

APRIL 11, 2023

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SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

Codex Requests for Comments with U.S. Comment Date Deadlines

- Numerous Codex Circular Letters are currently open for comment. Below is a list of topics of potential interest to CCB and instructions on how to have comments considered in the U.S. response:
 - Codex Committee on Food Labeling [requests comments](#) on draft Guidelines on the Use of Technology to Provide Food Information. Comments are due to Marie Maratos Bhat of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov). For reference, the Codex deadline for Member Countries and Codex Observers is April 14, 2023.
 - Codex Committee on Food Labeling [requests comments](#) on the Discussion Paper on Sustainability Labelling Claims. Comments are due to Marie Maratos Bhat of the U.S. Codex Office as soon as possible (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov). For reference, the Codex deadline for Member Countries and Codex Observers is April 14, 2023.
 - Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food [requests comments](#) on the level of natural radioactivity in feed, food, and drinking water. Comments are due to Doreen Chen-Moulec of the U.S. Codex Office by June 15, 2023 (Doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov).
 - Codex Committee on Food Hygiene [requests comment](#) on Draft Guidelines for the Safe Use and Re-use of Water in Food Production and Processing (General Section and Annex I on Fresh Produce). Comments are due to Marie Maratos Bhat of the U.S. Codex Office by June 15, 2023 (marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov).

UK Opens Consultation on Proposed Import Controls for Food

- On April 5, the United Kingdom's (UK) Food Standards Agency (FSA) [announced](#) a [consultation](#) on a draft version of the new [Border Target Operating Model \(BTOM\)](#) which establishes a framework for the monitoring of imports including food and agricultural products.
- According to the draft BTOM, import controls for food and agricultural goods will include the key elements of a global risk-based approach, simplified and digitized health certification, and access to streamlined controls for trusted importers with enhanced safety assurances. The system will be underpinned by the new UK Single Trade Window.
- The draft BTOM includes the following proposed implementation dates:
 - October 31, 2023: Introduction of health certification on imports of medium risk animal products, plants, plant products, and high-risk food and feed of non-animal origin from the European Union (EU)
 - January 31, 2024: Introduction of documentary and risk-based identity and physical checks on medium risk animal products, plants, plant products and high risk food (and feed) of non-animal origin from the EU. Imports of food and agricultural goods from the rest of the world will begin to benefit from the new risk-based model.

*(continues on page 2)***A REPORT FOR
THE CALIFORNIA
CHERRY BOARD**

UK Opens Consultation on Proposed Import Controls for Food (continued)

- October 31, 2024: Introduction of safety and security declaration requirements for EU imports; and introduction of a reduced dataset for imports and use of the UK Single Trade Window to remove duplication where possible across different pre-arrival datasets.
- Feedback may be provided through this [survey](#). Stakeholders are invited to provide responses on the proposal before a final version is published in June.
- The UK also [notified the WTO](#) on April 11 of the proposed BTOM. Comments can be sent to the U.S. SPS Inquiry Point at us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov. The WTO comment deadline is May 5, 2023.