

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES (CCFA)
Invitation to participate in the electronic Working Group (EWG) on the
General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) to the 50th CCFA

Dear Colleagues:

The 49th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) that was held in Macao SAR, China from 20 – 24 March 2017, agreed to establish an EWG on the GSFA, led by the United States of America (USA), and working in English only, to consider (REP 17/FA para. 109):

- (i) Replies of CCPFV and CCFO (REP 17/FA paras. 14(i) and 16);
- (ii) Proposed draft provisions for lutein esters from *Tagetes erecta* (INS 161b(iii)) and octenyl succinic acid (OSA)-modified gum arabic (INS 423) in Table 3 (REP 17/FA para. 30 and Appendices II and VIII, Part A);
- (iii) Provisions for food additives with Note 22 in FC 09.2.5 (comments for use in smoked fish paste) (REP 17/FA para. 74);
- (iv) Provision for trisodium citrate (INS 331(iii)) in FC 01.1.1 (comments on technological need for a numerical use level or GMP) (REP 17/FA para. 78);
- (v) Provisions related to FC 01.1.1 (CRD2 Annex 3 Part B) (comments on technological need for the specific additive, the specific type of food products within the FC where the food additive is used and the ML necessary to reach the function of stabilizer) (REP 17/FA para. 81);
- (vi) Draft and proposed draft provisions in the GSFA in FC 09.0 to FC 16.0, with the exception of those additives with technological functions of colour or sweetener, adipates, nitrites and nitrates and the provisions related to FC 14.2.3;
- (vii) Proposed draft provisions related to FC 1.1.2 with the exception of food additives provisions with the function of colour and sweetener.

Therefore, the USA requests Codex Members and Observers interested in participating in this EWG to provide their contact information, including name(s), affiliation, and e-mail address to Dr. Paul Honigfort (ccfa@fda.hhs.gov) by **10 July 2017**.

Proposed Working Schedule for the EWG:

- **14 July:** Circulation of background information and request for EWG member comments.
- **18 August:** Deadline for submission of comments.
- **8 September:** Circulation of draft consensus recommendations to the EWG members.
- **6 October:** Deadline for submission of comments on draft consensus recommendations
- **27 October:** Submission of final report of the EWG to the Codex Secretariat.

Full and constructive participation by Codex Members will enable the EWG to have a robust discussion and will lead to constructive recommendations on this issue for consideration by the 50th CCFA.

We look forward to working with Codex Members on this important project.

Sincerely,

Paul Honigfort, Ph.D.
U.S.A. Delegate to CCFA