CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS (CCCF)
FOURTEENTH SESSION

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

INTRODUCTION
From 20 – 24 April 2020 approximately 230 experts and policy makers from around the world will gather in Utrecht for the 14th meeting of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods.

This information note provides practical information to conference participants.

VENUE AND DATES
The Government of the Netherlands is hosting this meeting, which will be held at Jaarbeurs Media Plaza from 20 – 24 April 2020. This venue is next to the main Utrecht railway station (Central Station). Also see attached map, ‘9’ is the venue of the CCCF.

Address of the venue:
Jaarbeurs Media Plaza - Polar Center
Croeselaan 6, 3521 CA Utrecht - The Netherlands

The official opening ceremony will take place on Monday 20 April at 09:00 hours.

REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES
Participants are invited to pre-register before 12 March 2020 using the Online Registration System (ORS). Pre-registration should be done through your Codex Contact Point who can access this system at: www.codexalimentarius.org/login.

Registration of participants will take place at the Jaarbeurs Media Plaza/Polar Center on:
Sunday 19 April 2020: from 16:00–19:00
Monday 20 April 2020: from 07:30 –16:00

Name badges will be distributed at the registration desk. Delegates are requested to wear name badges visibly in order to gain admittance to the meeting rooms.

FORMALITIES FOR ENTRY INTO THE NETHERLANDS
Participants are advised to contact the nearest Embassy or Consulate of the Government of The Netherlands as soon as possible in order to allow sufficient time for the processing of visa applications. A visa can be applied for starting three months prior to arrival in The Netherlands. It is not possible to obtain a visa at the airports on arrival.
To facilitate the issuance of a visa, a personal invitation letter from the Government of The Netherlands can be sent after pre-registration. For a personal invitation to support visa applications, please send an email to info@codexalimentarius.nl

Information on visa procedures including a list of relevant Netherlands Embassies and consulates is available by using the following link: Visa for the Netherlands.

In case of problems with the visa applications, please send an email to: info@codexalimentarius.nl

ACCESS TO THE NETHERLANDS / ARRIVAL DETAILS
The international airport in the Netherlands is Amsterdam Schiphol Airport.
There is a direct train connection from Schiphol Airport to Utrecht Centraal (Utrecht Central Station). Trains leave very regularly, a single trip takes about 30 minutes and costs around 9 euro.
A train ticket can be purchased at the desk of the Dutch Railway Company (Nederlandse Spoorwegen – NS) or at an NS ticket machine with a blue sign and white NS logo on top.
Make sure to buy a ticket in the railway station of the airport because it is not possible to buy one on the train.
Within Utrecht there is an extensive system of public transport. For more information you can contact the information desk at the railway station in Utrecht or at https://u-ov.info/plan-mijn-reis/visit-utrecht-area/.
Taxis are also available at the railway station.

WIFI
WIFI will be available at the meeting venue so working documents and other information can also be downloaded during the meeting.

OTHER EVENTS
Monday 20 April: Reception for all delegates at the Museumspeelklok - Utrecht
Wednesday 22 April: Reception for Heads of Delegation at Oudaen - Utrecht

INTERPRETATION
Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish during the meeting.

DOCUMENTATION
Delegates are requested to bring their own documents to the meeting; these are available in English, French and Spanish on www.codexalimentarius.org. Conference

LUNCH FACILITIES
There are many facilities for lunch nearby. In the building of Jaarbeurs Media Plaza building you can find a food court with many options for lunch. Also, Utrecht Central train station is at walking distance from Jaarbeurs Media Plaza and offers many different options for lunch. You will also find a small supermarket at the train station (AH To Go).

BANKING FACILITIES
There are cash dispenser machines next to the food court in Jaarbeurs Media Plaza. They are in operation 24/7 and accept most cards (but not in supermarkets).

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
The official language of the Netherlands is Dutch. English is widely spoken.
HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR DELEGATES

Delegates are reminded that they are responsible for making their own hotel accommodation arrangements. It is highly recommended that you make a hotel reservation as soon as possible as April is a very busy month in Utrecht.

Below you will find a few hotels in the vicinity of the meeting venue. As prices change regularly, we advise you to book as soon as possible. You can find the best offer through the following link www.trivago.com or contact the hotel directly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Distance from Venue</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NH Utrecht ****</td>
<td>Jaarbeursplein 24 3521AR Utrecht</td>
<td>+31 30 297 7977</td>
<td><a href="https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-utrecht?_ga=2.98368541.305866181.1505116167-365711777.1505116167">https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-utrecht?_ga=2.98368541.305866181.1505116167-365711777.1505116167</a></td>
<td>3 minute walk from meeting venue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Plaza Utrecht ****</td>
<td>Westplein 50 3531 BL Utrecht</td>
<td>+31 (0) 30 292 5200</td>
<td><a href="https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/booking/room-display?hotelCode=NETUTE%25&amp;checkInDate=2020-04-20&amp;checkOutDate=2020-04-23&amp;adults%5B%5D=1&amp;children%5B%5D=0&amp;searchType=pac&amp;promotionCode=MINI20">https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/booking/room-display?hotelCode=NETUTE%&amp;checkInDate=2020-04-20&amp;checkOutDate=2020-04-23&amp;adults%5B%5D=1&amp;children%5B%5D=0&amp;searchType=pac&amp;promotionCode=MINI20</a></td>
<td>5 minute walk from meeting venue</td>
<td>Please use code MINI20 to guarantee your booking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apollo Hotel ****</td>
<td>Vredenburg 14 3511 BA Utrecht</td>
<td>+31 30 233 1232</td>
<td><a href="https://www.apollohotels.co.uk/">https://www.apollohotels.co.uk/</a></td>
<td>10 minutes by bus from Central Station</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INNTEL Hotel ****</td>
<td>Smakkelaarshoek 24 3511 EC Utrecht</td>
<td>+31 30 2020990</td>
<td><a href="https://www.inntelhotelsutrechtcentre.nl.html">https://www.inntelhotelsutrechtcentre.nl.html</a></td>
<td>Located at Utrecht Central Station and 5 minutes walk to meeting venue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TIME ZONE
The time in the Netherlands is GMT + 01:00 hour.

CLIMATE
The Netherlands has a moderate coastal climate with cool summers and mild winters. The average temperature (day time) in April is 10 degrees Celsius. As rain is not uncommon at any time of the year, we advise participants to bring a raincoat or an umbrella.

ELECTRICITY
230 Volts, 50 Hertz
CURRENCY
Only the Euro will be accepted in the Netherlands. Major credit cards are accepted in most of the hotels and stores.

THE NETHERLANDS/UTRECHT
The Netherlands is best known for tulips, windmills and clogs. Kinderdijk’s 19 windmills are on the World Heritage List. Dutch flowers are well known all over the world. The scenery ranges from flat polder land in the west and north to forest and heathery land in the middle, south and east.
Over the centuries, the Dutch had to protect themselves against water by building dikes and reclaiming land from the sea, thus creating famous lowland polders and impressive water defences.

Utrecht is the capital and most populous city in the Dutch province of the same name, Utrecht. It is located in the eastern corner of the Randstad conurbation and is the fourth largest city in the Netherlands with a population of 330,772 in 2017.

Utrecht’s ancient city centre features many buildings and structures, several dating as far back to the Middle Ages. It has been the religious centre of the Netherlands since the 8th century. Utrecht was the most important city in the Netherlands until the 17th century, the Dutch Golden Age, when it was surpassed by Amsterdam as the country’s cultural centre and most populous city.

Utrecht is host to Utrecht University, the largest university in the Netherlands, as well as several other institutions of higher education. Due to its central position within the country, it is an important transport hub for both rail and road transport. It has the second highest number of cultural events in the Netherlands, after Amsterdam. In 2012, Lonely Planet included Utrecht in the top 10 of the world’s unsung places.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT
The Netherlands have an extensive public transport network, which makes it easy to travel around the country. Tickets for Public transport are available at the ticket machines at the stations.

- Traveling by train:
  Intercity trains runs between the larger cities and Sprinters (slower) trains connect smaller stations. It’s easy to explore Holland by train.
- Travelling by Tram, Metro and Bus:
  To plan your door-to-door trip within the city use the public transport journey planner, just indicate departure point and destination.

Journey planner: [http://openbaar-vervoer.linklib.nl](http://openbaar-vervoer.linklib.nl)
Go to: 9292ov.nl – click on NL in the right hand and corner to go to EN, for English

Bike rentals:
Renting a bike costs on average from 6,50 to 15 euro a day, depending on the type of bike. You will find numerous bike rentals.

INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS
Questions regarding logistics could be directed to the Codex Contact Point by mail: info@codexalimentarius.nl.
Floorplan, Jaarbeurs Media Plaza is nr. 9