

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2022/81/OCS-FO
December 2022

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 the recommendations of JECFA90 and
JECFA91 Assessment of substances proposed as previous cargoes**

DEADLINE: **30 August 2023**

BACKGROUND

1. CCFO24 (2015) agreed to forward the amendments to Appendix 2: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes in CAC/RCP 36-1987 to CAC38 for adoption and to forward the 23 substances to FAO and WHO for evaluation.
2. CCFO25 (2017) and CCFO26 (2019) agreed to inform FAO/WHO that the evaluation of 23 substances was a matter of priority for CCFO and to encourage FAO/WHO to evaluate the 23 substances as soon as possible
3. CCFO27 agreed to:
 - defer discussions on the outcome of the JECFA evaluation of the 23 substances to CCFO28 pending publication of the complete reports of JECFA and the monographs;
 - request the Codex secretariat to advise all members when the JECFA reports became available; and to issue a Circular Letter requesting comments on the recommendations of JECFA 90 and 91 in order to facilitate discussions at CCFO28 ([REP22/FO, paragraphs 25-32](#))

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

4. Member governments and observers are invited to review and provide comments on the recommendations of:
 - 90th Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives meeting report, hereby attached as Appendix I to this CL (See also JECFA90 Report, page 107, Recommendation 1, 2, and 3).
 - 91st Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives meeting report, hereby attached as Appendix II to this CL (See also JECFA91 Report, page 83, Recommendation 1, and 2)
5. The reports of 90th and 91st of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives meetings have been uploaded on the OCS and can also be accessed through the following links:
 - 90th Report: <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789240036925>
 - 91st Report: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240054585>

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

6. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
7. 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.
8. 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).
9. 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/>.
10. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.

APPENDIX I**Evaluation of certain contaminants in food****Ninetieth report of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives****5. Recommendations**

1) The Committee recommended that the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO) consider revising criterion no. 2 in RCP-36-1987 as adopted by CAC 34 (2011).

- Based on the consumption of fats and oils by infants and young children, there is no health concern for the general population from dietary exposure to previous cargo chemical substances if the ADI or TDI is sufficiently protective, for example, the ADI or TDI is greater than, or equal to 0.3 mg/kg bw per day. Substances for which there is no numerical ADI or TDI should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis (e.g. MOE approach).
- Where there are additional sources of dietary exposure to the previous cargo chemical substances, they should be considered in the exposure assessment.

2) To conduct an evaluation of montan wax for acceptability as a previous cargo, data from toxicological testing of appropriate test substances that are sufficiently representative of the forms of montan wax that are shipped as a previous cargo are needed, taking into account variability due to source, region and degree of refinement.

The Committee recommended that sufficient chemical and toxicological information that allows the evaluation of montan wax as shipped are made available prior to the next evaluation. At a minimum this information should address the following:

- degree of refinement and chemical constituents;
- repeat dose toxicological data on representative products in a relevant animal model.

3) The Committee recommended that sufficient chemical and toxicological information that allows the evaluation of calcium lignosulfonate liquid as shipped are made available prior to the next evaluation. At a minimum this information should address the following:

- molecular weight range(s), chemical component identification and relative composition;
- toxicological data on representative products.

APPENDIX II**Evaluation of certain contaminants in food****Ninety-first report of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives****Previous cargoes**

1) The Committee reiterated the recommendations made at the ninetieth meeting that the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO) consider revising Criterion no. 2 in RCP-36-1987 as adopted by CAC 34 (2011).

- Based on the consumption of fats and oils by infants and young children, there is no health concern for the general population from dietary exposure to previous cargo chemical substances if the ADI or TDI is sufficiently protective, for example, the ADI or TDI is greater than, or equal to 0.3 mg/kg bw per day. Substances for which there is no numerical ADI or TDI should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis (e.g. margin of exposure (MOE) approach).
- Where there are additional sources of dietary exposure to the previous cargo chemical substances, they should be considered in the exposure assessment.

2) The Committee recommended that sufficient chemical information that allows the evaluation of acetic anhydride and cyclohexane transported as previous cargoes be made available prior to the next evaluation. At a minimum this information should address the following:

- product grade(s) and composition, including characterization and levels of impurities arising from all methods of manufacture.