

CODEX COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS (CCSCH)

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTRONIC WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP A GROUP STANDARD FOR “DRIED FRUITS AND BERRIES” BASED ON THE FOLLOWING COMMODITIES (i.e. DRIED CHILI PEPPERS AND PAPRIKA)

To: All Codex members and observers

The Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs at its 3rd Session (CCSCH3 2017) agreed to recommend to CAC to approve the proposed strategy for developing horizontal group standards which would enable the Committee to increase its outputs as well as complete its work in a defined time. The Committee also agreed to establish an eWG led by India and Argentina working in English to develop Group Standard For “Dried Fruits and Berries” based on the following Commodities - Dried Chili Peppers and Paprika for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at its next Session.

India and Argentina kindly invite the Codex Members and observers interested in participating in this EWG to provide the name(s), official title and e-mail address of their representatives designated to participate in this working group by **June 30, 2017**, to: ccsch.subbraj@gmail.com (chair of the eWG); codex-india@nic.in and fdemarco@senasa.gob.ar (Co-chair) ; codex@magyp.gob.ar

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

The eWG will be run via the online platform. With this system we hope to achieve a better flow of information, greater security and increased transparency.

The online platform 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
Registration of Working Group Members	June 30, 2017
Circulation of first draft of the working document by the host countries	August 31, 2017
Deadline for comments on the first draft	October 31, 2017
Circulation of second draft of the working document by the host countries	December 31, 2017
Deadline for comments on the second draft	March 15, 2018
Submission of the EWG Report by host countries to the Codex Secretariat	May 30, 2018

Yours sincerely,

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