



21 June 2016

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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## INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION (CODEX)

The following communication, received on 21 June 2016, is being circulated at the request of the Codex secretariat.

#### 1 CODEX SESSIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE (MARCH 2016)

- 48<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Food Additives (Xi'an, China, 14-18 March 2016)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (Rotterdam, Netherlands, 4-8 April 2016)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on General Principle (Paris, France, 11–15 April 2016)
- 48<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (Chongqing, China, 25–29 April 2016)
- 43<sup>rd</sup> Codex Committee on Food Labelling (Ottawa, Canada, 9–13 May 2016)
- 71<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rome, Italy, 20–23 June 2016)
- 39<sup>th</sup> Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rome, Italy, 27 June – 1 July 2016)

In particular, the SPS Committee may wish to note the following:

1.1. **The Codex Committee on Food Additives** continued its work on food additive provisions of the *General Standard for Food Additives* (GSFA), amendments to the International Numbering System for Food Additives, and Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives. The Committee finalized work on: the alignment of the food additives provisions for the standards for chocolate and chocolate products; the revision of food category 01.1 "Milk and dairy-based drinks" and related sub-categories of the GSFA; and the revision of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Food Additives When Sold As Such* (CODEX STAN 107-1981). The Committee updated the priority list of compounds to be evaluated by JECFA (Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives).

Full report: [http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-711-48%252FReport%252FREP16\\_FAe.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-711-48%252FReport%252FREP16_FAe.pdf)

1.2. **The Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods** completed its work on the establishment of maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in husked rice; the revision of maximum levels for lead in selected fruits and vegetables (fresh and processed) in the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (CODEX STAN 193-1995); and Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in Cereals (CAC/RCP 51-2003) (general provisions) and the proposed draft Annexes on zearalenone, fumonisins, ochratoxin A, trichothecenes and aflatoxins (specific provisions). The Committee continues its work on; proposed draft annex on ergot and ergot alkaloids in cereal grains; proposed draft maximum levels for lead in selected fruits and vegetables (fresh and processed) and other selected food categories; proposed draft Code of Practice for the prevention and reduction of arsenic contamination in rice; proposed draft maximum levels for cadmium in chocolate and cocoa-derived products; proposed draft code of practice for the prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in spices and its annexes; and proposed draft maximum level for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts. The next Session of the Committee will also consider discussion papers on: maximum levels for

mycotoxins in spices; methylmercury in fish; and non-dioxin like PCBs in the code of practice for the prevention and reduction of dioxins and dioxin-like PCB.

Full report: [http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?Ink=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-735-10%252FReport%252FREP16\\_CFe.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?Ink=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-735-10%252FReport%252FREP16_CFe.pdf)

1.3. **The Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues** finalized a number of new and revised maximum residue limits for pesticides and updated the priority list of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR (Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues) in 2016. The Committee continues work on: the revision of the Classification of Foods and Feeds including examples of selection of representative commodities; guidance on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues; and the priority list and schedules of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR in the coming years.

Full report: [http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?Ink=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-718-48%252FReport%252FREP16\\_PRe.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?Ink=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-718-48%252FReport%252FREP16_PRe.pdf)

1.4. For the following Committees, orally report will be made for the matters relevant to SPS Committee.

- 71<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rome, Italy, 20–23 June 2016)
- 39<sup>th</sup> Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rome, Italy, 27 June – 1 July 2016)

## 2 FORTHCOMING CODEX MEETINGS

- 72<sup>nd</sup> Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Geneva, Switzerland, 30 August – 1 September 2016)
- 28<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables (Washington D.C., USA, 12-16 September 2016)

2.1. Next round of FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees start in September 2016 from CCNASWP.

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