

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2024/03-CF
March 2024

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 sampling plans for methylmercury in fish

DEADLINE: 31 March 2024

BACKGROUND

1. For background information, please refer to document CX/CF 24/17/6¹.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments on the proposed sampling plan for methylmercury in fish as presented in Appendix I to CX/CF 24/17/6.
3. In providing comments on the sampling plans, Codex member and observers are requested to advise on whether the sampling plan:
 - (i) can be recommended for final adoption at Step 5/8 based on the data/information provided in the discussion paper (Appendix III) and the examples provided in Appendix II,
or
 - (ii) should be further developed in order to continue considering aspects raised in paragraphs 32, 55 and 56 (Appendix III).
or
 - (iii) other approach(es) that could facilitate completion of work at CCCF17 such as to consider the usefulness of having a preliminary sampling plan that can facilitate implementation of maximum levels. The sampling plan could be further developed or completed in future when more data/information become available based on the points raised in paragraphs 32, 55 and 56 of CX/CF 24/17/6, Appendix III.
4. Codex members and observers are encouraged to submit comments in reply to this CL² in order to aid discussion and decision making at CCCF17.

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)³.
8. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can also be found on the Codex website⁴.
9. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.

¹ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=17>

² <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>

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/>