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FEATURE

The forthcoming 50th meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Committee on Food Additives (CCFA50) is expected to make significant progress in reducing the backlog on food additives other than sweeteners and colours, but will also discuss important changes to the ways the Committee is working to move towards a “CCFA 2.0”. The meeting will also address the important suggested enhanced alignment of the food additive provisions included in the Codex General Standard on Food Additives (GSFA) with vertical food standards on fish and fishery products and is expected to continue that fundamental work on other standardized foods. CCFA50 will also address the regular points on its agenda regarding actions of other Codex bodies, the FAO/WHO Joint Expert Meeting on Food Additives (JECFA), revisions to the class names and international numbering system for food additives, and assignment of new priority items for review by JECFA

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FEATURE

The forthcoming 12th meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Committee on Contaminants (and Toxins) in Foods (CCCF12) has a loaded agenda, including the adoption of new and revised maximum tolerable levels for contaminants and toxins, such as lead, cadmium, methyl mercury, total aflatoxins, and ochratoxin A in several foods. CCCF12 will also consider the adoption of two codes of practices concerning the reduction of (i) dioxins, PCB-like dioxins, and (ii) 3-MCPD and glycidyl esters in refined vegetable oils and derived products, especially in infant formulas. In addition, for the first time, CCCF12 will discuss a new guidance for risk analysis of the inadvertent low level presence of chemicals in food. Furthermore, CCCF12 will review several discussion papers paving the way to continue working on other maximum levels (i.e. hydrocyanic acid, lead, aflatoxins and sterigmatocystin) as well as a code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium in cocoa (beans). Last, CCCF12 will address possible actions, based on (i) feedback from other Codex bodies, including the outcome of the last relevant FAO/WHO Joint Expert Meeting on Food Additives (JECFA).

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