

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2020/53/OCS-CF

August 2020

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 approaches to determine the need for revision of Codex standards and related texts developed by the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods**

DEADLINE: **15 October 2020**

BACKGROUND

1. For information, please refer to document [CX/CF 20/14/16](#).
2. In view of the postponement of 14th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF14) from 2020 to 2021, Codex members and observers are kindly invited to consider the conclusions and recommendations in the discussion paper regarding approaches to identify the need for revision of standards and related texts developed by CCCF.
3. Comments in reply to this Circular Letter will assist the Electronic Working Group (EWG) established at CCCF13 (2019), chaired by Canada and co-chaired by Japan and the United States of America, to further develop the aforementioned discussion paper, as necessary, in view of the additional time available following the postponement of CCCF14

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

4. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments / views on:
 - a. the 3 options proposed by the EWG and in particular to pay attention to option 2 as recommended in paragraph 48 and its implementation on a trial basis:
 - i. The period for such implementation as recommended in paragraph 48; and
 - ii. the approach for trial implementation of option 2 as recommended in paragraph 49; or
 - b. alternative approaches to those identified in point (a)
 - c. Other criteria that should be taken into consideration for the revision of standards and related texts for contaminants in food and feed than those described in paragraphs 31-41.
5. In submitting comments on the above, Codex members and observers are invited to consider the background information, analysis and conclusions provided in CX/CF 20/14/16. The document has been uploaded on the CCCF14 website:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/pt/?meeting=CCCF&session=14>

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

6. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>
7. 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.
8. Contact Points of Codex members and observers organizations are requested to provide proposed changes and relevant comments/justifications on a specific paragraph (under the categories: editorial, substantive, technical and translation) and/or at the document level (general comments or summary comments). Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).
9. 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/>.
10. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.