

### ***Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)***

**Fruits and Berries:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/03/OCS-SCH) requesting comments on the draft standard for spices derived from fruits and berries: Part A: Allspice, juniper berry, and star anise. 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 Heather Selig ([heather.selig@usda.gov](mailto:heather.selig@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by December 22, 2023. 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 January 5, 2024.

**Vanilla:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/55/OCS-SCH) requesting comments on the draft standard for spices derived from fruits and berries: Part B: Requirements for Vanilla. 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 Heather Selig ([heather.selig@usda.gov](mailto:heather.selig@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by December 22, 2023. 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 January 5, 2024.

**Updated Template:** The Codex Secretariat has recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/81/OCS-SCH) requesting comments on the Updated Template for Spices and Culinary Herbs (SCH) Standards. 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 Heather Selig ([heather.selig@usda.gov](mailto:heather.selig@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office by December 1, 2023. 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 December 15, 2023.

### ***Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)***

**Future Work:** The Codex Secretariat recently issued a Circular Letter (CL 2023/82/OCS-EXEC) requesting comments on the Future of Codex – Part 3 Model for Future Codex Work. The CL is currently available in English, French, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic and Russian at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters>. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to the U.S. Codex Office ([uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)) 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 November 8, 2023.

## Other

**JEMRA Publication:** The Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment has published the following report: “Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on microbiological risk assessment of viruses in foods Part 1: food attribution, analytical methods, and indicators.” The report can be found at the following links:

FAO: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc8193en/cc8193en.pdf>

WHO: <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/jemra-of-viruses-in-foods-part1-food-attribution-analytical-methods-and-indicators>

**Webinar:** The Codex Secretariat and the International Dairy Federation (IDF) have organized a webinar on “Implementing Codex Standards: case studies on the *General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms*” (GSUDT) on November 8, 2023, at 12:00 (CEST). This webinar will present the work IDF has done to capture data from their 2022 survey and will present three case studies from countries that implemented the GSUDT through different approaches and means of adaptation to their legislative frameworks. Registration information can be found at the following link: [https://codexalimentarius.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9ylwtwmfSK-04f5M4PAglg#/registration](https://codexalimentarius.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9ylwtwmfSK-04f5M4PAglg#/registration).

**Survey on the Use and Impact of Codex Standards:** The deadline to reply to the 2023 survey on the use and impact of Codex texts has been extended to November 15, 2023 and may be found at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Codex-Texts2023>. The survey is available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian. Further information is posted at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/news-and-events/news-details/en/c/1651836/>.

The results of the 2022 survey have also been published. For more information and to download the publication, visit the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/news-and-events/news-details/en/c/1652280/>.