

CODEX COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS (CCSCH)

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTRONIC WORKING GROUP (eWG) TO DEVELOP THE GROUP STANDARD FOR DRIED FLORAL PARTS – SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFFRON

To all Codex Members and Observers:

The third Session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH3), held in Chennai India (February, 2017) agreed to establish an electronic working group (EWG) chaired by Iran and co-hosted by India, working in English, to elaborate the specific requirements for Saffron based on the concept of group standards i.e. category of “**Dried Floral Parts**” (REP17/SCH, para 82 a & b). In undertaking this work, this EWG (Saffron) will closely collaborate with the EWG on “Cloves” to develop the overall group standard for “Dried Floral Parts”.

Iran and India kindly invite all interested Codex members and observers to assist in this task, to please submit the name, affiliation, contact details and e-mail address of the contact person designated to participate in this working group by **July 31, 2017**, to: sadat77@gmail.com (Chair of the eWG), qc@novinsaffron.com, ccsch.bisht@gmail.com (Co-Chair of eWG)

Codex members and observers wishing to participate in this eWG should send their nominations as indicated above. Applications should be sent through or with a copy to the Codex Contact Point of the member country or recognized observer organization.

As part of a pilot program the eWG will be run over an online bulletin board. With this system we hope to achieve a better flow of information, greater security and increased transparency.

The bulletin board will require you to login. You will be provided with the link once participant credentials have been verified.

Below is the proposed working schedule:

Action	Deadline
Kick-off messages by host countries	9 July 2017
Deadline for registration of working Group participants	31 July 2017
Lead Countries start work via online platform	15 August 2017
Finalization of drafting of the proposed draft Standard by EWG	August 2017- April 2018
Submission of the EWG Report	May 2018

Sincerely yours,

Chair

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