

## **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 52<sup>nd</sup> CCFA**

Dear Colleagues:

The 51<sup>st</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) that was held in Jinan, China from 25 – 29 March 2019, agreed to establish an EWG on the GSFA, led by the United States of America (USA), and working in English only, to consider (REP 19/FA para. 138):

- (i) Replies from CCSCCH on the technological justification for the use of anticaking agents where used in the powdered form of culinary herbs and that magnesium stearate (INS 470 (iii)) and amorphous silicon dioxide (INS 551) may be used in the powdered form and in accordance with GMP;
- (ii) Replies from CCFO26 on the technological justification for the use of emulsifiers in FC 02.1.2 of the GSFA;
- (iii) Draft and proposed draft provisions in Table 3 of the GSFA;
- (iv) Adopted provisions and provisions in the step process for sucrose esters of fatty acids (INS 473), sucrose oligoesters, type I and type II (INS 473a) and sucroglycerides (INS 474) in FCs 01.0 to 16.0 in the GSFA as a result of their group ADI and create a group heading accordingly;
- (v) Draft and proposed draft provisions in FC 04.1.1.2 “Surface-treated fresh fruit” and 04.2.1.2 “Surface-treated fresh vegetables, (including mushrooms, and fungi, roots and tubers, pulses and legumes (including soybeans), and aloe vera, seaweeds and nuts and seeds” for discussion on the technological justification for the use of additives as a glaze or in a glaze/coating or wax for the surface treatment;
- (vi) The provision for propylene glycol alginate (INS 405) in FC 01.1.2 for comment on the numeric use level;
- (vii) The provision for Magnesium carbonate (INS 504(i)) as a flour treatment agent in FC 06.2;
- (viii) Provisions for nitrates (INS 251, 252) and nitrites (INS 249, 250) in step process or adopted (ingoing and residual use levels);
- (ix) Adopted provisions for: alitame (INS 956) for discussion on actual use and use level; acesulfame potassium (INS 950) in FCs 14.1.4 and 14.1.5 and saccharins (INS 954(i)-(iv)) in subcategories of FC 14.1.4 for discussion on use level;
- (x) Draft and proposed draft provisions for sweeteners in FCs in lists T, U, and Y of CX/FA 15/47/4 with the exception of those in FCs 07.1, 12.2.2, and 12.3;
- (xi) Adopted provisions for colours in FCs 05.2 and 05.3 with Note 161 associated with them;
- (xii) In FCs 05.1, 13.6, 14.0 and its subcategories (except FCs 14.1.2, 14.1.3, 14.2.3 and their subcategories): adopted provisions for additives with the functional class of colours with Note 161 associated with them and draft and proposed draft provisions for additives with the functional class of colour; and

- (xiii) Provisions entered into the step process as a result of CX/FA 19/51/8 (For additives with technological function of colours: limited to provisions in FCs 05.0 and its subcategories, 13.6, and 14.0 and its subcategories (except FCs 14.1.2, 14.1.3, 14.2.3 and their subcategories).

Therefore, the USA requests Codex Members and Observers interested in participating in this EWG provide their contact information, including name(s), affiliation, and e-mail address to Dr. Paul Honigfort (ccfa@cfsan.fda.gov) by 21 June 2019.

Proposed Working Schedule for the EWG:

- 28 June: Circulation of background information and request for EWG member comments
- 26 July: Deadline for submission of comments.
- 9 August: Circulation of first draft consensus recommendations to the EWG members
- 6 September: Deadline for submission of comments on first draft consensus recommendations
- 20 September: Circulation of second draft consensus recommendations to the EWG members
- 18 October: Deadline for submission of comments on second draft consensus recommendations
- 1 November: Submission of final report of the EWG to the Codex Secretariat

Full and constructive participation by Codex members/observers will enable the EWG to have a robust discussion and will lead to constructive recommendations on this issue for consideration by the 52<sup>nd</sup> CCFA. We look forward to working with Codex members/observers on this important project.

Sincerely,

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