



Codex Alimentarius Update 2016-2018

Prepared by Professor P. Vincent Hegarty

Codex Alimentarius recent activities are updated here in a brief summary and quick access format. The websites will take you to further details, especially for the various Codex committees.

Hopefully, this summary will assist you in communications with your government agency, national Codex Contact Point, NGOs, your work colleagues, etc.

What's Inside?

New Codex Website.....	2
Circular Letters.....	2
Information Documents.....	3
Multimedia.....	3
Publications.....	4
Some Upcoming Committee Issues	5

REMINDER

To avoid confusion on dates: Codex uses the day/month/year format.
So, 2/11/2017 is November 2, 2017, NOT February 11, 2017.



New Codex website, as of December, 2017

www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/en

Circular Letters

www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/

We did not deal with Circular Letters in the Codex Alimentarius Online course. They relate to “work in progress.” They could be useful to you now in your work because they deal with:

- Request for information
Example: *Request for information and comments on the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA*
(Issued: 04/18/2018)
- Requests for proposals
Example: *Request for proposals for new and/or revision of food additives of the GSFA*
(Issued: 04/18/2018)
- Request for comments:
Example: *Request for comments on prioritization of work for the codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV)* (Issued: 03/18/2018)

The list is long on many topics. It is an opportunity to see what is upcoming and maybe important to YOU.



Information Documents

www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/infodoc/en/

Four were published in 2017:

- 1) CCMAS: [Practical Examples of Sampling Plans](#)
- 2) CCMAS: [Criteria Approach for Methods Which Use “Sum of Components”](#)
- 3) CCFH: [Process by Which the Codex on Nutrition Labelling Committee on Food Hygiene \(CCFH\) Will Undertake Its Work](#)
- 4) CCNFSDU: [Derivation of NRVs for Labelling Purposes in the Guideline on Nutrition Labelling \(CXG 2-1985\)](#)

Multimedia

A number of short video clips on various aspects of the work Codex Alimentarius does is at this [site](#).

Many of these clips were published very recently. Interesting is the approximately 5 minutes clip entitled: [Why Countries Need to Learn About Codex Online Tools](#) (this link takes you directly to the YouTube video; or you can access it through the [Codex multimedia site](#), it is the third clip on the list.



Publications

- [Understanding Codex](#) (2015)
- [Risk Communication Applied to Food Safety](#) (2016)
- [Risk Based Import Food Control](#) – Manual (2016)
- [Applications of Whole Genome Sequencing in Food Safety Management](#) (2016)
- [Enhancing Early Warning Capabilities and Capacities for Food Safety](#) (2016)
- [INFOSAN Activity Report](#) (2014/2015)
- [Compendium of Food Additive Specification](#) (2015)
- [The Science of Food Standards](#) (2017)
- [Trade and Food Standards](#) (2017)
- [Analytical Food Composition](#) Database (2016)
- [Street Food in Urban Ghana](#) (2016)
- [Understanding Acrylamide](#) (2017)
- [Toxicity Equivalency Factors for Marine Biotoxins Associated With Bivalve Molluscs](#) (2016)
- [Selection and Application of Methods for the Detection and Enumeration of Human Pathogenic Halophilic Vibrio spp in Seafood](#) (2016)
- [Microbiological Safety of Lipid-based Ready-to-Use Foods for Management of Moderate Acute Malnutrition and Severe Acute Malnutrition](#) (2016)



Some Upcoming Committee Issues

The following issues are at Step 5/8 or at Step 8 and were sent by the Codex Committees listed below for approval at the CAC 41 meeting in Rome, Italy. July 2-6, 2018

Click on the hyperlink for each Codex Committee. On the left-hand side --- Click on “Related Meetings” on each of the following websites. Then click on “Report” for the latest meeting:

General Subject Committees	
CCFA	Latest meeting: CCFA 50 The following 3 topics are at Step 5/8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed draft <i>Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives</i>• Draft and proposed draft food-additive provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)</i>• Proposed draft revision of the <i>Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives</i>
CCCF	Latest meeting: CCCF 12 The following 4 topics are at Step 5/8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>MLs for Lead in selected commodities</i>• <i>MLs for Cadmium in chocolate</i>• <i>MLs for tuna, alfonso, marlin and shark; and the GLs for methylmercury in predatory and non-predatory fish</i>• <i>COP for the prevention and reduction of dioxin, dioxin-like PCBs and non-dioxin-like PCB contamination in food and feed.</i>
CCFICS	Latest meeting: CCFICS 23 At Step 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft Principles and guidelines for monitoring the performance of national food control systems



General Subject Committees (continued)	
CCPR	<p>Latest meeting: CCPR 49</p> <p>At Step 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft Guidelines on Performance Criteria for Methods of Analysis for the determination of Pesticide Residues. <p>At Step 5/8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed draft and draft MRLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) proposed for adoption by CCPR 49 <p>At Step 5/8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed draft and draft revision of the Classification of Food and Feed: Vegetable Commodity Groups
CCFL	<p>Latest meeting: CCFL 44</p> <p>At Step 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft Revision of the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: date marking
CCFH	<p>Latest meeting: CCFH 49</p> <p>At Step 5/8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed Draft Revision of the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (CXC 52-2003)• Guidance for histamine control
CCRVDF	<p>Latest meeting: CCRVDF 23</p> <p>At Step 5/8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed draft MRLs for: lasalocid sodium (chicken, turkey, quail and pheasant kidney, liver, muscle, skin+fat) and for iver (cattle fat, kidney, liver, muscle) and for teflubenzuron (salmon fillet, muscle)

There were NO issues at Step 5/8 or at Step 8 at the latest meetings of CCMAS 38 and CCNFSDU 39



Commodity Committees

CCSCH	<p>Latest meeting: CCSCH 3</p> <p>At Step 5/8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft standard for Cumin• Draft standard for Thyme <p>At Step 5/8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed draft standard for black, White and Green Pepper
CCPFV	<p>Latest meeting: CCPVF 28</p> <p>At Step 5/8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annex on Canned Pineapples (for inclusion in the Standard for Certain Canned Fruits)• Annexes for Certain Quick Frozen Vegetables (for inclusion in the Standard for Quick Frozen Vegetables)
CCFO	<p>Latest meeting: CCFO 25</p> <p>At Step 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft standard for Fish Oils <p>At Step 5/8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed draft revision to the Standard for Olive Oils and olive Pomace Oils (CODEX STAN 33-1981). Revision of the limits of campesterol• Proposed draft revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CODEX STAN 210-1999): Revision of Quality Parameters for peanut Oil
CCFFV	<p>Latest meeting: CCFFV 20</p> <p>At Step 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft Standard for Aubergines



Codex Regions

CCAFRICA	Latest meeting: CCAFRICA 22 At Step 5/8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Unrefined Shea Butter
CCASIA	Latest meeting: CCASIA 20 At Step 5/8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Laver Products• Proposed draft Regional Code for Hygienic practice for Street-Vended Foods in Asia
CCLAC	Latest meeting: CCLAC 20 At Step 5/8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Yacon
CCNE	Latest meeting: CCNE 9 At Step 5/8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Doogh• Relevant Sections of the Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Doogh

There were NO activities at Step 5/8 and Step 8 at the most recent CCEURO and CCNASWP meetings.

We welcome your feedback on how to make this annual newsletter as useful as possible for you and for your work. It is planned to publish each April.

If you have any questions or issues please contact me at: vhegarty@msu.edu