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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2012-0042]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), are sponsoring a public meeting on October 23, 2012. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information, receive public comments on agenda items, and draft United States (U.S.) positions that will be discussed at the 44th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), which will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, from November 12–16, 2012. The Under Secretary for Food Safety and FDA recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 44th Session of the CCFH and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2012, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in the Jamie L. Whitten Building, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 107–A, Washington, DC 20250.

Documents related to the 44th Session of the CCFH will be accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org>.

Jenny Scott, U.S. Delegate to the CCFH, invites U.S. interested parties to

submit their comments electronically to the following email address:

Jenny.Scott@fda.hhs.gov.

Call-In Number: If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 44th session of the CCFH by conference call, please use the call-in number and participant code listed below. Call-in Number: 1-888-858-2144. Participant Code: 6208658.

For Further Information About the 44th Session of the CCFH Contact: Jenny Scott, Senior Advisor, Office of Food Safety, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, HFS-300, Room 3B-014, College Park, MD 20740-3835, Telephone: (240) 402-2166, Fax: (202) 436-2632, Email:

Jenny.Scott@fda.hhs.gov.

For Further Information About the Public Meeting Contact: Barbara McNiff, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 4861, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: (202) 690-4719, Fax: (202) 720-3157, Email:

Barbara.McNiff@fsis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). 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 protect the health of consumers and ensure that fair practices are used in the food trade.

The CCFH is responsible for:

- (a) Drafting basic provisions on food hygiene applicable to all food;
- (b) Considering, amending if necessary, and endorsing provisions on hygiene prepared by Codex commodity committees and contained in Codex commodity standards;
- (c) Considering, amending if necessary, and endorsing provisions on hygiene prepared by Codex commodity committees and contained in Codex codes of practice unless, in specific cases, Codex has decided otherwise;
- (d) Drafting provisions on hygiene applicable to specific food items or food groups, whether coming within the terms of reference of a Codex commodity committee or not;
- (e) Considering specific hygiene problems assigned to it by Codex;

(f) Suggesting and prioritizing areas where there is a need for microbiological risk assessment at the international level and to develop questions to be addressed by the risk assessors; and

(g) Considering microbiological risk management matters in relation to food hygiene, including food irradiation, and in relation to the risk assessment of FAO/WHO.

The CCFH is hosted by the United States.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the agenda for the 44th Session of the CCFH will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters Referred by Codex and/or Other Codex Committees and Task Forces to the Food Hygiene Committee
 - Draft Regional Code of Practice for Street-Vended Foods (Near East)
 - Matters Arising from the Work of FAO, WHO and Other International Intergovernmental Organizations
 - (a) Progress Report on the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA) and Related Matters
 - (b) Information from the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
 - Proposed Draft Revision of *Principles for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria for Foods* at Step 4
 - Practical Examples on the Application and Establishment of Microbiological Criteria
 - Proposed Draft Guidelines for *Control of Specific Zoonotic Parasites in Meat: Trichinella spiralis and Cysticercus bovis* at Step 4
 - Proposed Draft Revision of the *Code of Hygienic Practice for Spices and Dried Aromatic Plants* at Step 4
 - Proposed Draft Annex on Berries to the *Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables* at Step 4
 - Discussion Paper on a Code of Hygienic Practice for Low Moisture Food
 - Discussion Paper on New Work and Periodic Review/Revision of Codes of Hygienic Practice
 - CCFH Work Priorities
- Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Codex Secretariat prior to the CCFH meeting. Members of the public may access these documents (see **ADDRESSES**).

Public Meeting

At the October 23, 2012, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S. Delegate for the 44th Session of the CCFH, Jenny Scott (see **ADDRESSES**). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 44th Session of the CCFH.

Additional Public Notification

FSIS will announce this notice online through the FSIS Web page located at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/Federal_Register_Notices/index.asp.

FSIS will also make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade groups, consumer interest groups, health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is also available on the FSIS Web page. In addition, FSIS offers an electronic mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information.

This service is available at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Email_Subscription/. Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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To file a written complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights,

1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Done at Washington, DC, on: October 1, 2012.

Karen Stuck,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

[FR Doc. 2012-25001 Filed 10-10-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

APPALACHIAN STATES LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION**Annual Meeting**

Time and Date: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

November 2, 2012.

Place: Harrisburg Hilton and Towers, One North Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101.

Status: The meeting will be open to the public.

Matters To Be Considered

Portions Open to the Public: The primary purpose of this meeting is to (1) Review the independent auditors' report of Commission's financial statements for fiscal year 2011–2012; (2) Review the Low-Level Radioactive Waste (LLRW) generation information for 2010; (3) Consider a proposed budget for fiscal year 2013–2014; (4) Review recent developments regarding LLRW management and disposal; and (5) Elect the Commission's Officers.

Portions Closed to the Public: Executive Session, if deemed necessary, will be announced at the meeting.

Contact Person for More Information: Rich Janati, Administrator of the Commission, at 717-787-2163.

Rich Janati,

Administrator, Appalachian Compact Commission.

[FR Doc. 2012-24999 Filed 10-10-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Bureau of Industry and Security****Sensors and Instrumentation Technical Advisory Committee; Notice of Partially Closed Meeting**

The Sensors and Instrumentation Technical Advisory Committee (SITAC) will meet on October 30, 2012, 9:30 a.m., in the Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 3884, 14th Street between Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues NW., Washington, DC. The Committee advises the Office of the Assistant

Secretary for Export Administration on technical questions that affect the level of export controls applicable to sensors and instrumentation equipment and technology.

Agenda*Public Session*

1. Welcome and Introductions.
2. Remarks from the Bureau of Industry and Security Management.
3. Industry Presentations.
4. New Business.

Closed Session

5. Discussion of matters determined to be exempt from the provisions relating to public meetings found in 5 U.S.C. app. 2 10(a)(1) and 10(a)(3). The open session will be accessible via teleconference to 20 participants on a first come, first serve basis. To join the conference, submit inquiries to Ms. Yvette Springer at Yvette.Springer@bis.doc.gov no later than October 23, 2012.

A limited number of seats will be available during the public session of the meeting. Reservations are not accepted. To the extent that time permits, members of the public may present oral statements to the Committee. The public may submit written statements at any time before or after the meeting. However, to facilitate distribution of public presentation materials to the Committee members, the Committee suggests that the materials be forwarded before the meeting to Ms. Springer.

The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on September 27, 2011 pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. app. 2 10(d)), that the portion of this meeting dealing with pre-decisional changes to the Commerce Control List and U.S. export control policies shall be exempt from the provisions relating to public meetings found in 5 U.S.C. app. 2 10(a)(1) and 10(a)(3). The remaining portions of the meeting will be open to the public.

For more information contact Yvette Springer on (202) 482-2813.

Dated: October 4, 2012.

Yvette Springer,

Committee Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-25036 Filed 10-10-12; 8:45 am]

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