

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 51st CCFA

Dear Colleagues:

The 50th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) that was held in Xiamen, China from 26 – 30 March 2018, agreed to establish an EWG on the GSFA, led by the United States of America (USA), and working in English only, to consider (REP 18/FA para. 112):

- (i) Draft and proposed draft provisions for colours in the Step process in food categories 05.2 (Confectionery including hard and soft candy, nougats, etc. other than food categories 05.1, 05.3 and 05.4), 05.3 (Chewing gum), 5.4 (Decorations (e.g. for fine bakery wares), toppings (non-fruit) and sweet sauces);
- (ii) All remaining draft and proposed draft provisions in Table 1 and 2 of the GSFA in food categories 01.0 through 16.0, with the exception of those additives with technological functions of colour (excluding those provisions discussed in point (i)) or sweetener, adipates, nitrites and nitrates, the provisions in food category 14.2.3 and its subcategories, and provisions awaiting a reply from CCSCH, CCPFV or CCFO;
- (iii) Proposed draft provisions in Table 3 for gum ghatti (INS 419) and, pending assignment of an INS number, tamarind seed polysaccharide (see Appendix IX, parts A.2);
- (iv) The technological justification for the use of preservatives and anticaking agents for surface treatment of mozzarella with high moisture content covered by the *Standard for Mozzarella* (CXS 262-2006); and
- (v) Request for and compile information on available relevant dietary exposure data for dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate (INS 480), polyglycerol esters of fatty acids (INS 475), sodium stearoyl lactylate (INS 481(i)), calcium oleyl lactylate (INS 482(ii)) and the actual use level and technological justification in Food Category 14.1.4 for dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate (INS 480), polyglycerol esters of fatty acids (INS 475), sodium stearoyl lactylate (INS 481(i)), calcium oleyl lactylate (INS 482(ii)) and in food category 14.1.5 for polyglycerol esters of fatty acids (INS 475), sodium stearoyl lactylate (INS 481(i)) and calcium oleyl lactylate (INS 482(ii)) for consideration by the electronic working group to formulate recommendations on the provisions for these additives in those food categories.

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. Paul Honigfort (ccfa@cfsan.fda.gov) by 22 June 2018.

Proposed Working Schedule for the EWG:

- 22 June: Circulation of background information and request for EWG member comments.
- 20 July: Deadline for submission of comments.
- 3 August: Circulation of first draft consensus recommendations to the EWG members.

- 24 August: Deadline for submission of comments on first draft consensus recommendations
- 14 September: Circulation of second draft consensus recommendations to the EWG members.
- 12 October: Deadline for submission of comments on second draft consensus recommendations
- 2 November: 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 51st CCFA. We look forward to working with Codex members on this important project.

Sincerely,

Paul Honigfort, Ph.D.
U.S.A. Delegate to CCFA