

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Food Safety and Inspection Service****[Docket No. 00-001N]****Codex Alimentarius Commission: Thirty-Second Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants****AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice of Public meeting; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, and the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), United States Department of Agriculture, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are sponsoring a public meeting on February 4, 2000. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and receive public comment on agenda items that will be discussed at the Thirty-second Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (CCFAC), which will be held in Beijing, China on March 20-24, 2000.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2000, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in Room 1409, FOB 8, 200 C. St. S.W., Washington, DC. Documents referenced in this notice can be reviewed at the FSIS Docket Clerk's office, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Room 102, Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700. The documents will also be accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address: <http://www.fao.org/waicent/faoinfo/economic/esn/codex/ccfac32/Fa00-01e.htm>. Send an original and two copies of comments to the FSIS Docket Clerk, Docket #00-001N, to the above address. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be available for public inspection in the FSIS Docket Clerk's office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick J. Clerkin, Associate U.S. Manager for Codex, U.S. Codex Office, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Room 4861, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: (202) 205-7760, Fax: (202) 720-3157.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

Codex was established in 1962 by two United Nations organizations, the Food

and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. Codex is the principal international organization for protecting the health and economic interests of consumers and encouraging fair international trade in food. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to ensure that the world's food supply is sound, wholesome, free from adulteration, and correctly labeled.

The CCFAC establishes or endorses maximum or guideline levels for individual food additives, for contaminants (including environmental contaminants), and for naturally occurring toxicants in foodstuffs and animal feeds. In addition, the Committee prepares priority lists of food additives and contaminants for toxicological evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives; recommends specifications of identity and purity for food additives for adoption by the Commission; considers methods of analysis for their determination in food; and considers and elaborates standards or codes for related subjects such as the labeling of food additives when sold as such and food irradiation. The Netherlands chairs the committee.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following lists the provisional agenda items that will be discussed during the public meeting on February 4, 2000:

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Matters referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other Codex Committees.
3. Summary Report of the 53rd Meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA).
4. Action Required as a Result of Changes in Acceptable Daily Intake Status and other Toxicological Recommendations.
5. Discussion Paper on the Application of Risk Analysis Principles for Food Additives and Contaminants.

Food Additives

1. Endorsement and/or Revision of Maximum Levels for Food Additives in Codex Standards.
2. Consideration of the Codex General Standard for Food Additives.
3. Discussion Paper on the Use of Colours in Foods.
4. Discussion Paper on Processing Aids.

5. Proposed Draft Revision to the Codex General Standard for Irradiated Foods.

6. Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives Arising from the 53rd JECFA Meeting.

7. Proposed Amendments to the International Numbering System.

Contaminants

1. Endorsement and/or Revision of Maximum Levels for Contaminants in Codex Standards.
2. Consideration of the Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods.
3. Methodology and Principles for Exposure Assessment in the Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods.
4. Mycotoxins in Food and Feed:
 - (a) Aflatoxin M₁ in Milk
 - (b) Ochratoxin A in Cereals
 - (c) Zearalenone
 - (d) Patulin
 - (e) Fumonisin.
5. Industrial and Environmental Contaminants in Foods:
 - (a) Proposed Draft Code of Practice for Source Directed Measures to Reduce Contamination of Food with Chemicals
 - (b) Lead
 - (c) Cadmium
 - (d) Dioxins.

General Issues

1. Proposals for Priority Evaluation of Food Additives and Contaminants by JECFA.
2. Other Business and Future Work:
 - (a) Comments on Methods of Analysis for the Determination of Food Additives and Contaminants in Foods.
 - (b) Comments on the Inventory of Processing Aids.
 - (c) Comments on Packaging Provisions to Maintain the Stability of Iodized Salt in the Codex Standard for Food Grade Salt.

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by Commission Secretariat or by The Netherlands' Secretariat to the Meeting. Members of the public may review copies of these documents (see **ADDRESSES**).

Public Meeting

At the February 4, 2000, public meeting, the agenda items will be described, discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development are important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women,

and persons with disabilities are aware of this public meeting notice, FSIS will announce it and provide copies of this **Federal Register** publication in the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly FSIS Constituent Update, which is communicated via fax to over 300 organizations and individuals. In addition, the update is available on line through the FSIS web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and any other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent fax list consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through these various channels, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. For more information and to be added to the constituent fax list, fax your request to the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-5704.

Done at Washington, DC on: January 19, 2000.

F. Edward Scarbrough,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

[FR Doc. 00-1663 Filed 1-21-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality will meet for the second time in FY 2000 to discuss the relationship between agricultural production and air quality. Special emphasis will be placed on promoting a greater understanding of agriculture's impact on air quality and the role it plays in the local and national economy. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will convene Tuesday, February 15, 2000 at 8:30 a.m. and continue until 5:00 p.m. The meeting will resume Thursday, February 17, 2000 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should reach

the Natural Resources Conservation Service on or before February 7, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Amerisuites, 6080 Bluebonnet Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, telephone (225) 769-4400/Fax (225) 769-7444. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should be sent to George Bluhm, University of California, Land, Air, and Water Resources, 151 Hoagland Hall, Davis, CA 95616-6827.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Questions or comments should be directed to George Bluhm, Designated Federal Official, telephone (530) 752-1018, fax (530) 752-1552, email bluhm@crocker.ucdavis.edu.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2. Additional information about the Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality, including any revised agendas for the November 9 and 10, 1999 meeting that may appear after this **Federal Register** Notice is published, may be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/faca/aaqtf.html>.

Draft Agenda of the February 15 And 17, 1999 Meeting

- A. Welcome to Louisiana by State and local officials
- B. Business, Pearlie Reed, Chief, NRCS and Chairperson, AAQTF
 1. Approve minutes of the November 9 and 10, 1999 AAQTF meeting
 2. Update on Agricultural Burning Policy recommendation
 3. Update on Voluntary Program recommendation
- C. GIS as an Emission Factor Tool, LDEQ Staff
- D. Subcommittee Reports, Pearlie Reed, Chief, NRCS and Chairperson, AAQTF
 1. Confined animals and emission factors subcommittee report, John Sweeten, Chairperson
 2. Research priorities and oversight subcommittee report, James Trotter, Chairperson
 3. Monitoring and health effects subcommittee report, Phillip Wakelyn, Chairperson
- E. EPA Update, Sally Shaver, EPA
- F. Set date and location for next meetings

Procedural

This meeting is open to the public. At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may present oral presentations during the February 15 and 17, 2000 meeting. Persons wishing

to make oral presentations should notify George Bluhm no later than February 7, 2000. If a person submitting material would like a copy distributed to each member of the committee in advance of the meeting, that person should submit 25 copies to George Bluhm no later than February 7, 2000.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact George Bluhm as soon as possible.

Dated: January 11, 2000.

Lawrence E. Clark,

Deputy Chief for Science and Technology, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

[FR Doc. 00-1632 Filed 1-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the North Carolina Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the North Carolina Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 1:00 p.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on February 9, 2000, at the North Carolina A&T State University, Hodgin Hall, Room 106, Greensboro, North Carolina 27411. The purpose of the meeting is to finalize a project proposal and to review civil rights issues.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Bobby D. Doctor, Director of the Southern Regional Office, 404-562-7000 (TDD 404-562-7004). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, January 11, 2000.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 00-1600 Filed 1-21-00; 8:45 am]

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