



Billing Code 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs

[Docket No. FSIS-2018-0008]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex

Alimentarius Commission

**AGENCY: Office of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs,
USDA.**

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs (TFAA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is sponsoring a public meeting on May 31, 2018. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 41st Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) taking place in Rome, Italy, between July 2 and 6, 2018. The Administrator of the Food Safety and Inspection Service and the Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 41st Session of the CAC and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 31, 2018, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place at the USDA, Jamie L. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 107-A, Washington, DC 20250.

Documents related to the 41st Session of the CAC will be accessible via the Internet at the following address:
<http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en/>.

The U.S. Delegate to the 41st Session of the CAC invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following e-mail address:
uscodex@fsis.usda.gov.

CALL-IN-NUMBER:

If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 41st Session of the CAC by conference call, please use the call-in-number and the participant code listed below:

Call-in-Number: 1-888-844-9904

The participant code will be posted on the Web page below:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/us-codex-alimentarius/public-meetings>

REGISTRATION:

Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by e-mailing uscodex@fsis.usda.gov by May 29, 2018. Early registration is encouraged as it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will convene in a Federal building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through security screening systems. Attendees who are not able to attend the meeting in person, but wish to participate, may do so by phone.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: About the 41st session of

the CAC contact: U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4861, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: (202)205-7760, Fax: (202)720-3157, E-mail: uscodex@fsis.usda.gov.

About the public meeting contact: Jasmine Curtis, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4865, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: (202)205-7760, Fax: (202)720-3157, E-mail: Jasmine.Curtis@fsis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

CAC was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption

of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, the CAC seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade; promotes coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations; determines priorities and initiates and guides the preparation of draft standards through and with the aid of appropriate organizations; finalizes the standards elaborated and publishes them in a Codex Alimentarius (food code) either as regional or worldwide standards, together with international standards already finalized by other bodies, wherever this is practicable; and amends published standards, as appropriate, in the light of new developments.

Issues to be discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the Agenda for the 41st Session of the CAC will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Report by the chairperson on the 74th and 75th Sessions of the Executive Committee
- Amendments to the Procedural Manual

- Final Adoption of Codex texts
- Adoption of Codex Texts at Step 5
- Revocation of Codex Texts
- Proposals for New Work
- Discontinuation of Work
- Amendments to Codex Standards and Related Texts
- Matters arising from the reports of the Commission,
the Executive Committee and Subsidiary Bodies
- Committees working by correspondence and pilot for a
Committee on Standards Advancement
- Regular Review of Codex Work Management: Report 2017-
2018
- Codex Budgetary and Financial Matters: Report 2016-
2017 and Progress 2018-2019
- Codex Budgetary and Financial Matters: Proposal 2020-
2021
- FAO/WHO Scientific Support to Codex: activities,
budgetary and financial matters
- Matters arising from FAO and WHO

- Report of the side event on FAO and WHO capacity development activities
- Report of the side event on the Codex Trust Fund (CTF2)
- Report of the discussion panels with International Government Organizations (IGOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).
- Election of the chairperson and vice chairpersons
- Designation of countries responsible for appointing the chairpersons of Codex subsidiary bodies
- Any other business

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Secretariat before the meeting. Members of the public may access or request copies of these documents (see ADDRESSES).

Public Meeting

At the May 31, 2018, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose

questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S. Delegate for the 41st Session of the CAC (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 41st Session of the CAC.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the FSIS Web page located at:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS also will make copies of this 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 our constituents and stakeholders. The Update is available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an e-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/subscribe>. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

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How to File a Complaint of Discrimination

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Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA
by mail, fax, or e-mail:

Mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Director, Office of Adjudication
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-9410

Fax: (202) 690-7442

E-mail: program.intake@usda.gov

Persons with disabilities who require alternative
means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape,
etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600
(voice and TDD).

Done at Washington, DC.

Mary Frances Lowe,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

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