



Codex News- April 7, 2020

### **Public Meetings related to the Postponed Upcoming Committee Sessions**

*As indicated in our special edition of the Codex News issued on March 19, 2020, due to public health guidance related to the outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19), all scheduled Public Meetings for the now postponed/cancelled Codex Committee Sessions will be held by teleconference only. Specific details for each committee may be found below.*

#### **Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)**

The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting by teleconference only on April 16, 2020, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. EST to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions for 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCMAS, originally scheduled for May 11-15, 2020, in Budapest, Hungary. The 40<sup>th</sup> Session has since been cancelled, however documents related to it will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en>. Information regarding how work will continue and when the next meeting will take place will be published on the Codex website as soon as it becomes available. Please contact Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office with any questions or concerns.

With regard to the public meeting, Gregory O. Noonan, Ph.D., U.S. Delegate to the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCMAS, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [gregory.noonan@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:gregory.noonan@fda.hhs.gov). Attendees who wish to participate by teleconference are requested to register in advance by emailing Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by April 14, 2020. Please use the call-in number: 1-888-844-9904, participant code: 5126092.

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

The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting by teleconference only on April 30, 2020, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. EST to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions for the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of CCRVDF, originally scheduled for May 25-29, 2020, in San Diego, California. The 25<sup>th</sup> Session has since been postponed and is tentatively re-scheduled for January 2021, exact dates to be confirmed. Documents related to it will be accessible via the internet at the following address: [www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en](http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en). Please contact Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) of the U.S. Codex Office with any questions or concerns.

With regard, to the public meeting, Ms. Brandi Robinson, U.S. Delegate to the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [brandi.robinson@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:brandi.robinson@fda.hhs.gov). Attendees who wish to participate by teleconference are requested to register in advance by emailing Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by April 24, 2020. Please use the call-in number: 1-888-844-9904, participant code: 5126092.

## Requests for Comments

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

**Sardines:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/28-OCS-CAC Rev) 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 at the following link:

[www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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)) by May 15, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 31, 2020.

### **Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)**

**Guidelines on Sampling:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/27/OCS-MAS) requesting comments on the proposed draft revision of the *General Guidelines on Sampling* (CXG 50-2004). The CL is currently available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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)) by May 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by May 31, 2020.

**Review of CXS 234:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2020/29/OCS-MAS) requesting comments on the review of the *Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234): dairy package and fats and oils package. The CL is currently available in English and French at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-whocodexalimentarius/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)) by June 15, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by June 30, 2020.

## Extensions to Requests for Comments

*The Codex Secretariat would like to inform all Codex members and observers that the commenting periods for the following Circular Letters (CLs) previously issued have been extended as noted below. The CLs can be downloaded from the Codex website through the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>*

### **Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)**

- CL 2020/23/OCS-CF: Proposed draft MLs for total aflatoxins in certain cereals and cereal-based products including foods for infants and young children
- CL 2020/22/OCS-CF: Proposed draft revision of the Code of Practice for the prevention and reduction of lead contamination in foods (CXS 56-2004)
- CL 2020/21/OCS-CF: Proposed draft MLs for lead in selected commodities for inclusion in the GSCTFF (CXS 193-1995)
- CL 2020/20/OCS-CF: Proposed draft Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cocoa beans

- CL 2020/19/OCS-CF: Request for comments on the Proposed draft maximum levels for cadmium in chocolates and cocoa-derived products

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of June 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by June 1, 2020.

- CL 2020/24-CF: Priority list of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants for evaluation by JECFA

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of January 28, 2021. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by January 4, 2021.

#### ***Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)***

- CL 2019/112/OCS-FH: Request for comments at Step 5 on the Proposed Draft Guidance for the Management of Biological Foodborne Outbreaks
- CL 2019/111/OCS-FH: Request for comments at Step 5/8 on the Proposed draft revision of the General Principles of Food Hygiene
- CL 2019/110/OCS-FH: Request for comments at Step 8 on the Draft Code of Practice on Food Allergen Management for Food Business Operators

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of April 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Marie Maratos ([marie.maratos@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratos@usda.gov)) by April 17, 2020.

#### ***Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)***

- CL 2019/109/OCS-FFV: Request for comments at Step 5/8 on the proposed draft standard for yam
- CL 2019/108/OCS-FFV: Request for comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for ware potatoes
- CL 2019/107/OCS-FFV: Request for comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for garlic
- CL 2019/106/OCS-FFV: Request for comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for kiwifruit

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of April 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted

them, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by April 17, 2020.

***Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)***

- CL 2019/116/OCS-NFSDU: Request for comments on provisions for xanthum gum (INS 415) and pectins (INS 440)
- CL 2019/114/OCS-NFSDU: Request for comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft Guidelines for ready to use therapeutic foods
- CL 2019/113/OCS-NFSDU: Request for comments at Step 5 on the review of the Standard for Follow-up Formula: Section B: proposed draft scope, description and labelling

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of April 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) by April 17, 2020.

***Coordinating Committee for Africa (CAFRICA)***

- CL 2019/105/OCS-AFRICA: Request for comments on the proposed amendments to Sections 3.2.2 and 3.4 of the regional Standard for Shea Butter (CX 325R-2017)
- CL 2019/104/OCS-AFRICA: Request for Comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft Standard for dried meat
- CL 2019/103/OCS-AFRICA: Request for Comments at Step 8 on the draft Standard for fresh leaves of Gnetum Spp
- CL 2019/102/OCS-AFRICA: Request for Comments at Step 8 on the draft Standard for fermented cooked cassava-based products

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of April 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by April 17, 2020.

***Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNEA)***

- CL 2020/07/OCS-NE: Request for Comments at Step 8 on the draft Standard for Mixed Zaatar

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of April 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by April 17, 2020.

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

- CL 2020/16/OCS-NASWP: Request for Comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft Regional Standard for Kava products for use as a beverage when mixed with water
- CL 2020/15/OCS-NASWP: Request for Comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft Regional Standard for Fermented Noni Fruit Juice

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of April 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Marie Maratos ([marie.maratos@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratos@usda.gov)) by April 17, 2020.

***Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)***

- CL 2020/04/OCS-AMR: Request for comments at Step 5 on the proposed draft revised Code of practice to contain and minimize AMR

Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS (<https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org>) by the new deadline of April 30, 2020. If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response and have not already submitted them, please send them to Marie Maratos ([marie.maratos@usda.gov](mailto:marie.maratos@usda.gov)) by April 17, 2020.