

# codex alimentarius commission

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION

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**Agenda Item 16**

**CX/FAC 99/24**  
November 1998

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS

*Thirty-first Session*

*The Hague, The Netherlands, 22-26 March 1999*

### PROPOSALS FOR THE PRIORITY EVALUATION OF FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS BY THE JOINT FAO/WHO EXPERT COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

#### REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND INFORMATION

Governments and interested international organisations wishing to submit comments on the following subject matter related to additions or amendments to the Priority List of Food Additives and Contaminants Proposed for Evaluation by JECFA are invited to do so **no later than 15 January 1999** as follows: Ms. S.P.J. Hagenstein, Netherlands Codex Contact Point, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, P.O. Box 20401, 2500 EK The Hague, The Netherlands (Telefax: +31 70 378.6141; E-mail: s.p.j.hagenstein@mkg.agro.nl), with a copy to the Chief, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy.

#### BACKGROUND

1. The 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (CCFAC) agreed to request additional comments for additions or amendments to its Priority List for consideration at the 31<sup>st</sup> CCFAC (ALINORM 99/12, paras. 108-110 and Appendix XIII). Comments submitted in response to CL 1998/11-FAC and CX/FAC 99/24 will be reproduced under document CX/FAC 99/24-Add. 1.
2. Comments for additions or amendments to the Priority List of Food Additives and Contaminants Proposed for Evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) (ALINORM 99/12, Appendix XIII) are being requested as directed above, for subsequent recommendation to the JECFA for evaluation or re-evaluation.
3. There are two Annexes to this Circular Letter:
  - **Annex I** outlines the selection criteria established by the JECFA for the inclusion of additives and/or contaminants in the Codex Priority List; and
  - **Annex II** is the form on which information is to be provided. In completing Annex II, only brief information is required. The form may be retyped if more space is needed under any one heading provided that the general format is maintained.

**CRITERIA FOR THE INCLUSION OF ADDITIVES AND/OR  
CONTAMINANTS ON THE PRIORITY LIST**

In order to be placed on the JECFA priority list, the proposed additive or contaminant should meet the following criteria:

**FOR ADDITIVES:**

1. Use of the compound is in accordance with the general principles for the use of food additives (technological justification and need shall be indicated);
2. Commodities in which the compound will be used are in international trade and represent a significant portion of the diet;
3. Use of the compound will have the potential to cause public health and/or trade problems;
4. The compound is commercially available; and
5. Commitment that a (full) dossier will be available for evaluation by the JECFA.

**FOR CONTAMINANTS:**

1. Commodities containing the compound are in international trade and represent a significant portion of the diet;
2. The occurrence of the compound in commodities will have potential to cause public health and/or trade problems;
3. Commitment that a dossier (as complete as possible) will be available for evaluation by the JECFA.

**INFORMATION ON THE ADDITIVE/CONTAMINANT TO BE EVALUATED BY JECFA**

1. Proposal for inclusion submitted by:
2. Name of compound:
3. Trade name(s) (additives only):
4. Chemical names:
5. Names and addresses of basic producers (additives only):
6. Justification for use (additives only):
7. Use pattern (additives only):
8. Countries where compound is registered (additives only):
9. National maximum permitted levels:
10. Commodities for which the need for establishing Codex maximum levels is required:
11. List of data (toxicology, metabolism, residue) available:
12. Date on which data could be submitted to JECFA: