

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2024/26-CF
February 2024

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 recommendations for the development of a code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in foods

DEADLINE: 25 March 2024

BACKGROUND

1. For background information, please refer to document CX/CF 24/17/16¹.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments on the recommendations as described in CX/CF 24/17/16, Appendix I, paragraphs 7-10, which are described below for convenience:
 - 2.1 to consider if there is sufficient information available on cadmium sources and mitigation measures, based on the information provided in Appendices I and III, to recommend development of a Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Cadmium Contamination in Foods.
 - 2.2 If agreeable to develop the CoP, to consider the need for development of annexes to a CoP that could contain commodity-specific recommendations, similar to the *Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in Cereals* (CXC 51-2003).
 - 2.3 If use of annexes is supported:
 - 2.3.1 to advise on whether the recently completed *Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Cadmium Contamination in Cocoa Beans* should be maintained as a separate document or adapted as an annex.
 - 2.3.2 to indicate if there is any adjustment that would be needed to the approach outlined in Appendix III, in order to support the use of commodity-specific annexes.
 - 2.4 Based on these recommendations, proceed to:
 - 2.4.1 review the project document accordingly as presented in CX/CF 24/17/16, Appendix II; and
 - 2.4.2 advise on the opportunity to issue a circular letter (CL), following CCCF17, to further develop the CoP by an electronic working group, to be established by CCCF17 if there is agreement to develop the CoP, for consideration by CCCF18 (2025).
3. Codex members and observers are encouraged to submit comments in reply to this CL² in order to aid discussion and decision making at CCCF17.

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

4. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
5. 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.
6. 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)³.
7. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can also be found on the Codex website⁴.
8. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.

¹ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=17>

² <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>

<https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/related-circular-letters/en/?committee=CCCF>

³ http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/codexalimentarius/doc/OCS/Codex_OCS_FAQs_2017-11-06.pdf

⁴ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/ocs/en/>