

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[Docket No. 98-021N]

National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Meat and Poultry Subcommittee of the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Food (NACMCF) will meet on May 6 and 7, 1998, to discuss a number of issues that have been raised with regard to the Committee's Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Principles and Application Guidelines, a document that was adopted August 1997 at the NACMCF meeting in Seattle, Washington. On May 6, the Subcommittee will have further discussion of such issues as Good Manufacturing Practices, Hazard Identification, Critical Control Points, Corrective Actions, Verification, and Monitoring. On May 7, the Subcommittee plans to work on further development of HACCP guidelines for very small establishments.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 6 and 7, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Conference Center, 4700 River Road, in Conference Rooms A and B, Riverdale, Maryland 20737.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Subcommittee is encouraging persons with information on the discussion items in the **SUMMARY** to present their comments and recommendations to the group. Persons interested in making presentations, submitting technical papers, or providing comments should submit them by April 27, 1998, to Dr. Richard L. Ellis, Suite 6913 Franklin Court, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW,

Washington DC 20250-3700. The materials should be in a format suitable for preparing hard copy for review by Subcommittee members. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation should contact Ms. Amelia Wright at the above address or by telephone (202) 501-7343 by April 27, 1998. All technical papers, comments, and data about the meeting will be available for public viewing beginning May 21, 1998, in the FSIS Docket Room, Room 102, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The meeting is open to the public on a space-available basis. Comments may be made before or after the meeting is held. All comments will become part of the public record on this meeting.

The Committee was established in April 1988. It provides advice and recommendations to the Secretaries of Agriculture and Health and Human Services concerning microbiological and epidemiological aspects of food safety and foodborne diseases and also provides specific information to the Departments of Defense and Commerce.

Done at Washington, DC, on April 15, 1998.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-10602 Filed 4-21-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-022N]

Codex Alimentarius: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA); and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, are sponsoring a public meeting on May 8, 1998, to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items that will be discussed at the *Codex* Committee on

Milk and Milk Products Meeting. The meeting will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, May 18-22, 1998.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 8, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in Room 0745, South Agriculture Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick J. Clerkin, Director, U.S. Codex Office, Food Safety and Inspection Service; 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 major international organization for encouraging fair international trade in food and protecting the health and economic interests of consumers. 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 *Codex* Committee on Milk and Milk Products was established to elaborate codes and standards for Milk and Milk Products. The Government of New Zealand hosts this committee and will chair the committee meeting.

Issues to be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following specific issues will be discussed during the public meeting:

1. Matters referred by the *Codex Alimentarius Commission* and other *Codex* committees.
2. Draft Code of Principles Concerning Milk and Milk Products.
3. Common Labeling Provisions of Milk Products Standards.
4. Review of the Draft and Draft Revised Standards: Butter; Milk Products; Evaporated Milks; Sweetened Condensed Milks; Milk and Cream Powders; Cheese; Whey Cheese; Cheese in Brine; and Unripened Cheeses; at Step 7.