

# CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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

CL 2021/14/OCS-CF  
March 2021

**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 at Step 3 on the revision of the *Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of lead contamination in foods (CXC 56-2004)*

**DEADLINE:** 22 April 2021

## BACKGROUND

1. For background information, please refer to document [CX/CF 21/14/9](#).

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments on the revised Code of practice, as contained in Appendix I to CX/CF 21/14/9, which is uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>, as per the guidance below.
3. In providing comments on the revised CoP, Codex members and observers are invited to provide:
  - a. General comments on the overall content of the CoP,
  - b. Specific comments on any provisions that may require further development, taking into account the revisions made to the CoP as summarized in CX/CF 21/14/9, paragraphs 14 to 17 and the status of the CoP as summarized in CX/CF 21/14/9, paragraph 18.
  - c. Guidance on whether the CoP is ready for final adoption (Step 5/8 with omission of Step 6/7) by CAC44 (2021)
4. Codex members and observers are also invited to provide their views on whether the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCCF) should recommend the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) to request the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Food Additives (JECFA) to:
  - a. review the lead specifications for diatomaceous earth<sup>1</sup> and charcoal (activated carbon)<sup>2</sup> and
  - b. evaluate bentonite to determine if available data support development of a lead specification.

## GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

5. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
6. 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.
7. 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 \(FAQs\)](#).
8. 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/>.
9. For questions on the OCS, please contact [Codex-OCS@fao.org](mailto:Codex-OCS@fao.org).

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/jecfa\\_additives/docs/Monograph1/Additive-151.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/jecfa_additives/docs/Monograph1/Additive-151.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/jecfa\\_additives/docs/monograph10/additive-006-m10.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/jecfa_additives/docs/monograph10/additive-006-m10.pdf)