

electronically to the following email address: uscodex@usda.gov or ken.lowery@usda.gov. Comments should state that they relate to the activities of the 34th Session of the CCGP.

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/7Lxx6JqcQKm7hW3cTh7mrA>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For further information about the 34th Session of the CCGP, contact Mr. Ken Lowery of the U.S. Codex Office, Office of the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, U.S. Department of Agriculture, at: ken.lowery@usda.gov. For additional information regarding the public meeting, contact the U.S. Codex Office by email at: uscodex@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established in 1963. 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 fair practices in the food trade.

The Terms of Reference for the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP) are:

To deal with such procedural and general matters as are referred to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, including:

(a) the review or endorsement of procedural provisions/texts forwarded by other subsidiary bodies for inclusion in the Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission; and

(b) the consideration and recommendation of other amendments to the Procedural Manual.

France hosts the CCGP. The United States attends the CCGP as a member country of Codex.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items from the agenda for the 34th Session of the CCGP will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters arising from the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies
- Codex Procedural Manual: Review of inconsistencies in language and superseded content
 - Codex Procedural Manual: Review

of the procedures in Section 3: *Guidelines for subsidiary bodies*

- Codex Procedural Manual: Review of inconsistencies in language and superseded content, apart from Section 3
- Codex Procedural Manual: Update to the *Guide to the procedure for the amendment and revision of Codex standards and related texts*
- Proposed amendment to the principles concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
- Codex Procedural Manual: Review of the potential use of existing provisions to promote more resource-efficient practices in the review of new-work proposals which do not fall within the remit of an active Codex committee
- Review of the application of the *Criteria and procedural guidelines for Codex committees and ad hoc intergovernmental task forces working by correspondence*
- Other Business

Public Meeting

At the May 1, 2025, public meeting, agenda items will be described and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S. Codex Office at: uscodex@usda.gov or to Ken Lowery of the U.S. Codex Office at ken.lowery@usda.gov. Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 34th Session of the CCGP.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the USDA Codex web page located at: <https://www.usda.gov/codex>.

Done at Washington, DC, on March 20, 2025.

Julie A. Chao,

Deputy U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on May 29, 2025. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items to be discussed at the 18th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF18) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC). CCCF18 will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from June 23–27, 2025. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 18th Session of the CCCF and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for May 29, 2025, from 1–4 p.m. ET.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 18th Session of the CCCF will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=18>.

Dr. Lauren Posnick Robin, U.S. Delegate to the 18th Session of the CCCF, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: Quynh-Anh Nguyen, quynh-anh.nguyen@fda.hhs.gov. Comments should state that they relate to activities of the 18th Session of the CCCF.

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link: https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/OWbV16_zQPWdyBTZAoFFcA. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For further information about the 18th Session of the CCCF, contact U.S. Delegate, Dr. Lauren Posnick Robin, Acting Director, Division of Chemical Contaminants, Office of Post Market Assessment, Office of Food Chemical Safety, Dietary Supplements, and Innovation, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, at lauren.robin@fda.hhs.gov. For additional information regarding the public meeting, contact the U.S. Codex Office by email at: uscodex@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established in 1963. 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 fair practices in the food trade.

The Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) are:

(a) to establish or endorse permitted maximum levels or guidelines levels for contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed;

(b) to prepare priority lists of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants for risk assessment by the Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives;

(c) to consider methods of analysis and sampling for the determination of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed;

(d) to consider and elaborate standards or codes of practice for related subjects; and

(e) to consider other matters assigned to it by the Commission in relation to contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed.

The Netherlands hosts the CCCF and is co-hosting the 18th Session of the CCCF with Thailand. The United States attends the CCCF as a member country of Codex.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items from the agenda for the 18th Session of the CCCF will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters referred to the Committee by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and/or its subsidiary bodies
- Matters of interest arising from the Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives
- Matters of interest arising from other international organizations
- Maximum levels for lead in certain food categories
- Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in foods
- Sampling plans for total aflatoxins and ochratoxin A in certain spices
- Maximum level and associated sampling plan for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts
- Revision of the *Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of aflatoxin contamination in peanuts* (CXC 55–2004)
- Review of the *Code of practice for weed control to prevent and reduce pyrrolizidine alkaloid contamination in food and feed* (CXC 74–2014)
- Guidance on sampling and analysis performance characteristics for the collection of data for submission to the GEMS/Food database

- Review of the *Code of practice for the reduction of acrylamide in foods* (CXC 67–2009)
- Review of the *Code of practice for the reduction of aflatoxin B1 in raw materials and supplemental feeding stuffs for milk-producing animals* (CXC 45–1997)
- Development of a Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of tropane alkaloids in food and feed
- Guidance on data analysis for the development of maximum levels and for improved data collection
- Review of numeric performance criteria for methods of analysis for total aflatoxins utilizing the sum of components concept in relevant sampling plans
- Application of maximum levels to multi-ingredient products
- Analysis of occurrence data of lead in spice mixtures
- Analysis of occurrence data of aflatoxins in cereals
- Review of Codex standards for contaminants
- Follow-up work on the outcomes of JECFA evaluations and expert consultations
- Priority list of contaminants for evaluation by JECFA
- Other business

Public Meeting

At the May 29, 2025, public meeting, agenda items will be described and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to Quynh-Anh Nguyen at quynh-anh.nguyen@fda.hhs.gov. Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 18th Session of the CCCF.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the USDA Codex web page located at: <http://www.usda.gov/codex>.

Done at Washington, DC, on March 20, 2025.

Julie Chao,

Deputy U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

[Docket #: RUS–24–AGENCY–0015]

Notice of Publication of RUS List of Eligible Countries

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), a Rural Development Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture is issuing this notice to revise the list of eligible countries for purchases made by RUS Telecommunications and Electric Program awardees by adding Japan to the list of RUS Eligible Countries published on May 23, 2024, and to reflect the November 2023 RUS Eligible Countries published by the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) as detailed in the Supplementary Information Section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For Electric Program matters: Donald Junta, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Customer Service and Technical Assistance, RUS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1569, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250–1569. Telephone number (202) 720–1900, Email: ElectricProgramCustomerService@rd.usda.gov.

For Telecommunications Program matters: La'Kenya Walter, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Policy and Outreach Division, RUS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1590, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250–1590. Telephone number (202) 720–0733, Email: TelecomPODEB@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: RUS published a notice in the **Federal Register** on February 18, 1997, at 62 FR 7205 that the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, (108 Stat. 4954, Pub. L. 103–465, December 8, 1994), amended the “Buy American” provision, (7 U.S.C. 903 note) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.) (the “RE Act”). Under the amendment, the USTR is authorized to determine which countries are eligible to have their products receive the same treatment as manufactured and unmanufactured products produced in the United States. RUS publishes a new notice in the **Federal Register** to reflect any updates by the USTR. The last notice to update the list was published May 23, 2024, at 89 FR 45629.