

# 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](mailto:codex@fao.org) - [www.codexalimentarius.org](http://www.codexalimentarius.org)

CL 2025/27-CF

April 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 comments on the recommendations for the revision of the *Code of practice to prevent and reduce pyrrolizidine alkaloid contamination in food and feed (CXC 74-2014)* and the development of Guidance on sampling and analysis performance characteristics for the collection of data for submission to the GEMS/Food database**

**DEADLINE:** 25 May 2025

## BACKGROUND

1. For background information, please refer to CX/CF 25/18/10, available on the CCCF18 webpage<sup>1</sup>.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to provide comments on recommendations as per paragraphs 28-29 of CX/CF 25/18/10, which are reproduced below for convenience:
3. CCCF is invited to consider if new work should be proposed on a revision of the *Code of practice to prevent and reduce pyrrolizidine alkaloid contamination in food and feed (CXC 74-2014)* and, in the affirmative, to consider the points below based on the data/information provided in Appendix I of CX/CF 25/18/10:
  - (i) Review the project document in Appendix II of CX/CF 25/18/10 and make any necessary adjustments to ensure it provides a robust rationale for the revision of the CoP in order to forward the proposal to the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC48, 2025) for approval as new work.
  - (ii) Review the outline for the proposed revised CoP as presented in Appendix III of CX/CF 25/18/10 and provide general comments to guide the EWG in further developing the CoP following approval of new work by CAC48, in particular as to whether:
    - (a) the proposed revisions are reasonable;
    - (b) improvements could be made, e.g., addition of new sections, further development of revised sections, etc.; and
    - (c) data/information to support such revisions is available for consideration by the EWG in further developing the CoP.
  - (iii) Review the Guidance on sampling and analysis performance characteristics for the collection of data for submission to the GEMS/Food database in Appendix V of CX/CF 25/18/10, in particular as to the following points to guide the EWG in further developing the guidance:
    - (a) Provide general comments on the overall structure and content of the guidance, as well as specific comments to improve existing provisions or the inclusion of additional provisions and/or sections for completeness.
    - (b) Confirm the scope of the guidance is to guide data collection for their submission to the GEMS/Food database to support possible future work by CCCF on PAs (e.g., establishment of maximum levels (MLs)).
  - (iv) Any other issues not covered by the above points that can be commented on.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/pt/?meeting=CCCF&session=18>

4. In providing comments on point 3(ii), note that risk management measures for inclusion in Codex codes of practice should be readily available, applicable worldwide, and proven to be effective across different production scales, including small- and medium-sized businesses.
5. Codex members and observers are encouraged to submit comments in reply to this CL<sup>2</sup> to facilitate the decision on new work to revise the Code of Practice, ensure that the project document provides a clear and sufficient rationale for the proposal, and provide general guidance that can assist the EWG in further developing the CoP.
6. The project document is uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS)<sup>3</sup>. Comments provided through the OCS should follow the guidance in paragraphs 7-11.

#### **GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS**

7. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
8. 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.
9. 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)<sup>4</sup>.
10. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can also be found on the Codex website<sup>5</sup>.
11. For questions on the OCS, please contact [Codex-OCS@fao.org](mailto:Codex-OCS@fao.org).

---

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>

<https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/related-circular-letters/en/?committee=CCCF>

<sup>3</sup> <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/codexalimentarius/doc/OCS/Codex\\_OCS\\_FAQs\\_2017-11-06.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/codexalimentarius/doc/OCS/Codex_OCS_FAQs_2017-11-06.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/ocs/en/>