TO: Codex Contact Points  
Contact Points of international organizations having observer status with Codex

FROM: Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission,  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

SUBJECT: Request for comments on the Proposed draft maximum levels for cadmium in chocolates and cocoa-derived products

DEADLINE: 30 June 2020

BACKGROUND
1. For background information, please refer to document CX/CF 20/14/6.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS
2. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments on the proposed draft MLs for cadmium in chocolates and cocoa-derived products which is uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/, as per the guidance below.

3. In submitting comments, Codex members and observers are invited to take into account the conclusions presented in paragraphs 4-9 of CX/CF 20/14/6, the data analysis presented in Appendix II of the said working document and the background information presented in CL 2019/81-CF.

4. In addition, when considering the proposed MLs, the following should also be considered: the proportionality approach when setting MLs for the different categories, the MLs previously adopted at CAC41 (2018) and the discussion held on the proposed ML for chocolates containing or declaring <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis at CCCC13 and CAC42 in 2019 (for consideration under Agenda Item 5).

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS
5. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.

6. Contact Points of Codex members and observers may login to the OCS and access the document open for comments by selecting “Enter” in the “My reviews” page, available after login to the system.

7. Contact Points of Codex members and observers organizations are requested to provide proposed changes and relevant comments/justifications on a specific paragraph (under the categories: editorial, substantive, technical and translation) and/or at the document level (general comments or summary comments). Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

8. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can be found at the following link: http://www.fao.org/who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/.

9. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.