

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

# E



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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**CL 2021/36/OCS-FO**  
**June 2021**

**TO:** Codex Contact Points  
Interested International Organisations

**FROM:** Secretariat, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme,  
Codex Alimentarius Commission  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla,  
00153 Rome, Italy

**SUBJECT:** **Request for comments on the proposals for new work and or amendments to existing Codex Standards**

**DEADLINE:** **16 SEPTEMBER 2021**

## BACKGROUND

1. CCFO26 agreed to issue a Circular Letter (CL) calling for proposals for new work including amendments to existing standards.
2. The Circular letter ref. CL 2019/54-FO was issued in July in 2019 with deadline of December 2020. In reply to the CL, the following five (5) proposals for new work were submitted to the Codex Secretariat:
  - Proposal for new work to amend/revise the *Codex Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* (CXS 210-1999), to include Camellia seed oil.
  - Proposal for new work to amend/revise the *Codex Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* (CXS 210-1999), to include Mahua oil.
  - Proposal for new work to amend/revise the *Codex Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* (CXS 210-1999), to include Sacha inchi oil.
  - Proposal for new work to revise the *Codex Standard for Fat Spreads and Blended Spreads* (CXS 256-2007) – Section 2 (Description) and Section 3 (Essential Composition and Quality Factors)
  - Proposal for new work to amend/revise the *Codex Standard for Fish Oils* (CXS 329-2017), to include Calanus oil

## PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

3. CCFO26 agreed to establish an in-session working group to: i) screen all new work proposals and related project documents for completeness against the criteria in the Codex Procedural Manual regarding proposals for new work and the decision of CCFO16, taking into account written comments received from members in relation to the proposals; ii) to assess whether the information provided fulfils the requirements for the new work proposed and make recommendations to the plenary; and iii) to prepare a report to be presented to the plenary to enable CCFO to make informed decisions on the work proposals
4. The host government for CCFO (Malaysia) has confirmed that CCFO27 will take place virtually, in October 2021. Taking into account the challenges related to the conduct of virtual meetings, including time limitations, the Chairperson of CCFO together with both the CCFO and Codex Secretariats have agreed that it will not be feasible to convene an in-session working group to evaluate the proposals for new work during CCFO27. The proposals will rather be considered at the plenary meeting based on the comments submitted by members and observers.
5. In order to facilitate the discussions at the plenary the following process is proposed:
  - a) The Codex Secretariat will issue a CL requesting for comments on the proposals for new work; and whether the information provided in each proposal meets the requirements set out in the Codex Procedural Manual.
  - b) The comments submitted, will be compiled and forwarded to CCFO Secretariat that will review and prepare a CRD with some proposed recommendations for consideration by the plenary;

c) Where the comments require provision of additional information from the sponsor for new work, such comments will be shared with the sponsor of the proposal, to enable preparation of an updated project document that could be considered during the plenary session.

### REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

6. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments on the process highlighted in paragraphs 3 to 5 above and in particular indicate the following :
  - i. Whether or not you support that process outlined in paragraph 5 above?
  - ii. Whether or not you support CCFO27 to undertake new work as described in each of the five (5) proposals submitted in document CX/FO 21/27/8 (Part I, II, III, IV and V)?
  - iii. Provide comments or observations on the various aspects of each project document in line with the [Codex Procedural Manual Page 43-47](#) (criteria for the establishment of work priorities). Each project document has been uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>, as per the guidance below.

### GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

7. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex Members and observer organizations using the OCS: <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>.
8. Contact Points of Codex Members and observer organizations may login to the OCS and access the document open for comments by selecting “Enter” in the “My reviews” page, available after login to the system.
9. Contact Points of Codex Members and observer organizations are requested to provide proposed changes and relevant comments/justifications on a specific paragraph (under the categories: editorial, substantive, technical and translation) and/or at the document level (general comments or summary comments). Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).
10. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can be found at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/ocs/en/>.
11. For questions on the OCS, please contact [Codex-OCS@fao.org](mailto:Codex-OCS@fao.org).