



## **CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS (CCCF) TWELFTH SESSION**

### **INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

From 12–16 March 2018 approximately 230 experts and policy makers from around the world will gather in Utrecht for the 12th meeting of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods.

This information note provides practical information to conference participants.

#### **VENUE AND DATES**

The Government of the Netherlands is hosting this meeting, which will be held at Jaarbeurs Media Plaza from 12-16 March 2018. This venue is next to the main Utrecht railway station (Central Station). Also see attached map, '9' is the venue of the CCCF.

Jaarbeurs  
Media Plaza  
Polar Center  
Croeselaan 6  
3521 CA Utrecht  
The Netherlands

The official opening ceremony will take place on Monday 12 March at 09:30 hours.

## **REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES**

Participants are invited to pre-register before 12 February 2018 using the Online Registration System (ORS). Pre-registration should be done through your Codex Contact Point who can access this system at: [www.codexalimentarius.org/login](http://www.codexalimentarius.org/login).

Registration of participants will take place at Jaarbeurs Media Plaza/Polar Center on:  
Sunday 11 March 2018: from 16:00–19:00  
Monday 12 March 2018: from 08:00–16:00

Name badges will be distributed at the registration desk. Delegates are requested to wear name badges visibly in order to gain admittance to the meeting rooms.

## **FORMALITIES FOR ENTRY INTO THE NETHERLANDS**

Participants are advised to contact the nearest Embassy or Consulate of the Government of The Netherlands as soon as possible in order to allow sufficient time for the processing of visa applications. A visa can be applied for starting three months prior to arrival in The Netherlands, it is not possible to obtain a visa at the airports on arrival.

To facilitate the issuance of a visa, a personal invitation letter from the Government of The Netherlands **can be sent after pre-registration**. For a personal invitation to support visa applications, please send an email to [t.z.j.akesson@minez.nl](mailto:t.z.j.akesson@minez.nl).

Information on visa procedures including a list of relevant Netherlands Embassies and consulates is available by using the following link:  
<https://www.netherlandsandyou.nl/travel-and-residence/visas-for-the-netherlands>.

In case of problems with the visa applications, please send an email to:  
[t.z.j.akesson@minez.nl](mailto:t.z.j.akesson@minez.nl)

## **ACCESS TO THE NETHERLANDS / ARRIVAL DETAILS**

The international airport in the Netherlands is Amsterdam Schiphol Airport. There is a direct train connection from Schiphol Airport to Utrecht Centraal (Utrecht Central Station). Trains leave very regularly, a single trip takes about 30 minutes and costs around 9 euro.

A train ticket can be purchased at the desk of the Dutch Railway Company (Nederlandse Spoorwegen – NS) or at an NS ticket machine with a blue sign and white NS logo on top. Make sure to buy a ticket in the railway station of the airport because it is not possible to buy one on the train.

Within Utrecht there is an extensive system of public transport. For more information you can contact the information desk at the railway station in Utrecht or at <https://u-ov.info/plan-mijn-reis/visit-utrecht-area/>.

Taxis are also available at the railway station.

## **HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR DELEGATES**

Delegates are reminded that they are responsible for making their own hotel accommodation arrangements. It is highly recommended that you make a hotel reservation as soon as possible as March is a very busy month in Utrecht.

Below you will find a few hotels in the vicinity of the meeting venue. As prices change regularly, we advise you to book as soon as possible. You can find the best offer through the following link [www.trivago.com](http://www.trivago.com) or contact the hotel directly.

<b>NH Utrecht ****</b> Jaarbeursplein 24 3521AR Utrecht +31 30 297 7977	<a href="https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-utrecht?_ga=2.98368541.305866181.1505116167-365711777.1505116167">https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-utrecht?_ga=2.98368541.305866181.1505116167-365711777.1505116167</a>	3 minute walk from meeting venue
<b>Park Plaza Utrecht ****</b> Westplein 50 3531 BL Utrecht +31 (0) 30 292 5200	<a href="https://www.parkplaza.com/utrecht-hotel-nl-3531-bl/netutrec">https://www.parkplaza.com/utrecht-hotel-nl-3531-bl/netutrec</a>	5 minute walk from meeting venue
<b>Apollo Hotel ****</b> Vredenburg 14 3511 BA Utrecht +31 30 233 1232	<a href="https://www.apollohotels.co.uk/">https://www.apollohotels.co.uk/</a>	10 minutes by bus from Central Station
<b>Hotel Ibis Utrecht ***</b> Bizetlaan 1 3533 KC Utrecht +31 30 291 0366	<a href="https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-0880-ibis-utrecht/index.shtml">https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-0880-ibis-utrecht/index.shtml</a>	7 minutes by bus from Central Station
<b>Star Lodge ***</b> Biltsestraatweg 92 3573 PS Utrecht +31 30 8000 401	<a href="https://www.starlodgehotelsutrecht.nl/en/hotel-utrecht.html">https://www.starlodgehotelsutrecht.nl/en/hotel-utrecht.html</a>	20 minutes by bus from Central Station

Alternatively, you can also make a booking through the following link: [https://bookingbydesign.com/index.php?c\\_id=179](https://bookingbydesign.com/index.php?c_id=179). They have blocked some rooms in the above mentioned hotels for Codex delegates. **Please note that by booking through this organization rooms need to be paid in advance (at time of booking) to the organization (and not to the hotel).** Different cancellation policies can be found on their website.

## WIFI

WIFI will be available at the meeting venue so working documents and other information can also be downloaded during the meeting.

## SIDE EVENTS

Monday 12 March: Reception for all delegates  
 Wednesday 14 March: Reception for Heads of Delegation

## INTERPRETATION

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish during the meeting.

## DOCUMENTATION

Delegates are requested to bring their own documents to the meeting; these are available in English, French and Spanish on [www.codexalimentarius.org](http://www.codexalimentarius.org). Conference Room Documents and any additional documentation will be available on demand.

## LUNCH FACILITIES

There are many facilities for lunch nearby. In the building of Jaarbeurs Media Plaza building you can find an extensive food court with many different options for lunch. Also, Utrecht Central train station is at walking distance from Jaarbeurs Media Plaza and offers many different options for lunch. You will also find a small supermarket at the train station.

## **BANKING FACILITIES**

There are cash dispenser machines next to the food court in Jaarbeurs Media Plaza. They are in operation 24/7 and accept most cards (but not in supermarkets).

## **OFFICIAL LANGUAGE**

The official language of the Netherlands is Dutch. English is widely spoken.

## **TIME ZONE**

The time in the Netherlands is GMT + 01:00 hour.

## **CLIMATE**

The Netherlands has a moderate coastal climate with cool summers and mild winters. The average temperature (day time) in March is 10 degrees Celsius. As rain is not uncommon at any time of the year, we advise participants to bring a raincoat or an umbrella.

## **ELECTRICITY**

230 Volts, 50 Hertz

## **CURRENCY**

Only the Euro will be accepted in the Netherlands. Major credit cards are accepted in most of the hotels and stores.

## **THE NETHERLANDS/UTRECHT**

The Netherlands is best known for tulips, windmills and clogs. Kinderdijk's 19 windmills are on the World Heritage List. Dutch flowers are well known all over the world. The scenery ranges from flat polder land in the west and north to forest and heathery land in the middle, south and east.

Over the centuries, the Dutch had to protect themselves against water by building dikes and reclaiming land from the sea, thus creating famous lowland polders and impressive water defences.

**Utrecht** is the capital and most populous city in the Dutch province of the same name, Utrecht. It is located in the eastern corner of the Randstad conurbation and is the fourth largest city in the Netherlands with a population of 330,772 in 2017.

Utrecht's ancient city centre features many buildings and structures, several dating as far back to the Middle Ages. It has been the religious centre of the Netherlands since the 8th century. Utrecht was the most important city in the Netherlands until the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Dutch Golden Age, when it was surpassed by Amsterdam as the country's cultural centre and most populous city.

Utrecht is host to Utrecht University, the largest university in the Netherlands, as well as several other institutions of higher education. Due to its central position within the country, it is an important transport hub for both rail and road transport. It has the second highest number of cultural events in the Netherlands, after Amsterdam. In 2012, Lonely Planet included Utrecht in the top 10 of the world's unsung places.

## **INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS**

Questions regarding logistics could be directed to the Codex Contact Point by mail: [info@codexalimentarius.nl](mailto:info@codexalimentarius.nl).







-  Taxi
-  EHBO
-  Information
-  Parking for the disabled
-  Bus
-  ATM
-  Bicycle storage
-  Walking route Central Station
-  (fast) Tram
-  Press
-  Charging point
-  Central Station

- Congress halls complex
- Hall 5
  - Upstairs hall 7/8
  - Upstairs hall 8
  - Upstairs hall 9
  - Congress halls Juliana I + II
  - Croesehall
  - Supernova
  - Media Place

- Beatrixbuilding
- Jaarbeurs MeetUp
- Beatrix Theatre
- Expohal
- JW
- Trade Mart
- Zeyn
- Offices Jaarbeurs

