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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

Original: English

## INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES

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

The following communication, received on 26 June 2017, is being circulated at the request of the Codex secretariat.

#### 1 CODEX SESSIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE (MARCH 2017)

- 49<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Food Additives (Macao, China, 20–24 March 2017)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3–7 April 2017)
- 49<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (Beijing, China, 24–29 April 2017)
- 9<sup>th</sup> FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Near East (Rome, Italy, 15–19 May 2017)
- 73<sup>rd</sup> Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Geneva, Switzerland, 10–13 July 2017)

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

1.1. The **Codex Committee on Food Additives** continued work on food additive provisions of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA), amendments to the International Numbering System for Food Additives, Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives and alignment of the food additive provisions of commodity standards and relevant provisions of the GSFA. 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-711-49%252FReport%252FREP17\\_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-711-49%252FReport%252FREP17_FAE.pdf)

1.2. The **Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods** concluded work on the development of the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Arsenic Contamination in Rice; an annex on ergot and ergot alkaloids in cereal grains (for inclusion in the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in Cereals, CAC/RCP 51-2003); and the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in Spices. The Committee continues work on the revision of maximum levels for lead in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CODEX STAN 193-1995), maximum levels for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts and maximum levels for cadmium in chocolate and cocoa-derived products. The Committee agreed to start new work on: maximum levels for certain mycotoxins in five spices (CODEX STAN 193-1995); maximum levels for methylmercury in fish (CODEX STAN 193-1995); the development of a Code of Practice for the Reduction of 3-MCPD and Glycidyl Esters in Refined Oils and Products made with Refined Oils (especially used in infant formula); guidelines for risk analysis of chemicals inadvertently present in food at low levels; and revision of the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Dioxins and Dioxin-like PCBs in Food and Feeds (CAC/RCP 62 - 2006).

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-735-11%252FREPORT%252FREP17\\_CFe.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-735-11%252FREPORT%252FREP17_CFe.pdf)

1.3. The **Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues** finalized a number of new and revised maximum residue limits for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies). The Committee also concluded work on the revision of the Classification of Food and Feed regarding vegetables and grasses (including examples of representative commodities for the establishment of group MRLs for these commodity groups) and on the guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed. The Committee continues work on the establishment of MRLs for pesticides in food and feed, revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (including tables on examples of representative commodities) and the schedules and priority list for evaluation of pesticides 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-718-49%252FREPORT%252FREP17\\_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-718-49%252FREPORT%252FREP17_PRe.pdf)

## **2 FORTHCOMING CODEX MEETINGS**

- 40<sup>th</sup> Codex Alimentarius Commission (Geneva, Switzerland, 17–22 July, 2017)
  - 74<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rome, Italy, 27–29 September 2017)
  - 20<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (Kampala, Uganda, 2–6 October 2017)
  - 44<sup>th</sup> Codex Committee on Food Labelling (Asunción, Paraguay, 16–20 October 2017)
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