

standards or codes of practice for related subjects; and to consider other matters assigned to it by the Commission in relation to contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed. The Committee is hosted by The Netherlands.

#### Issues to be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the agenda for the 2nd Session of the CCCF will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters Referred to the Committee from other Codex Bodies
- Matters of Interest arising from FAO and WHO

#### JECFA

- Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods (GSCTF)—Proposed Draft Revision to the Preamble

- Draft Maximum Levels for 3-MCPD in Liquid Condiments Containing Acid-HVP (Excluding Naturally Fermented Soy Sauce)

- Draft Code of Practice for the Reduction of Chloropropanols during the Production of Acid-Hydrolyzed Vegetable Proteins (HVPs) and Products that Contain Acid-HVPs

- Proposed Draft Code of Practice for the Reduction of Acrylamide in Food

- Proposed Draft Code of Practice for the Reduction of Contamination of Food with Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) from Smoking and Direct Drying

- Draft Maximum Level for Ochratoxin A in Wheat, Barley and Rye

- Draft Maximum Levels for Total Aflatoxins in Almonds, Hazelnuts and Pistachios that are “For Further Processing” and “Ready-to-Eat”

- Proposed Draft Sampling Plan for Aflatoxin Contamination in Almonds, Brazil Nuts, Hazelnuts and Pistachios

- Discussion Paper on Maximum Levels for Total Aflatoxins in “Ready-to-Eat” Almonds, Hazelnuts and Pistachios

- Discussion Paper on Aflatoxin Contamination in Brazil Nuts

- Proposed Draft Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Aflatoxin Contamination in Dried Figs

- Discussion Papers on Ochratoxin A in Coffee and Cocoa

- Priority List of Contaminants and Naturally Occurring Toxicants Proposed for Evaluation by JECFA

Each item listed above will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Secretariat prior to the March 31–April 4, 2008, meeting in The Hague. Members of the public may access copies of these documents at <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp>.

#### Public Meeting

At the March 5, 2008, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to, Dr. Henry Kim, at [henry.kim@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:henry.kim@fda.hhs.gov). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 2nd Session of the CCCF.

#### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it online through the FSIS Web page located at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2008\\_Notices\\_Index/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2008_Notices_Index/). FSIS will also make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade groups, consumer interest groups, health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is also available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Listserv and Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader and more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an electronic mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news\\_and\\_events/email\\_subscription/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_and_events/email_subscription/). Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done at Washington, DC, on: February 27, 2008.

**Paulo Almeida,**

*Acting U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.*  
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#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

#### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS–2008–0006]

#### Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Additives

**AGENCY:** Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, are sponsoring a public meeting on March 12, 2008. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States positions that will be discussed at the 40th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), which will be held in Beijing, China, on April 21–25, 2008. The Under Secretary for Food Safety and FDA recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 40th Session of the CCFA and to address items on the agenda.

**DATES:** The public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 2008, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will be held in the auditorium (Room 1A003), Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building, FDA, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), 5100 Paint Branch Highway, College Park MD 20740. Documents related to the 40th Session of the CCFA are accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp>.

The U.S. Delegate to the CCFA, Dr. Dennis Keefe, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following e-mail address: [ccfa@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:ccfa@fda.hhs.gov).

#### Registration

Attendees may register electronically to the same e-mail address above by March 10, 2008. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building and its parking area. If you require parking, please include the vehicle make and tag number, if known, when you register. Because the meeting will be held in a Federal building, you should also bring

photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through security screening systems.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE 40TH SESSION OF THE CCFA CONTACT:**

Dennis Keefe, Office of Food Additive Safety (HFS-205), CFSAN, FDA, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD 20740. Phone: (301) 436-1284, Fax: (301) 436-2972, e-mail: [dennis.keefe@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:dennis.keefe@fda.hhs.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC MEETING CONTACT:**

Doreen Chen-Moulec, International Issues Analyst, U.S. Codex Office, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), Room 4865, South Building, 1400 Independence Ave, SW., Washington, DC 20250. Phone: (202) 720-4063, Fax: (202) 720-3157.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure that fair practices are used in trade.

The CCFA was formed in 2006 from the division of the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants. It was established to set or endorse maximum levels for individual food additives; prepare priority lists of food additives for risk assessment by the Joint FAO and WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA); assign functional classes to individual food additives; recommend specifications of identity and purity for food additives for adoption by the Commission; consider methods of analysis for the determination of additives in food; and consider and elaborate standards or codes for related subjects, including the labeling of food additives when sold as such. The Committee is hosted by the People's Republic of China.

**Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting**

The following items on the agenda for the 40th Session of the CCFA will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters Referred to the Committee from the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other Codex Bodies
- Matters of Interest arising from the FAO, WHO, and the JECFA

- Endorsement or Revision of Maximum Levels for Food Additives and Processing Aids in Codex Standards

- Consideration of the Codex General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)
- Proposed Draft Revision of the Food Category System of the GSFA
- Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Use of Flavorings
- Discussion Paper on Guidelines and Principles for the Use of Processing Aids

- International Numbering System (INS) for Food Additives

- Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives

- Priority List of Food Additives Proposed for Evaluation by the JECFA

Each item listed above will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Secretariat prior to the April 21-25, 2008, meeting in Beijing, China. Members of the public may access these documents from <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp>.

**Public Meeting**

At the March 12, 2008, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be sent electronically to the U.S. Delegate to the CCFA, Dr. Dennis Keefe at [dennis.keefe@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:dennis.keefe@fda.hhs.gov). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 40th Session of the CCFA.

**Additional Public Notification**

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it online through the FSIS Web page located at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2008\\_Notices\\_Index/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2008_Notices_Index/). FSIS will also make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade groups, consumer interest groups, health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is also available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Listserv and Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a

much broader and more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an electronic mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news\\_and\\_events/email\\_subscription/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_and_events/email_subscription/). Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done at Washington, DC, on: February 27, 2008.

**Paulo Almeida,**

*Acting U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**

**Designation for the Owensboro (KY), Bloomington (IL), Iowa Falls (IA), Casa Grande (AZ), Fargo (ND), Grand Forks (ND), Plainview (TX), and Amarillo (TX) Areas**

**AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are announcing designation of the following organizations to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (USGSA): J.W. Barton Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Barton); Central Illinois Grain Inspection, Inc. (Central Illinois); Central Iowa Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Central Iowa); Farwell Commodity and Grain Services, Inc. (Farwell Southwest); North Dakota Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (North Dakota); Northern Plains Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Northern Plains); and Plainview Grain Inspection and Weighing Service, Inc. (Plainview). We are also announcing the amendment of designated geographic areas for California Agri Inspection Company, Ltd. (California Agri) and Enid Grain Inspection Company, Inc. (Enid).

**DATES:** Effective April 1, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** USDA, GIPSA, Karen Guagliardo, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Guagliardo at 202-720-7312, e-mail [Karen.W.Guagliardo@usda.gov](mailto:Karen.W.Guagliardo@usda.gov).