

## CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES (CCFA)

### Invitation to participate in the electronic Working Group (eWG) on the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) to the 56<sup>th</sup> CCFA

Dear Colleagues:

The 55<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) that was held from 24 to 28 March 2025, agreed to establish an eWG on the GSFA, led by the United States of America (USA), and working in English only, to consider (REP 25/FA para. 110):

- i. Matters referred from the Codex Secretariat related to the appropriate replacement notes for Notes XS130 and XS67 associated with provisions in FC 04.1.2.2 (See [CX/FA 25/55/2](#) paragraph 14 - 15);
- ii. Matters referred from the Codex Secretariat related to the provision for Jagua (genipin-glycine) blue (INS 183) in FCs 01.1.4 and 01.7 for comment for consideration to include Note XS243 (See [CX/FA 25/55/2](#) paragraph 16 - 18);
- iii. Matters referred from CCNFSDU44:
  - a. Consideration for revocation of provisions for guar gum (INS 412), distarch phosphate (INS 1412), phosphated distarch phosphate (INS 1413), acetylated distarch phosphate (INS 1414) and hydroxypropyl starch (INS 1440) in foods conforming to the *Standard for infant formula and formulas for special medical purposes intended for infants* (CXS 72-1981) in GSFA FCs 13.1.1 (Infant formulae) and 13.1.3 (Formulae for special medical purposes for infants) based on indication from CCNFSDU of a lack of technological need; and
  - b. Consideration of the removal of Note XS73 (Excluding products conforming to the *Standard for canned baby foods* (CXS 73-1981)) from provisions in FC 13.2 (Complementary foods for infants and young children) to allow for the use of additives as nutrient carriers in foods conforming to the *Standard for canned baby foods* (CXS 73-1981) based on their listing in the *Advisory lists of nutrient compounds for use in foods for special dietary uses intended for infants and young children* (CXG 10-1979) Part D;
- iv. Matters referred from JECFA related to high exposure to polyglycerol esters of fatty acids (INS 475) for comment on technological justification and reconsideration of actual use and use levels for all adopted provisions in the GSFA for INS 475;
- v. Replies from the CL to seek information on the actual use of erythrosine (INS127) in products conforming to the *Standard for canned raspberries* (CXS 60-1981) and the *Standard for canned strawberries* (CXS 62-1981);
- vi. The adopted provisions for indigotine (INS 132) in FC 04.1.2.8, and allura red (INS 129) and Indigotine (INS 132) in FC 04.1.2.11 for comment for consideration of lower use level;
- vii. The adopted provision for caramel III - ammonia caramel (INS 150c) in FC 04.2.2.2 for comment on technological justification and actual use level;
- viii. The draft provision for annatto extracts, bixin-based 160b(i) and the adopted provision for caramel III - ammonia caramel (INS 150c) in FC 04.2.2.8 for comment on technological justification and actual use level;
- ix. The draft provisions for caramel III – ammonia Caramel (INS 150c) and caramel IV – sulfite ammonia caramel (INS 150d) in FCs 08.1 and 08.3 and the adopted provisions for caramel III – ammonia caramel (INS 150c) and caramel IV – sulfite ammonia caramel (INS 150d) in the parent FC 08.0 to consider the use of the provisions in all appropriate subcategories based on technological justification and appropriate use level;

- x. All colour provisions in FC 08.4 (both adopted and in the step process) to establish a consistent reporting basis on the casing basis and consideration of the need for a note to allow conversion to a maximum level in the final food;
- xi. Draft and proposed draft provisions for colours in FCs 09.0 and their subcategories as well as adopted provisions for colours with Note 161 in FCs 09.0 and their subcategories;
- xii. Consideration of provisions entered at Step 2 of the GSFA contained in CRD2 Annex 5; and
- xiii. Discussion of the proposal to seek clarification on the explanatory note to Table 3 of the GSFA as noted in CRD2 Annex 5.

Therefore, the USA requests Codex Members and Observers interested in participating in this EWG to provide their contact information, including name(s), affiliation, and e-mail address to Dr. Daniel E. Folmer (ccfa@cfsan.fda.gov) by **13 June 2025**.

Proposed Working Schedule for the eWG:

- 27 June 2025: Circulation of background information and request for eWG member comments.
- 1 August 2025: Deadline for submission of comments.
- 22 August 2025: Circulation of first draft consensus recommendations to the eWG members.
- 26 September 2025: Deadline for submission of comments on first draft consensus recommendations.
- 31 October 2025: Circulation of second draft consensus recommendations to the EWG members. (Optional)
- 28 November 2025: Deadline for submission of comments on second draft consensus recommendations. (Optional)
- 16 January 2026: Submission of final report of the eWG to the Codex Secretariat.

Full and constructive participation by Codex Members will enable the eWG to have a robust discussion and will lead to constructive recommendations on this issue for consideration by the 56<sup>th</sup> CCFA. We look forward to working with Codex Members on this important project.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Folmer, Ph.D.  
U.S.A. Delegate to CCFA