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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### U.S. Codex Office

**Codex Alimentarius Commission:** Meeting of the Codex *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance

**AGENCY:** U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on November 21, 2019. 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 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, December 9-13, 2019. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the TFAMR and to address items on the agenda.

**DATES:** The public meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2019, from 1:00-4:00 EST.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will take place in Meeting Room 107-A of the Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the TFAMR will be accessible via the internet at the following address:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/en/>

Dr. Donald A. Prater, U.S. Delegate to the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the TFAMR, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address:  
[donald.prater@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:donald.prater@fda.hhs.gov)

Call-In-Number: If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the TFAMR by conference call, please use the call-in-number: 888-844-9904 and participant code 5126092.

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by emailing uscodex@usda.gov by November 18, 2019. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will take place in a Federal building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through the security screening systems. Attendees who are not able to attend the meeting in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone, as discussed above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** About the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the TFAMR, contact U.S. Delegate, Dr. Donald Prater, Assistant Commissioner for Food Safety Integration, Office of Food and Veterinary Medicine, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993; phone: +1 (301) 348-3007, email: donald.prater@fda.hhs.gov.

For Further Information about the public meeting Contact: U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4861, South Agriculture Building, Washington, DC 20250. Phone 202 720 7760, Fax: (202) 720-3157, Email: [uscodex@usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@usda.gov)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. 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 and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The Terms of Reference of the Codex *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR) are:

- a) To review and revise as appropriate the Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/RCP 61-20005) to address the entire food chain, in line with the mandate of Codex;
- b) To consider the development of Guidance on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance, taking into account the guidance developed by the WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR) and relevant World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) documents.

The TFAMR is hosted by the Republic of Korea. The United States attends the TFAMR as a member country of Codex.

### **Issues to be Discussed at the Public Meeting**

The following items on the Agenda for the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the TFAMR will be discussed during the public meeting:

- wMatters referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other subsidiary bodies
- aMatters arising from FAO, WHO, and OIE
- aProposed draft revision of the *Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance* (CSX 61-2005)
- CProposed draft Guidelines on the Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance

Public Meeting

At the November 21, 2019 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 Dr. Donald Prater, U.S. Delegate for the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the TFAMR (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 7th Session of the TFAMR.

#### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this Federal Register publication on-line through the USDA web page located at: <https://www.usda.gov/codex>, a link that also offers an email subscription service providing access to information related to Codex. Customers can add or delete their subscription themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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

Fax: (202) 690-7442, Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto: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, on August 22, 2019.

Mary Lowe,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius

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