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: i) draft and proposed draft food-additive provisions of the GSFA and revisions to adopted provisions; ii) revision to the descriptors to FCs 12.2.1 and 12.2.2; iii) inclusion of mono- and diglycerides of fatty acids (INS 471) in FC 02.1.2; iv) inclusion of the three provisions (i.e., polyglycerol esters of fatty acids (INS 475), sorbitan esters of fatty acids (INS 491-495) and stearyl lactylates (INS 481(i), 482(i)) in FC 02.1.2); v) revision to Notes 488 and 502; vi) deletion of Note 301 from the provision for BENZOATES in FC 14.1.4; vii) inclusion of riboflavin from Ashbya gossypii (INS 101(iv)) in the group header RIBOFLAVINS in Tables 1 and 2 of the GSFA; viii) inclusion of the provisions for riboflavin, synthetic (INS 101(i)), riboflavin 5'-phosphate sodium (INS 101(ii)), riboflavin from Bacillus subtilis (INS 101(iii)), riboflavin from Ashbya gossypii (INS 101(iv)) and spirulina extract (INS 134) in Table 3; iv) revised food additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the alignment of seven standards for CCMP, three standards for CCPFV, six standards for CCNFSDU, one standard for CCAFRICA, one standard for CCEURO and one set of guidelines for CCNFSDU; x) revisions to the adopted provisions for sweeteners in different FCs; xi) inclusion of the provision for trisodium citrate (INS 331(iii)) in FC 01.1.1; and xii) Inclusion of the provisions for food additives in FC 14.2.3

DEADLINE: 31 August 2023

BACKGROUND
1. See REP23/FA, paras. 117i, 97, 27, 11, 13i, 13ii, 29i, 29ii, 29iii, 29v, 67, 108i, 171, 190i and App. VI

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS
2. Codex Members and Observers are invited to submit comments on the draft and proposed draft provisions of the GSFA and other provisions, which are uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/, as per the guidance below.

3. Comments should address whether the text is ready for adoption or not; and if not, provide the rationale and proposals to facilitate adoption. Comments should be provided in conformity with the Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (Part 3 – Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts, Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

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 general comments at the document level. Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

7. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can be found at the following link: http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/.

8. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.