CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION





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CX 4/20.2 CL 2012/12 - FH June 2012

TO: Codex Contact Points

Interested International Organizations

FROM: Secretary, Codex Alimentarius Commission

FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK AND/OR REVISION OF

EXISTING STANDARDS

DEADLINE: 7 September 2012

COMMENTS: To:

1. Ms Jenny Scott Senior Adviser

Office of Food Safety

US Food and Drug Administration

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

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2. Ms Barbara McNiff

Senior International Issues Analyst Food Safety and Inspection Service, US Department of Agriculture,

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Copy to:

The Secretariat

Codex Alimentarius Commission

FAO

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Background

- 1. When considering the Report of the Working Group for Establishment of CCFH Work Priorities, the 43rd Session of the Committee agreed to re-establish the Working Group for Establishment of CCFH Work Priorities under the chairmanship of the United States of America. The Working Group will consider proposals for new work to be submitted in reply to this Circular Letter. The Working Group will meet the day before the 44th Session of the Committee (11 November 2012) (REP 12/FH, paras 133 146).
- 2. The Committee was reminded that proposals for new work that were not accepted or that were given a low priority in previous meetings should be re-submitted in response to the Circular Letter requesting comments on new work and /or revision of existing standards for consideration by the Working Group on CCFH Work Priorities (REP 12/FH, para. 146).



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3. The Committee also agreed to the recommendations of the working group for the development of two discussion papers: (1) low-moisture foods (to be developed by the United States of America) and (2) new work and periodic review and revision of codes of hygienic practice for consideration at the next session (to be developed by Australia) (REP12/FH, paras 143 – 144).

4. Member Governments are invited to propose new work for consideration by the above Working Group, taking also into account work previously assigned lower priority in the Committee (*see* Annex I) and the possible revision and/or revocation of existing codes of practice. In making submissions, Member Governments should keep in mind the discussion papers that are being developed for consideration by the Working Group. Proposals should be made in accordance with the *Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities* (*see* Codex Procedural Manual) and in accordance with the process described in Appendix VI of REP12/FH, to the addresses indicated above by **7 September 2012**.

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 $\label{eq:ANNEXI} \textbf{ANNEX I}$ Work previously considered and assigned lower priority in previous sessions of CCFH

| Possible new work | Reference |
|--|---|
| Annex on tomatoes in the Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables | 42 nd Session – REP 11/FH (para. 139) (agreed to first focus on melons) |
| | 43 rd Session – REP12/FH (para. 139) (agreed to new work on berries) |
| Code of Hygienic Practice for the Production and Processing of Cocoa (Cacao) and Chocolate | 41st Session – ALINORM 10/33/13, para. 128 (agreed to consider again in future) |