

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2014-0003]

International Standard-Setting Activities

AGENCY: Office of Food Safety, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

and phytosanitary standard-setting activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), in accordance with section 491 of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended, and the Uruguay Round Agreements Act. This notice also provides a list of other standard-setting activities of Codex, including commodity standards, guidelines, codes of practice, and revised texts. This notice, which covers the time periods from June 1, 2013, to May 31, 2014, and June 1, 2014, to May 31, 2015, seeks comments on standards under consideration and recommendations for new standards.

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: This Web site provides the ability to type short comments directly into the

comment field on this Web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- Mail, including CD-ROMs, etc.: Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Docket Clerk, Patriots Plaza 3, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Mailstop 3782, Room 8-163A, Washington, DC 20250-3700.
- Hand- or courier-delivered submittals: Deliver to Patriots Plaza 3, 355 E Street SW., Room 8-163A, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

<u>Instructions</u>: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2014-0003. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to http://www.regulations.gov.

Docket: For access to background documents or
comments received, go to the FSIS Docket Room at Patriots
Plaza 3, 355 E Street, SW., Room 8-163A, Washington, DC
20250-3700, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through
Friday.

Please state that your comments refer to Codex and, if your comments relate to specific Codex committees, please identify those committees in your comments and submit a copy of your comments to the delegate from that particular committee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Frances Lowe, United States Manager for Codex, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Food Safety, Room 4861, South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700; telephone: (202) 205-7760; fax: (202) 720-3157; e-mail: USCodex@fsis.usda.gov.

For information pertaining to particular committees, the delegate of that committee may be contacted. (A complete list of U.S. delegates and alternate delegates can be found in Attachment 2 of this notice.) Documents pertaining to Codex and specific committee agendas are accessible via the Internet at http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en/. The U.S. Codex Office also maintains a Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/internation al-affairs/us-codex-alimentarius.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The World Trade Organization (WTO) was established on January 1, 1995, as the common international institutional framework for the conduct of trade relations among its members in matters related to the Uruguay Round Trade Agreements. The WTO is the successor organization to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). U.S. membership in the WTO was approved and the Uruguay Round Agreements Act was signed into law by the President on December 8, 1994. The Uruquay Round Agreements became effective, with respect to the United States, on January 1, 1995. Pursuant to section 491 of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended, the President is required to designate an agency to be "responsible for informing the public of the sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standard-setting activities of each international standard-setting organization." The main organizations are Codex, the World Organisation for Animal Health, and the International Plant Protection Convention. The President, pursuant to Proclamation No. 6780 of March 23, 1995 (60 FR 15845), designated the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the agency responsible for informing the public of the SPS standardsetting activities of each international standard-setting

organization. The Secretary of Agriculture has delegated to the Office of Food Safety the responsibility to inform the public of the SPS standard-setting activities of Codex. The Office of Food Safety has, in turn, assigned the responsibility for informing the public of the SPS standard-setting activities of Codex to the U.S. Codex Office.

Codex was created in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Codex is the principal international organization for establishing standards for food. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers, ensure fair practices in the food trade, and promote coordination of food standards work undertaken by international governmental and nongovernmental organizations. In the United States, U.S. Codex activities are managed and carried out by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC); and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

As the agency responsible for informing the public of the SPS standard-setting activities of Codex, the Office of Food Safety publishes this notice in the Federal Register annually. Attachment 1 (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Activities of Codex) sets forth the following information:

- The SPS standards under consideration or planned for consideration; and
- 2. For each SPS standard specified:
 - a. A description of the consideration or planned consideration of the standard;
 - b. Whether the United States is participating or plans to participate in the consideration of the standard;
 - c. The agenda for United States participation, if any; and
 - d. The agency responsible for representing the United States with respect to the standard.

TO OBTAIN COPIES OF THE STANDARDS LISTED IN ATTACHMENT 1, PLEASE CONTACT THE CODEX DELEGATE OR THE U.S. CODEX OFFICE.

This notice also solicits public comment on standards that are currently under consideration or planned for

consideration and recommendations for new standards. The delegate, in conjunction with the responsible agency, will take the comments received into account in participating in the consideration of the standards and in proposing matters to be considered by Codex.

The United States delegate will facilitate public participation in the United States Government's activities relating to Codex Alimentarius. The United States delegate will maintain a list of individuals, groups, and organizations that have expressed an interest in the activities of the Codex committees and will disseminate information regarding United States delegation activities to interested parties. This information will include the status of each agenda item; the United States Government's position or preliminary position on the agenda items; and the time and place of planning meetings and debriefing meetings following Codex committee sessions. In addition, the U.S. Codex Office makes much of the same information available through its Web page,

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/internation al-affairs/us-codex-alimentarius. If you would like to access or receive information about specific committees, please visit the Web page or notify the appropriate U.S. delegate or the U.S. Codex Office, Room 4861, South

Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700 (uscodex@fsis.usda.gov).

The information provided in Attachment 1 describes the status of Codex standard-setting activities by the Codex Committees for the time periods from June 1, 2013, to May 31, 2014, and June 1, 2014, to May 31, 2015. Attachment 2 provides a list of U.S. Codex Officials (including U.S. delegates and alternate delegates). A list of forthcoming Codex sessions may be found at:

http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en/.

Additional Public Notification

FSIS will announce this notice online through the FSIS Web page located at:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulations/fsis-notices.

FSIS will also make copies of this Federal Register
publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update,
which is used to provide information regarding FSIS
policies, procedures, regulations, Federal Register
notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of
information that could affect or would be of interest to
constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated
via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service
for industry, trade groups, consumer interest groups,

health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is also available on the FSIS Web page. In addition, FSIS offers an electronic mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/programs-and-services/email-subscription-service. Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done at Washington, DC, on: June 9, 2014.

Paulo Almeida,

Associate U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

Attachment 1:

Sanitary and Phytosanitary Activities of Codex Codex Alimentarius Commission and Executive Committee

The Codex Alimentarius Commission will hold its Thirty Seventh Session July 14-18, 2014, in Geneva, Switzerland. At that time, it will consider standards, codes of practice, and related matters forwarded to the Commission by the general subject committees, commodity committees, and ad hoc Task Forces for adoption as Codex standards and guidance. The Commission will also consider the implementation status of the Codex Strategic Plan, the management of the Trust Fund for the Participation of Developing Countries and Countries in transition in the work of the Codex Alimentarius, as well as financial and budgetary issues.

Prior to the Commission meeting, the Executive

Committee will meet at its Sixty-ninth session, July 8-11,

2014. It is composed of the chairperson; vicechairpersons; seven members elected from the Commission

from each of the following geographic regions: Africa,

Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East,

North America, and South-West Pacific; and regional

coordinators from the six regional committees. The United

States is the elected representative from North America.

The Executive Committee will conduct a critical review of the elaboration of Codex standards; consider applications from international non-governmental organizations for observer status in Codex; consider the Codex Strategic Plan and the capacity of the Secretariat; review matters arising from reports of Codex Committees and proposals for new work; and review the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organisation (FAO/WHO) Trust Fund for Enhanced Participation in Codex.

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

The Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) determines priorities for the consideration of residues of veterinary drugs in foods and recommends Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for veterinary drugs. The Committee also develops codes of practice, as may be required, and considers methods of sampling and analysis for the determination of veterinary drug residues in food. A veterinary drug is defined as any substance applied or administered to any food producing animal, such as meat or milk producing animals, poultry, fish or bees, whether used for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic purposes, or for modification of physiological functions or behavior.

A Codex Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) for Residues of Veterinary Drugs is the maximum concentration of residue resulting from the use of a veterinary drug (expressed in mg/kg or ug/kg on a fresh weight basis) that is recommended by the Codex Alimentarius Commission to be permitted or recognized as acceptable in or on a food. Residues of a veterinary drug include the parent compounds or their metabolites in any edible portion of the animal product, and include residues of associated impurities of the veterinary drug concerned. An MRL is based on the type and amount of residue considered to be without any toxicological hazard for human health as expressed by the Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) or on the basis of a temporary ADI that utilizes an additional safety factor. The MRL also takes into account other relative public health risks as well as food technological aspects.

When establishing an MRL, consideration is also given to residues that occur in food of plant origin or the environment. Furthermore, the MRL may be reduced to be consistent with official recommended or authorized usage, approved by national authorities, of the veterinary drugs under practical conditions.

An Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) is an estimate made by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives

(JECFA) of the amount of a veterinary drug, expressed on a body weight basis, which can be ingested daily in food over a lifetime without appreciable health risk.

The Committee held its 21st session in Minneapolis,
Minnesota, August 26-30, 2013. The following items are to
be considered for adoption by the 37th session of the
Commission in July 2014:

To be considered for adoption:

- Draft provisions on Extrapolation of Maximum Residue
 Limits of Veterinary Drugs to Additional Species
- Draft provisions of the Use of the Concern Form for the CCRVDF

To be considered at Step 5/8:

- Proposed draft Risk Management Recommendations (RMRs)
 for chloramphenicol, malachite green, carbadox,
 furazolidone, nitrofural, chlorpromazine, stilbenes and
 olaquindox
- Proposed draft Performance Characteristics for Multi-Residue Methods (MRMs) for Veterinary Drugs

- Draft Maximum Residue Limits for monepantel
- Proposed draft Maximum Residues Limits for derquantel

- Proposed draft Risk Management Recommendations for dimitridazole, ipronidazole, metronidazole, and ronidazole
- Priority List of Veterinary Drugs Requiring Evaluation or Re-Evaluation by JECFA
 - Draft provisions on establishment of MRLs for honey
- Discussion paper regarding the issues and concerns that impact the ability of the CCRVDF to efficiently perform its work
 - Database on countries needs for MRLs
- Alternative approach to move compounds from the database on countries needs for MRLs to the JECFA Priority

Responsible Agencies: HHS/FDA/CVM; USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods

The Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) establishes or endorses permitted maximum levels (ML) and, where necessary, revises existing guidelines levels for contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed; prepares priority lists of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants for risk assessment by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives; considers and elaborates methods of analysis and sampling for the

determination of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed; considers and elaborates standards or codes of practice for related subjects; and considers other matters assigned to it by the Commission in relation to contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed.

The Committee held its Eighth Session in The Hague, The Netherlands, March 31-April 4, 2014. The relevant document is REP14/CF. The following items are to be considered for adoption by the 37th Session of the Commission in July 2014:

• Editorial amendments to the <u>General Standard for</u>

<u>Contaminants and Toxins in Food & Feed</u> (Codex Stan 1931995)

To be considered at Step 5/8:

- Proposed draft maximum levels for lead in infant formula and formula for special medical purposes intended for infants and for follow up formula
- Proposed draft maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in polished rice
- Proposed draft maximum levels for fumonisins in maize and maize products and associated sampling plans

- Proposed draft annex for the prevention and reduction
 of aflatoxins and ochratoxin A contamination in sorghum
 (Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of
 Mycotoxin Contamination in Cereals (CAC/RCP 51-2003)
- Proposed draft <u>Code of Practice for Weed Control to</u>

 <u>Prevent and Reduce Pyrollizidine Alkaloid Contamination in</u>

 Food and Feed

- Proposed draft maximum levels for DON in raw cereal grains (wheat, maize and barley) including sampling plans and in flour, meal, semolina and flakes derived from wheat, maize or barley
- Maximum levels for lead in fruit juices and nectars (ready to drink), canned fruits and canned vegetables
- Maximum levels for lead in selected fruits and vegetables
- Proposed draft maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in husked rice
- Proposed draft <u>Code of Practice for the Prevention and</u>
 Reduction or Arsenic Contamination in Rice

- Proposed draft revision of the <u>Code of Practice for</u>

 the <u>Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in</u>

 Cereals (CAC/RCP 51-2003)
- Proposed draft maximum level for total aflatoxins in ready to eat peanuts
- Proposed draft maximum levels for cadmium in chocolate and cocoa-derived products
- Proposed draft maximum levels for acetylated derivatives (DON) in cereals and cereal-based products
 The Committee will work on the following discussion
 papers:
 - Submission and use of data from GEMS/Food
 - Radionuclides
 - Approaches for phasing in of lower MLs
 - Maximum levels for methylmecury in fish
- Mycotoxin contamination in spices (prioritization for potential work on MLs in spices)
- Feasibility of developing a code of practice for mycotoxins in spices
- Priority list of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants proposed for evaluation by JECFA

 Responsible Agencies: HHS/FDA; USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Food Additives

The Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) establishes or endorses acceptable maximum levels (MLs) for individual food additives; prepares a priority list of food additives for risk assessment by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA); assigns functional classes to individual food additives; recommends specifications of identity and purity for food additives for adoption by the Codex Alimentarius Commission; considers methods of analysis for the determination of additives in food; and considers and elaborates standards or codes of practice for related subjects such as the labeling of food additives when sold as such. The 46th Session of the Committee met in Hong Kong, China, March 17-21, 2014. The relevant document is REP14/FA. Immediately prior to the Plenary Session, there was a 2-day physical Working Group on the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) chaired by the United States.

The following items will be considered by the 37th Session of the Commission in July 2014.

To be considered for adoption:

• Amendments to the Notes of the GSFA

- Revised provisions for aluminum-containing food additives in selected standards
- Revised food additive sections of standards for meat products
- Revised food additive provisions of food category 08.0
 (Meat and Meat products, including poultry) and its subcategories of GSFA

To be considered for adoption at Step 8 & 5/8:

 Draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the GSFA

To be considered for adoption at Step 5/8:

- Proposed draft <u>Guidelines for the Simple Evaluation of Dietary Exposure to Food Additives</u> (revision of CAC/GL 3-1989)
- Proposed draft amendments to the <u>International</u>
 Numbering System (INS) for Food Additives (CAC/GL 36-1989)
- Proposed draft specifications for the identity and purity of food additives

The Committee will continue working on:

 Proposed draft food additive provisions of the GSFA (electronic Working Group (eWG) led by the United States)

- o Food additive provisions in Tables 1 and 2 of the GSFA for Table 3 food additives with "emulsifier, stabilizer, or thickener" function, for their use for technological function other than as emulsifiers, stabilizers, or thickeners
- o Food additive provisions in Table 1 and 2 of the GSFA in food categories 01.2 through 08.4, with the exclusion of food categories 04.1.2.4, 04.2.2.4, 04.2.2.5, 04.2.2.6, 05.1.1, 05.1.3 and 05.1.4
- Alignment of the food additive provisions of commodity standards and relevant provisions of the GSFA (eWG led by Australia)
- Food additive provisions for food category 14.2.3
 (Grape wines) and its sub-categories of the GSFA (eWG led by France)
- Food category descriptors and GSFA food additive provisions for food category 01.1 (Milk and dairy-based drinks) and its sub-categories of the GSFA (eWG led by New Zealand)
- The effect of replacing GSFA Note 161 ("Subject to national legislation of the importing country aimed, in particular, at consistency with Section 3.2 of the Preamble.") with an alternative note (or notes) to

provisions for selected sweeteners (eWG led by the United Kingdom, with the assistance of the United States)

- Discussion paper on secondary additives (European Union)
- Discussion paper on the inconsistent terminology related to flavorings in the <u>Guidelines for the Use of</u> Flavourings (CAC/GL 66-2008) and other Codex texts
 - Amendments to the INS for food additives
- <u>Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food</u>
 Additives (79th JECFA)
- Proposal for additions and changes to the <u>Priority</u>
 List of Substances Proposed for Evaluation by JECFA
- Information on the availability of data for the reevaluation of six priority colors by JECFA
 - Information document on the GSFA
- Information document on food additive provisions in commodity standards

The Committee also agreed to hold a physical Working

Group on the GSFA immediately preceding the 47th session of

CCFA to be chaired by the United States. That group will

discuss:

- The recommendations of the eWGs on: (i) the GSFA, (ii) the food additive provisions in food category 14.2.3 (Grape wines), (iii) the revision of food category 01.1 (Milk and dairy-based drinks) and its sub-categories, and (iv) Note 161 of the GSFA
- Proposed draft provisions for nisin (INS 234) in certain meat categories
- New proposals and proposed revisions of food additive provisions in the GSFA

Responsible Agency: HHS/FDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues

The Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) is responsible for establishing maximum limits for pesticide residues in specific food items or in groups of food; establishing maximum limits for pesticide residues in certain animal feeding stuffs moving in international trade where this is justified for reasons of protection of human health; preparing priority lists of pesticides for evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR); considering methods of sampling and analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed; considering other matters in relation to the

safety of food and feed containing pesticide residues and; establishing maximum limits for environmental and industrial contaminants showing chemical or other similarity to pesticides in specific food items or groups of food.

The 46th Session of the Committee met in Nanjing,
China, May 5-10, 2014. The relevant document is REP14/PR.
The following items will be considered at the 37th Session
of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in July 2014.

For adoption:

 Proposed revision of the Risk Analysis Principles applied by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues for inclusion in the Procedural Manual

To be considered at Steps 8 and 5/8:

Draft and proposed draft Maximum Residue Limits for
 Pesticides in Foods and Feeds

- Draft revision of the Classification of Food and Feed: selected Vegetable Commodity Groups
- Proposed draft <u>Principles and Guidelines for the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of Maximum Residue Limits for Commodity Groups</u> Table 2

- Draft <u>Guidelines on Performance Criteria Specific for Methods of Analysis for the Determination of Pesticide</u>
 Residues
- Discussion paper on <u>Guidance to Facilitate the</u>

 <u>Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides for Minor Use/Specialty Crops</u>

Responsible Agencies: EPA; USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling

The Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and
Sampling (CCMAS) defines the criteria appropriate to Codex
Methods of Analysis and Sampling; serves as a coordinating
body for Codex with other international groups working on
methods of analysis and sampling and quality assurance
systems for laboratories; specifies, on the basis of final
recommendations submitted to it by the bodies referred to
above, reference methods of analysis and sampling
appropriate to Codex standards which are generally
applicable to a number of foods; considers, amends if
necessary, and endorses as appropriate, methods of analysis
and sampling proposed by Codex commodity committees, except
for methods of analysis and sampling for residues of
pesticides or veterinary drugs in food, the assessment of

microbiological quality and safety in food, and the assessment of specifications for food additives; elaborates sampling plans and procedures, as may be required; considers specific sampling and analysis problems submitted to it by the Commission or any of its Committees; and defines procedures, protocols, guidelines or related texts for the assessment of food laboratory proficiency, as well as quality assurance systems for laboratories.

The 35th Session of the Committee met in Budapest,
Hungary, March 3-7, 2014. The relevant document is
REP14/MAS. The following items will be considered by the
Commission at its 37th Session in July 2014.

To be considered for adoption:

• Methods of Analysis and Sampling in Codex Standards at different steps

- Explanatory notes to the <u>Principles for the Use of Sampling and Testing in International Food Trade</u> (CAC/GL 83-2013)
- Discussion paper on the development of procedures/guidelines for determining equivalency to Type I methods

- Discussion paper on the development of a criteria approach for methods which use a "sum of components"
- Compilation of a single list of methods in CODEX STAN 234-1999 and commodity standards to conduct a validation exercise
- Follow-up on proposals for amendments to methods of analysis and proposals for sampling plans

 Responsible Agencies: HHS/FDA; USDA/GIPSA.

 Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems

The Codex Committee on Food Import and Export

Inspection and Certification Systems is responsible for
developing principles and guidelines for food import and
export inspection and certification systems, with a view to
harmonizing methods and procedures that protect the health
of consumers, ensure fair trading practices, and facilitate
international trade in foodstuffs; developing principles
and guidelines for the application of measures by the
competent authorities of exporting and importing countries
to provide assurance, where necessary, that foodstuffs
comply with requirements, especially statutory health
requirements; developing guidelines for the utilization, as
and when appropriate, of quality assurance systems to

ensure that foodstuffs conform with requirements and promote the recognition of these systems in facilitating trade in food products under bilateral/multilateral arrangements by countries; developing guidelines and criteria with respect to format, declarations, and language of such official certificates as countries may require with a view towards international harmonization; making recommendations for information exchange in relation to food import/export control; consulting as necessary with other international groups working on matters related to food inspection and certification systems; and considering other matters assigned to it by the Commission in relation to food inspection and certification systems.

The next session of the Committee will meet in Brisbane, Australia, October 13-17, 2014. The following agenda items will be discussed:

- Discussion paper on <u>Principles and Guidelines for</u>

 <u>Monitoring Regulatory Performance of National Food Control</u>

 Systems
- Discussion paper on the revision of the <u>Principles and</u>

 <u>Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Safety</u>

 <u>Emergency Situations</u>

• Draft amendments to the <u>Guidelines for the Exchange of Information between Countries on Rejections of Imported Food</u>

Responsible Agencies: HHS/FDA; USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling

The Codex Committee on Food Labelling drafts provisions on labeling applicable to all foods; considers, amends, and endorses draft specific provisions on labeling prepared by the Codex Committees drafting standards, codes of practice, and guidelines; and studies specific labeling problems assigned by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

The Committee also studies problems associated with the advertisement of food with particular reference to claims and misleading descriptions.

The Committee will hold its 42nd Session in Canada,
October 21-24, 2014. The Committee plans to continue work
on the following items:

• <u>Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labeling</u>
and <u>Marketing of Organically Produced Foods: Organic</u>
Aquaculture

- Review of the <u>General Standard for the Labeling of</u>

 <u>Prepackaged Foods</u> to address the issue on date marking
- Discussion paper on the labeling of non-retail containers
- Discussion paper on issues related to internet sales of food

Responsible Agencies: HHS/FDA; USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene

The Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH):

- Develops basic provisions on food hygiene applicable to all food or to specific food types;
- Considers and amends or endorses provisions on food hygiene contained in Codex commodity standards and codes of practice developed by other Codex commodity committees;
- Considers specific food hygiene problems assigned to it by the Commission;
- Suggests and prioritizes areas where there is a need for microbiological risk assessment at the international level and develops questions to be addressed by the risk assessors; and

• Considers microbiological risk management matters in relation to food hygiene and in relation to FAO/WHO risk assessments.

The Committee held its $45^{\rm th}$ session in Hanoi, Viet Nam, November 11-15, 2013. The reference document is REP 14/FH. The following items will be considered by the Commission at its $37^{\rm th}$ Session in July 2014.

To be considered for adoption:

- Proposed amendments to the definitions for hazard characterization, risk communication, risk estimate and risk management in the <u>Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Assessment</u> (CAC/GL 30-1999)
 To be considered for adoption at Step 5/8:
- Proposed draft <u>Guidelines for the Control of</u>
 Trichinella spp. in Meat of Suidae
- Proposed draft <u>Guidelines for the Control of Taenia</u>

 <u>saginata in Meat of Domestic Cattle</u>
- Proposed draft revision of the <u>Code of Hygienic</u>
 <u>Practice for Spices and Dried Aromatic Herbs</u> (CAC/RCP 42-1995)

The Committee agreed to request the Commission to approve new work on:

- Guidelines for the Control of Nontyphoidal Salmonella spp. in Beef and Pork Meat
- Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of

 Food Hygiene to the Control of Foodborne Parasites

 The Committee will continue working on:
- Annex on statistical and mathematical considerations to the <u>Principles and Guidelines for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria Related to Foods</u>
 (CAC/GL 21-1997)
- Proposed draft <u>Code of Hygienic Practice for Low-</u>
 Moisture Foods
- Review of a consolidated revision of the <u>Code of</u>
 Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CAC/RCP
 53-2003)
- Applicability of draft criteria for evaluating and prioritizing new work and considerations for new work
 Responsible Agencies: HHS/FDA; USDA/FSIS

U.S. Participation: Yes

Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

The Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

(CCFFV) is responsible for elaborating worldwide standards

and codes of practice as may be appropriate for fresh

fruits and vegetables; for consulting with the UNECE

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards in the elaboration of worldwide standards and codes of practice, with particular regard to ensuring that there is no duplication of standards or codes of practice and that they follow the same broad format; and for consulting, as necessary, with other international organizations which are active in the area of standardization of fresh fruits and vegetables.

The 18th Session of the Committee met in Phuket,
Thailand, February 24-28, 2014. The relevant document is
REP14/FFV. The following items will be considered by the
37th Session of the Commission in July 2014.

To be considered for adoption at Step 8:

- Draft <u>Standard for Passion Fruit</u>

 To be considered at Step 5/8:
- Proposed draft Standard for Durian
- Proposed draft <u>Standard for Okra</u>

- Proposed draft Standard for Ware Potato
- Proposed draft Standard for Garlic
- Proposed draft Standard for Aubergines
- Proposed draft Standard for Kiwifruit

- Minimum maturity requirements for table grapes
 (Standard for Table Grapes CODEX STAN 255-2007)
- Proposals for new work for Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables
- Review of the terms of reference of the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
- Proposed layout for Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables

Responsible Agencies: USDA/AMS; HHS/FDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary
Uses

The Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) is responsible for studying nutrition issues referred to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The Committee also drafts general provisions, as appropriate, on nutritional aspects of all foods and develops standards, guidelines, or related texts for foods for special dietary uses in cooperation with other committees where necessary; considers, amends if necessary, and endorses provisions on nutritional aspects proposed for inclusion in Codex standards, guidelines, and related texts.

The Committee held its 35th Session in Bad Soden am Taunus, Germany, November 4-8, 2013. The reference document is REP 14/NSFDU. The following items will be considered by the Commission at its 37th Session in July 2014.

To be considered for adoption:

Proposed draft Additional or Revised Nutrient
 Reference Values for Labeling Purposes in the <u>Codex</u>
 <u>Guidelines on Nutrition Labeling (Protein)</u>

To be considered at Step 5:

• Proposed draft revision of the <u>Codex General</u>

<u>Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods</u>

(CAC/GL 9-1987)

- Proposal to review the <u>Codex Standard for Follow-up</u>
 Formula (CODEX STAN 156-1987)
- Proposed draft Additional or Revised Nutrient
 Reference Values for Labeling Purposes in the <u>Codex</u>

 <u>Guidelines on Nutrition Labeling (other values than protein)</u>
- Proposed draft Amendment to the <u>Standard for Processed</u>
 Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children to

include a New Part B for Underweight Older infants and Young Children

- Potential NRV for Potassium in relation to the risk of NCD
 - Proposed draft revision of the List of Food Additives
 - Discussion paper on biofortification

Responsible Agencies: HHS/FDA; USDA/ARS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products

The Fish and Fishery Products Committee (CCFFP) is responsible for elaborating standards for fresh, frozen and otherwise processed fish, crustaceans, and mollusks. The Committee held its 33rd Session in Bergen, Norway, February 17-21, 2014. The relevant document is REP14/FFP. The following items are to be considered for adoption by the 37th Session of the Commission in July 2014.

To be considered for adoption:

• Food additive provisions in <u>Standards for Fish and</u>

Fishery Products

To be considered at Step 8:

• Draft Performance Criteria for Methods for the

Determination of Marine Biotoxins (Section I-8.6) in the

Standard for Live and Raw Bivalve Molluscs

Draft <u>Standard for Fresh and Quick Frozen Raw Scallop</u>

 <u>Products</u>

To be considered at Step 5:

Proposed draft <u>Code of Practice of Processing of Fish</u>

Sauce

- Proposed draft <u>Code of Practice on the Processing of</u>

 Fresh and Quick Frozen Raw Scallop Products
- Proposed draft <u>Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery</u>
 <u>Products</u> (section on Sturgeon Caviar)
- Food additive provisions in <u>Standards for Fish and</u>
 Fishery Products
 - Discussion paper on histamine
- Discussion paper on nitrogen factors (amendments to section 7.4 of the <u>Standard for Quick Frozen Fish Sticks</u>

 (Fish Fingers), Fish portions and Fish fillets-Breaded or in Batter (CODEX STAN 166-1989))
- Proposed draft <u>Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery</u>
 <u>Products</u> (optional final product requirements for commodities/appendix on MAP)
- New work proposal on a <u>Standard for Fresh Chilled</u>
 Pirarucu Fillet of Whole Fish

Responsible Agencies: HHS/FDA; USDC/NOAA/NMFS

U.S. Participation: Yes

Codex Committee on Fats and Oils

The Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO) is responsible for elaborating worldwide standards for fats and oils of animal, vegetable, and marine origin, including margarine and olive oil.

The Committee will hold its 24th session in Malaysia, February 9-13, 2015, and will continue working on the following items:

- Proposed draft Standard for Fish Oils
- Amendments to the lists of acceptable previous cargoes in the <u>Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of</u>
 Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk (CAC/RCP 36-1987)
 - Discussion paper on cold pressed oils
- Discussion paper on the amendment of the <u>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils: High Oleic Soybean Oil Responsible Agencies:</u> HHS/FDA; USDA/ARS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables

The Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (CCPFV) is responsible for elaborating worldwide standards and related text for all types of processed fruits and

vegetables including but not limited to canned, dried, and frozen products, as well as fruit and vegetable juices and nectars.

The 27th session of the CCPFV will meet in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 7-12, 2014. The Committee plans to discuss the following items:

- Proposed draft Sampling Plan including Metrological
 Provisions for Controlling the Minimum Drained Weight in
 Canned Fruits and Vegetables in Packing Media
- Proposed draft annexes on pears and pineapples
 (proposed draft <u>Standard for Certain Canned Fruits</u>)
- Proposed draft annexes on several quick frozen
 vegetables (proposed draft <u>Standard for Certain Quick</u>
 Frozen Vegetables)
- Proposal for the extension of the territorial application of the <u>Regional Standard for Ginseng Products</u>
- Food additive provisions in the <u>Standards for Pickled</u>

 <u>Fruits and Vegetables</u> (CODEX STAN 260-2007), <u>Canned Bamboo</u>

 <u>Shoots</u> (CODEX STAN 241-2003) and the Annex on Mushrooms of the <u>Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables</u> (CODEX STAN 297-2009)

- Packing media provisions for pickled vegetables in the <u>Standard for Pickled Fruits and Vegetables</u> (CODEX STAN 260-2007)
- Status of work on the revision of <u>Codex Standards for</u>
 Processed Fruits and Vegetables

Responsible Agencies: USDA/AMS; HHS/FDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Certain Codex Commodity Committees

Several Codex Alimentarius Commodity Committees have adjourned <u>sine</u> <u>die</u>. The following Committees fall into this category:

• Cereals, Pulses and Legumes

Responsible Agency: HHS/FDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

• Cocoa Products and Chocolate

Responsible Agency: HHS/FDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

• Meat Hygiene

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

• Milk and Milk Products

Responsible Agencies: USDA/AMS; HHS/FDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Natural Mineral Waters

Responsible Agency: HHS/FDA.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

• Sugars

Responsible Agency: HHS/FDA

U.S. Participation: Yes.

• Vegetable Proteins

Responsible Agency: USDA/ARS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees

The FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees define the problems and needs of the regions concerning food standards and food control; promote within the Committee contacts for the mutual exchange of information on proposed regulatory initiatives and problems arising from food control and stimulate the strengthening of food control infrastructures; recommend to the Commission the development of worldwide standards for products of interest to the region, including products considered by the Committees to have an international market potential in the future; develop regional standards for food products moving exclusively or almost exclusively in intra-regional trade; draw the attention of the Commission to any aspects of the

Commission's work of particular significance to the region; promote coordination of all regional food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations within each region; exercise a general coordinating role for the region and such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Commission; and promote the use of Codex standards and related texts by members.

There are six regional coordinating committees:

Coordinating Committee for Africa

Coordinating Committee for Asia

Coordinating Committee for Europe

Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean Coordinating Committee for the Near East

Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific

Coordinating Committee for Africa

The Committee (CCAfrica) will hold its 21st session in Cameroon, January 27-30, 2015.

The Committee will continue working on:

- Developing a new strategic plan for CCAFRICA
- Identifying and ranking products suitable for a Codex standard (regional or international)

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes (as observer).

Coordinating Committee for Asia

The Committee (CCAsia) will hold its 19th session in Japan, November 3-7, 2014. The Committee will continue working on:

- Proposed draft Standard for Laver Products
- Proposed draft Code of Hygienic Practice for Street-

Vended Food

Discussion paper on new work on a regional standard for edible crickets and their products

U.S. Participation: Yes (as observer).

Coordinating Committee for Europe

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

The Committee (CCEurope) will hold its 29th session in The Netherlands, September 30-October 03, 2014. The Committee will continue working on:

• Proposed draft Regional Standard for Ayran

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes (as observer).

Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC) will hold its 19th session in Costa Rica, November 10-14, 2014.

The Committee will continue working on:

- Proposed framework for monitoring the work of subsidiary bodies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
- Proposal for new work on a Codex regional standard for yacón

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes (as observer).

Coordinating Committee for the Near East

The Committee (CCNEA) will hold its 8th session in Lebanon, March 9-13, 2015. The Committee will continue working on:

- Regional Standard for Doogh
- Standard for Halal Food
- Regional Standard for Labneh
- Regional Standard for Mixed Zaatar
- Standard for Refrigerated and Frozen Meat
- Preparation of the Strategic Plan for CCNEA 2015-2020

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes (as observer).

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

The Committee (CCNASWP) will hold its 13th Session in Kokopo, Papua New Guinea, September 23-26, 2014.

The committee will continue working on:

- Draft Strategic Plan for the CCNASWP 2014-2019
- Discussion paper on the development of a standard for fermented noni juice
- Discussion paper on the development of a regional standard for kaya
- Discussion paper on products of the region that can be addressed by regional standards and mechanism for their prioritization

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

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ATTACHMENT 2

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Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables

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U.S. Delegates and Alternate Delegates

General Subject Committees | Commodity Committees (Active

and Adjourned) | ad hoc Task Forces | Regional Coordinating

Committees

Worldwide General Codex Subject Committees

Contaminants in Foods

(Host Government - The Netherlands)

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Food Labelling

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General Principles

(Host Government - France)

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Methods of Analysis and Sampling

(Host Government - Hungary)

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Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses

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Pesticide Residues

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Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

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Worldwide Commodity Codex Committees (Active)

Fats and Oils

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Fish and Fishery Products

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Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

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Processed Fruits and Vegetables

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Spices and Culinary Herbs

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Worldwide Commodity Codex Committees (Adjourned)

Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (adjourned sine die)

(Host Government - United States)

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Cocoa Products and Chocolate (adjourned sine die)

(Host Government - Switzerland)

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Meat Hygiene (adjourned sine die)

(Host Government - New Zealand)

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Vacant

Milk and Milk Products (adjourned sine die)

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Natural Mineral Waters (adjourned sine die)

(Host Government - Switzerland)

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Sugars (adjourned sine die)

(Host Government - United Kingdom)

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Vegetable Proteins (adjourned sine die)

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Antimicrobial Resistance

(Host government - Republic of Korea)

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