

Notices

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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

U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on September 10, 2026. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 28th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS28) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC). CCFICS28 will be held in Perth, Australia, from October 12–17, 2026. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 28th Session of the CCFICS and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2026, from 2:00–4:00 p.m. ET.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place via video teleconference only. Documents related to the 28th Session of the CCFICS will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFICS&session=28>.

Dr. Maria Esteras, U.S. Delegate to the 28th Session of the CCFICS invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: uscodex@usda.gov. Comments should state that

they relate to the activities of the 28th Session of the CCFICS.

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/5zjMfDMpRM2QIpTQZoPQXg>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For further information about the 28th Session of the CCFICS, contact the U.S. Delegate, Dr. Maria Esteras, at uscodex@usda.gov. For additional information regarding the public meeting, contact the U.S. Codex Office by email at: uscodex@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established in 1963. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) are:

(a) to develop principles and guidelines for food import and export inspection and certification systems with a view to harmonising methods and procedures which protect the health of consumers, ensure fair trading practices and facilitate international trade in foodstuffs;

(b) to develop principles and guidelines for the application of measures by the competent authorities of exporting and importing countries to provide assurance where necessary that foodstuffs comply with requirements, especially statutory health requirements;

(c) to develop guidelines for the utilisation, as and when appropriate, of quality assurance systems to ensure that foodstuffs conform with requirements and to promote the recognition of these systems in facilitating trade in food products under bilateral/multilateral arrangements by countries;

(d) to develop guidelines and criteria with respect to format, declarations and language of such official certificates as countries may require with a view towards international harmonization;

(e) to make recommendations for information exchange in relation to food import/export control;

(f) to consult as necessary with other international groups working on matters related to food inspection and certification systems; and,

(g) to consider other matters assigned to it by the Commission in relation to food inspection and certification systems. Quality assurance means all those planned and systematic actions necessary to provide adequate confidence that a product or service will satisfy given requirements for quality (ISO-8402 Quality—Vocabulary)

The CCFICS is hosted by Australia. The United States attends the CCFICS as a member country of Codex.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items from the agenda for the 28th Session of the CCFICS will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Adoption of the Agenda
- Matters arising from the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies
- Information on activities of international organizations relevant to the work of CCFICS
- Draft guidelines on the prevention and control of food fraud
- Draft Consolidated Codex guidelines related to equivalence
- Draft revised *Principles for traceability/product tracing as a tool within a food inspection and certification system* (CXG 60–2006)
- Draft guidance on appeals mechanism in the context of rejection of imported food
- Draft guidance on the standardization of sanitary requirements
- Draft guidance on establishment listings
- Draft principles on digitalisation of national food control systems
- Review and update of Appendix A—List of emerging global issues
- Other Business

Public Meeting

At the September 10, 2026, public meeting, agenda items and draft U.S. positions will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to U.S. Delegate, Dr. Maria Esteras, at

uscodex@usda.gov. Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 28th Session of the CCFICS.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the USDA Codex web page located at: <https://www.usda.gov/codex>.

(Authority: 19 U.S.C. 2578; Pres. Proc. 6780; 7 CFR part 2.602.)

Done at Washington, DC, on August 18, 2026.

Julie A. Chao,

Deputy U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on September 29, 2026. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items to be discussed at the 19th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF19) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC). CCCF19 will be held in Cairo, Egypt, from October 19–23, 2026. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 19th Session of the CCCF and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for September 29, 2026, from 1:00–3:00 p.m. ET.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place via video teleconference only. Documents related to the 19th Session of the CCCF will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=19>.

Dr. Lauren Posnick Robin, U.S. Delegate to the 19th Session of the CCCF, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email addresses: [\[anh.nguyen@fda.hhs.gov\]\(mailto:anh.nguyen@fda.hhs.gov\), copying \[uscodex@usda.gov\]\(mailto:uscodex@usda.gov\). Comments should state that they relate to the activities of the 19th Session of the CCCF.](mailto:quynh-</p>
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Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/400bhBADTZyZWZ3uVPA2uw>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For further information about the 19th Session of the CCCF, contact U.S. Delegate, Dr. Lauren Posnick Robin, at lauren.rosin@fda.hhs.gov. For additional information regarding the public meeting, contact the U.S. Codex Office by email at uscodex@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established in 1963. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) are:

- (a) to establish or endorse permitted maximum levels, and where necessary revise existing guidelines levels, for contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed;
- (b) to prepare priority lists of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants for risk assessment by the Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives;
- (c) to consider methods of analysis and sampling for the determination of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed;
- (d) to consider and elaborate standards or codes of practice for related subjects; and
- (e) to consider other matters assigned to it by the Commission in relation to contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed.

The CCCF is hosted by the Netherlands. The Netherlands is co-hosting the 19th Session of the CCCF with Egypt. The United States attends the CCCF as a member country of Codex.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items from the agenda for the 19th Session of the CCCF will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Adoption of the Agenda

- Matters referred to the Committee by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and/or its subsidiary bodies
- Matters of interest arising from international organizations including the Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives
- Matters of interest arising from other international organizations
- Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in foods (at Step 4)
- Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of tropane alkaloids contamination in food and feed (at Step 4)
- Code of practice for the reduction of aflatoxin B1 in raw materials and supplemental feeding stuffs for milk-producing animals (CXC 45–1997) (revision) (at Step 4)
- Code of practice for weed control to prevent and reduce pyrrolizidine alkaloid contamination in food and feed (CXC 74–2014) (revision) (at Step 4)
- Review of the ML for methylmercury in tuna and the associated sampling plan
- Proposal for a JECFA call for data on total aflatoxins in cereals and cereal-based foods
- Review of the Code of practice for the reduction of acrylamide in foods (CXC 67–2009)
- Development of a Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of ochratoxin A contamination in dried fruits
- Consideration of T–2, HT–2, DAS, and ergot alkaloids
- Development of guidelines on the safe use of recycled plastics in food packaging
- Application of maximum levels to spice mixtures
- Identification of methods of analysis or numeric performance criteria for maximum levels in the General Standard for contaminants and toxins in food and feed (CXS 193–1995) for which there are not methods in the Recommended methods of analysis and sampling (CXS 234–1999)
- Guidance on data analysis for the development of maximum levels and for improved data collection—Annexes
- Review of Codex standards for contaminants
- Priority list of contaminants for evaluation by JECFA
- Follow-up work on the outcomes of JECFA evaluations and expert consultations
- Other business

Public Meeting

At the September 29, 2026, public meeting, agenda items will be described