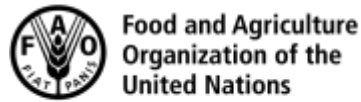


CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

E

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

CL 2025/66-CF
September 2025

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 information on general and commodity-specific mitigation measures for cadmium in foods to support further development of the Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in foods**

DEADLINE: **30 November 2025**

BACKGROUND

1. The 18th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF18, 2025) agreed to return the proposed Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in foods to step 2/3 for further development through the electronic working group (EWG) chaired by the United States of America (USA). The EWG will report to CCCF19.¹
2. To support this work, CCCF18 also agreed to request the Codex secretariat to issue a circular letter to gather information on general and commodity-specific mitigation measures, including for cereal and cereal products (e.g. wheat and its derivatives, maize), vegetables (including leafy vegetables), pulses and legumes, fruits, and shellfish.²
3. The data and information submitted in reply to this CL will be considered by the EWG (see para. 1 above).

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

4. Codex members and observers are invited to provide data and information on existing risk management/mitigation measures to prevent and reduce cadmium contamination in foods from agricultural/aquacultural production, food processing and production, and packaging and distribution. These measures should be proven to be feasible and effective for reducing cadmium in foods. These measures should be in addition to those covered by the proposed CoP that was presented to CCCF18 available [here](#).
5. The risk management/mitigation measures should be:
 - Applicable across regions; and
 - Effective at various scales of production (especially at medium, small, and micro-businesses).
6. Codex members and observers are invited to provide information and/or data on existing risk management/mitigation measures for foods in general as well as measures that are commodity-specific including for:
 - Cereal and cereal products (e.g. wheat and its derivatives, maize)
 - Vegetables (including leafy vegetables)
 - Pulses and legumes
 - Fruits
 - shellfish
7. References for the information and/or data supporting the proposed risk management/mitigation measures should be provided. Publications and supporting information and/or data can be sent to the Codex Secretariat at codex@fao.org with a copy to the EWG Chair Dr. Eileen Abt at eileen.abt@fda.hhs.gov and the Codex Contact

¹ REP25/CF18, para. 52 (i),(iii)

² REP25/CF18, para 52(iii)

Point of USA at uscodex@usda.gov. Word files are preferred to facilitate the EWG's analysis and incorporation into the CoP.

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS / DATA / INFORMATION

8. Information and/or data should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
9. 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.
10. Contact Points of Codex members and observers' organizations are requested to provide information and/or data as outlined in OCS. Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)³.
11. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can also be found on the Codex website⁴.
12. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.

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/>