

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. TB-00-21]

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection in support of the Dairy and Tobacco Adjustment Act of 1983 and the Tobacco Inspection Act and the Regulations Governing the Tobacco Standards.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 1, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact John W. Foster, Chief, Standardization and Review Branch, Tobacco Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 511 Annex Building, P. O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456, Telephone (202) 205-0744 and Fax (202) 205-1191.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for 7 CFR Part 29.

OMB Number: 0581-0056.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2001.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Tobacco Inspection Act (7 U.S.C. 511 *et seq.*) requires that all tobacco sold at designated auction markets in the U.S. be inspected and

graded. Provision is also made for interested parties to request inspection and grading services on an as needed basis. Also, the Dairy and Tobacco Adjustment Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 511r) requires the Secretary to inspect all tobacco offered for importation into the United States for grade and quality except cigar and oriental tobacco which must be certified by the importer as to kind and type, and in the case of cigar tobacco, that such tobacco will be used solely in the manufacture of cigars.

The information collection requirements authorized for the programs under the Tobacco Inspection Act and the Dairy and Tobacco Adjustment Act of 1983 include: application for inspection of tobacco, applications and other information used in the approval of new auction markets or the extension of services to designated tobacco markets, and information required to be provided in connection with auction sales.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.40 hours per response.

Respondents: Primarily tobacco companies, tobacco manufacturers, import inspectors, and small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 645.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 21.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 5,569.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to John W. Foster, Chief, Standardization and Review Branch, Tobacco Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.

Department of Agriculture, Rm. 511 Annex Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456 and will be available for public inspection in Room 511 Annex Building, 300 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 26, 2000.

William O. Coats,

Acting Deputy Administrator, Tobacco Programs.

[FR Doc. 00-25137 Filed 9-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 00-041N]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committees on Natural Mineral Waters and Cocoa Products and Chocolate

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 17, 2000. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States positions that will be discussed at the following upcoming committee meetings.

- Seventh Session of the Codex Committee on Natural Mineral Waters (CCNMW) to be held in Fribourg, Switzerland, October 30–November 1, 2000

- Eighteenth Session of the Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate (CCCPC) to be held in Fribourg, Switzerland, November 2–4, 2000.

The Under Secretary and FDA recognize the importance of providing

interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the Sessions of CCNMW and CCCPC and to address items on the agendas.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in Conference Room 1409, Federal Office Building 8, Food and Drug Administration, 200 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20204. To receive copies of the documents referenced in this notice, contact the FSIS Docket Room, 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>. Submit one original and two copies of written comments to the FSIS Docket Room (address above) and include Docket 100-041N and the Codex document number on the written submission. All comments received in response to this notice will be considered part of the public record and will be available for viewing in the FSIS Docket Room 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, FSIS, Room 4861, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700, Telephone (202) 205-7760; Fax (202) 720-3157. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should notify Mr. Clerkin at the above number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Codex was established in 1962 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Codex is the major 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 Codex Committee on Natural Mineral Waters was established as a Regional (European) Codex Committee, but has been allocated the task of elaborating worldwide standards for

natural mineral waters and other bottled/package waters. The Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate was established to elaborate worldwide standards for cocoa products and chocolate. The Government of Switzerland hosts these Committees and will chair the Committee meetings.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The U.S. Delegate for the Codex Committee on Natural Mineral Waters will discuss the following subjects at the public meeting from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

1. Matters Referred to the Committee, Document *CX/NMW 00/2*
2. Consideration of Proposed Draft General Standard for Bottled/ Packaged Waters Other Than Natural Mineral Waters at Step 4, Document *ALINORM 99/20 Appendix II*
3. Codex Standard for Natural Mineral Waters: Limits for Health Related Substances, Document *CX/NMW 00/4*

The U.S. Delegate for the Codex Committee on Cocoa Products and Chocolate will discuss the following subjects at the public meeting from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.

1. Matters Referred to the Committee, Document *CX/CCP 00/2*
2. Draft Revised Standards at Step 7 For
 - (a) Cocoa Butters, Document *ALINORM 99/14 Appendix II*
 - (b) Cocoa (cacao) Mass, Cocoa (Cacao) Chocolate Liquor, Cocoa Cake for Use in the Manufacture of Cocoa and Chocolate Products, Document *ALINORM 99/14 Appendix III*
 - (c) Cocoa Powders (Cocoas) and Dry Cocoa-Sugar Mixtures, Document *ALINORM 99/14 Appendix IV*
3. Proposed Draft Standard for Chocolate and Chocolate products at Step 4, Document *ALINORM 99/14 Appendix V*

Additional Public Notification

Public Awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this 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 effect or would be of interest to our constituents/ stakeholders. The constituent fax list consists of industry, trade, farm, and consumer interest groups, allied health professionals and 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 FSIS Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-5704.

Done at Washington, DC on: September 27, 2000.

F. Edward Scarbrough,

U.S. Manager for Codex.

[FR Doc. 00-25223 Filed 9-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council will meet in Lexington, Kentucky, October 12-14, 2000. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss emerging issues in urban and community forestry.

DATES: The meeting will be held October 12-14, 2000. A tour of local projects will be held on October 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Lexington North, 1950 Newtown Pike, Lexington, Kentucky.

Individuals who wish to speak at the meeting or to propose agenda items must send their names and proposals to Suzanne M. del Villar, Executive Assistant, National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council, 20628 Diane Drive, Sonoma, CA 95370. Individuals also may fax their names and proposed agenda items to (209) 536-9089.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne M. del Villar, Cooperative Forestry Staff, at (209) 536-9201.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Council discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Council members. However, persons who wish to bring urban and community forestry matters to the attention of the Council may file written