This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service
[Docket No. FSIS–2016–0043]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs

AGENCY: Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), are sponsoring a public meeting on January 17, 2017. The objective of the meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 3rd Session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), taking place in Chennai, India, February 6–10, 2017. The Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety and AMS recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 3rd Session of the CCSCH and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17, 2017 from 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place at the USDA, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 107–A, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250.

Documents related to the 3rd Session of the CCSCH will be accessible via the Internet at the following address: http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en/.

Dorian LaFond, U.S. Delegate to the 3rd Session of the CCSCH, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: Dorian.Lafond@ams.usda.gov.

Call-In-Number

If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 3rd Session of the CCSCH by conference call, please use the call-in-number below:

Call-in Number: 1–888–844–9904

The participant code will be posted on the following Web page: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/us-codex-alimentarius/public-meetings

Registration

Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by emailing Marie.Maratos@fsis.usda.gov by January 12, 2017. Early registration is encouraged as it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will take place in a Federal building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through security screening systems. Attendees that are not able to attend the meeting in person, but who wish to participate may do so by phone.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE 3RD SESSION OF CCSCH CONTACT: Dorian LaFond, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruits and Vegetables Division, Mail Stop 0235, Room 2066, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: (202) 600–4944, Fax: (202) 720–0016, email: dorian.lafond@usda.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, the Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure that fair practices are used in trade.

The CCSCH is responsible for elaborating worldwide standards for spices and culinary herbs in their dried and dehydrated state in whole, ground, and cracked or crushed form. The CCSCH consults as necessary with other international organizations in the standards development process to avoid duplication.

The CCSCH is hosted by India.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the Agenda for the 3rd Session of the CCSCH will be discussed during the public meeting:

• Matters Referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its Subsidiary bodies;
• Activities of International Organizations relevant to the Work of CCSCH;
• Draft Standard for Cumin;
• Draft Standard for Thyme;
• Proposed draft Standard for Black, White and Green Pepper;
• Proposed draft Standard for Oregano;
• Sampling plans for cumin and thyme;
• Further work on grouping of spices and culinary herbs;
• Discussion paper on glossary of terms for spices and culinary herbs;
• Discussion paper on further processing (in the context of spices and culinary herbs);
• Proposal for new work (replies to CL 2015/27–SCH); and
• Other business.

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Secretariat before the Meeting. Members of the public may access or request copies of these documents (see ADDRESSES).

Public Meeting

At the January 17, 2017, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed. Attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S. Delegates for the 3rd Session of the CCSCH, (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to the activities of the 3rd Session of the CCSCH.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is
important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this Federal Register publication on-line through the FSIS Web page located at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register.

FSIS also will make copies of this publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, Federal Register notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The Update is available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

No agency, officer, or employee of the USDA shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/paternal status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs, exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person in the United States under any program or activity conducted by the USDA.

How To File a Complaint of Discrimination

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at http://www.oio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email:


Fax: (202) 690–7442.

Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington, DC, on December 8, 2016.

Paulo Almeida,
Acting U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

BILLING CODE 3410–0M–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the Virginia Advisory Committee To Discuss Potential Projects of Study Including a Proposal on Hate Crimes

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that a planning meeting of the Virginia State Advisory Committee to the Commission (MD State Advisory Committee) will convene by conference call at 12:00 p.m. (EDT) on Thursday, January 5, 2017. The purpose of each planning meeting is to discuss project planning and eventually select topic(s) for the Committee’s civil rights review. At its last meeting, the Committee decided to have a proposal on hate crimes presented and considered among other potential topics.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, January 5, 2017, at 12:00 p.m. EST.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ivy L. Davis, at ero@usccr.gov or by phone at 202–376–7533

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested members of the public may listen to the discussion by calling the following toll-free conference call-in number: 1–888–601–3861 and conference call ID: 417838. Please be advised that before being placed into the conference call, you will be prompted to provide your name, organizational affiliation (if any), and email address (so that callers may be notified of future meetings). Callers can expect to incur charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, and the Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over landline connections to the toll-free conference call-in number.

Persons with hearing impairments may also follow the discussion by first notifying of future meetings. Callers can expect to incur charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, and the Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over landline connections to the toll-free conference call-in number. 1–888–601–3861 and conference call ID: 417838.

Members of the public are invited to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office approximately 30 days after each scheduled meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the Eastern Regional Office, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 1150, Washington, DC 20425, faxed to (202) 376–7548, or emailed to Evelyn Bohor at ero@usccr.gov. Persons who desire additional information may contact the Eastern Regional Office at (202) 376–7533.

Records and documents discussed during the meeting will be available for public viewing as they become available at http://facadatabase.gov/committee/meetings.aspx?cid=279; click the “Meeting Details” and “Documents” links. Records generated from this meeting may also be inspected and reproduced at the Eastern Regional Office, as they become available, both before and after the meetings. Persons interested in the work of this advisory committee are advised to go to the Commission’s Web site, www.usccr.gov, or to contact the Eastern Regional Office at the above phone numbers, email or street address.

Agenda:

I. Welcome and Introductions
—Rollcall
II. Planning Meeting
—Discuss Project Planning, including hate crime proposal
III. Other Business
IV. Adjournment

Dated: December 8, 2016.

David Mussatt,
Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Confidentiality Pledge Revision Notice

AGENCY: U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of revision of the confidentiality pledge under Title 13 United States Code, Section 9.

SUMMARY: Under 44 U.S.C. 3506(e) and 13 U.S.C. Section 9, the U.S. Census Bureau is announcing revisions to the confidentiality pledge it provides to its respondents under Title 13, United States Code, Section 9. These revisions are required by the passage and