

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2021/31/OCS-NFSDU
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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 at Step 6 on the draft Guidelines for Ready-to-use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF)

DEADLINE: 10 September 2021

BACKGROUND

1. For background information, please refer to document [REP20/NFSDU](#), paras 88 – 122 and Appendix VI.
2. CCNFSDU41 advanced the proposed draft Guidelines for Ready-to-use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) to CAC43 for adoption at Step 5.¹
3. CAC43 adopted the text at Step 5 and advanced it to Step 6 for comments.²
4. CCNFSDU41 agreed on the text and the only remaining issues in square brackets for further consideration are: (i) levels for the essential fatty acids, (ii) levels and ratio of magnesium and calcium; and (iii) the preamble.³
5. With regard to the preamble, CCNFSDU41 agreed to simplify the text to include aspects on the key characteristics of the product; target age group; and to clarify that RUTF was one of the options for the dietary management of children with uncomplicated severe acute malnutrition (SAM). All additional reference documents were included in a footnote.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

6. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments on the draft Guidelines for Ready-to-use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) which are uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>, as per the guidance below.
7. In submitting comments on the above, Codex members and observers are invited to consider the discussions and decisions made at the CCNFSDU41 and to focus comments on the sections in square brackets to assist CCNFSDU42 to finalise the Guidelines.

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

8. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
9. 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.
10. 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 \(FAQs\)](#).
11. 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/>.
12. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.

¹ REP20/NFSDU, para. 122

² REP20/CAC, para. 92

³ REP20/NFSDU, paras 112, 116 and 119, respectively