EWG Invitation

This message is sent on behalf of Nigeria.

Title Establishment of maximum level(s) for hydrocyanic acid (HCN) in cassava (raw and processed in

particular fermented cooked cassava-based products) and mycotoxin contamination in these

products

Committee Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods

Session 11th

Chair of EWG Nigeria

Co-Chairs

Working Languages

English

Description of work

CCCF11 agreed to establish an Electronic Working Group (EWG) to prepare a discussion paper to (1) advise on the need and feasibility to establish MLs for HCN in cassava (raw and processed, in particular fermented cooked cassava-based products) and address the issue of harmonizing the expression of HCN levels, i.e. free or total HCN, and (2) consolidate information on mycotoxin occurrence in these products, and other relevant information, to allow CCCF to determine if mycotoxin contamination in these products would be a health concern.

In order to cope with the above task, the EWG will consider (a) occurrence data on HCN in cassava and cassava products (in particular fermented cooked-cassava-based products); (b) influence of processing such as cooking and fermentation on the level of HCN in the final product; (c) different types of consumption patterns worldwide; (d) harmonization of the expression of HCN levels (free or total) in fermented cassava products; and (e) occurrence data on mycotoxin contamination in these products.

It would be useful if information provided on (i) and (b) follows the implementation of the *Code of practice for the reduction of hydrocyanic acid in cassava and cassava products* (CAC/RCP 73-2013) (REP17/CF, paras. 11, 13, 14, 15).

A call for data has been issued by the JECFA Secretariat to assist the EWG in its endeavors. The call is available online on the FAO and WHO websites as follows: http://www.who.int/foodsafety/en/ or http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/. Concerned parties are kindly invited to submit information to GEMS/Food as indicated in the call.

All relevant documentation related to the work of CCCF e.g. reports, standards and related texts (e.g. codes of practice), working documents of previous sessions, etc. are available on the CCCF webpage as follows:

http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee-detail/en/?committee=CCCF

Timetable for work

The following timetable should be respected:

- Submission of applications to join the EWG: 15 September 2017.
- Submission of relevant data/information to GEMS/Food: 30 September 2017.
- Submission of the discussion paper to the Codex Secretariat: 31 January 2018.

A work plan will be prepared by the Chair of the EWG once the EWG is established.

Email for registration

<u>Codexsecretariat@son.gov.ng</u> copy: <u>bimboadegboye@gmail.com</u>; hussain.makun@futminna.edu.ng

Registration deadline

September 15th, 2017

EWG online platform

Yes □ No ⊠

Codex Members and Observers are invited to register their experts for this EWG. When there is more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate **one** as the official representative to participate in the EWG.

Applications should be sent through the Codex Contact Point of the member or recognized observer organization in an email detailing:

- participants name,
- organization or country
- email