

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2021/68/OCS-FA
September 2021

TO: Codex Contact Points
Contact Points of international organizations having observer status with Codex

FROM: Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission,
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

SUBJECT: **Request for comments on: i) draft and proposed draft food additive provisions of the General Standard for Food Additives at Steps 8 and 5/8; ii) inclusion of xanthan gum (INS 415) and pectins (INS 440) in FC 13.1.3 of the GSFA; iii) changes relating to the group header STEVIOL GLYCOSIDES in the GSFA; iv) revised provisions of the GSFA in relation to the amendments to title and food category number for CXS 283 in Annex C of the GSFA; v) revised food-additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the alignment of 18 commodity standards; vi) revised food-additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the partial alignment of CXS 249-2006, CXS 273-1968, CXS 275-1973 and CXS 288-1978 to include tamarind seed polysaccharide (INS 437); vii) revised food-additive provisions of the GSFA in relation to the linked entry for FC 12.5 in the References to Commodity Standards for GSFA Table 3 Additives in the Annex to Table 3; and viii) revised provisions for sweeteners in different food categories**

DEADLINE: 31 October 2021

BACKGROUND

1. See [REP21/FA](#), paras. 27, 106(ii), 173(i), 182(i), 203(ii) and Appendix VI.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments on the draft and proposed draft provisions of the GSFA and other provisions, which are uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>, as per the guidance below.
3. Comments should address whether the text is ready for adoption or not; and if not, provide the rationale and proposals to facilitate adoption. Comments should be provided in conformity with the *Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (Part 3 – Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts, Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission*.

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

4. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
5. Contact Points of Codex members and observers 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.
6. Contact Points of Codex members and observers organizations are requested to provide general comments at the document level. Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).
7. 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/circular-letters/en/>.
8. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.