



Codex News – November 27, 2024

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)

The 25th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA25) will be held physically in Kampala, Uganda from January 27-31, 2025. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCAFRICA25 will be provided as they become available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCAFRICA&session=25>. For additional information, please contact Ken Lowery (Ken.lowery@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific (CCNASWP)

The 17th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific (CCNASWP) is scheduled to take place in Nadi, Fiji from February 3-7, 2025. The meeting will have hybrid capabilities and be held in English only. The provisional agenda and other working documents related to CCNASWP17 will be provided as they become available at the following link: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCNASWP&session=17>. For additional information, please contact Marie Maratos Bhat (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov) of the U.S. Codex Office.

Other

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

- ***29th Edition of the Codex Procedural Manual***
The 29th edition of the *Codex Procedural Manual* has been published and builds on the new format and layout unveiled in the 28th edition, reflecting ongoing efforts to ensure consistency, remove redundancies, and enhance usability. The 29th edition of the *Procedural Manual* may be found at the following link: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd2280en>.

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

- ***JECFA97***
The JECFA **monograph** from the 97th meeting has been officially published. The Committee evaluated the safety of titanium dioxide, including revising its specifications, and evaluated the safety of three groups of flavoring agents. The publication can be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240098886>.
- ***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>.

- **JECFA99**

The **JECFA monograph** from the 99th meeting has been officially published. The Committee evaluated the safety of the food additives butterfly pea flower extract, natamycin A, nisin, and polyglycerol esters of fatty acids and four processing aids. The Committee also revised the specifications for ten flavoring agents. The publication can be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240100978>.

- **JECFA101 Call for Data**

The call for data for the JECFA 101st meeting that will be dedicated to the evaluation of veterinary drugs has been published by FAO and WHO at the below links respectively. Deadline for data submission is 15 January 2025:

- FAO information can be found at the following link: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd3050en>.
- WHO information can be found at the following link: [https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/veterinary-drug-residues-in-food-one-hundred-and-first-meeting-joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-\(jecfa\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/veterinary-drug-residues-in-food-one-hundred-and-first-meeting-joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-(jecfa)).

FAO

- **Review of Derivation Methods for DIRVs:** The FAO has published the report to provide scientific advice to the Codex Committee on Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) on the details of dietary intake reference values (DIRVs) for protein and 24 micronutrients for older infants (6–12 months) and young children (12–36 months). The scientific advice includes an assessment of the salient similarities and differences of methods used to derive the DIRVs. The report may be accessed at the following link: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cb9380en>.
- **Protein Quality Assessment in FUF-YC:** The FAO also published the report to provide practical guidelines and assistance to members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission on how to determine protein quality in follow-up formula for young children (FUF-YC) using the protein digestibility-corrected amino acid score (PDCAAS) method. The report supplements guidance provided in a previous 2018 Report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on protein quality assessment in follow-up formula for young children and ready to use therapeutic foods. The report may be accessed at the following link: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cb9177en>.

FAO/WHO

- **Codex Magazine:** The FAO/WHO has released the eight edition of the CODEX magazine entitled “*Codex: Protecting health, facilitating trade – Looking to the Future.*” The magazine includes a round-up of what went on in committee sessions this year and voices of Member Country Observers. The magazine may be accessed at the following link: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd3387en>.
- 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: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd1548en>.

WHO

- The WHO Validation Program for Trans Fat Elimination was established to recognize countries for having a normative framework in place to eliminate industrially produced trans-fatty acids (TFA) from national food supplies by granting them a WHO Validation certificate of Trans Fat Elimination. Against this background, in 2023 WHO established the Trans Fat Elimination Technical Advisory Group (TFATAG) with a view to ensuring independence, scientific rigor and transparency in making judgements about the granting of the WHO Validation certificate. The first application was opened to countries in April 2023. Applications were submitted by 14 countries. Based on the evaluation of the country applications, the TFATAG recommended that WHO Validation certificates of Trans Fat Elimination be granted to Denmark, Lithuania, Poland, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand. This document explains the process used for the evaluation of the country applications and briefly summarizes the results of the evaluations by the TFATAG of the country applications. The document can be found at the following link: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240101111>.