

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 68, No. 206

Friday, October 24, 2003

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

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 03–036N]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on General Principles

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 27, 2003. 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 19th (Extraordinary) Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP) to be held in Paris, France, November 17–21, 2003. The Under Secretary for Food Safety and FDA recognize the importance of providing interested parties with the opportunity to obtain background information on the 19th (Extraordinary) Session of CCGP and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 27, 2003 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in Room 107A, JMW Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, Washington, DC. To receive copies of the Codex documents pertaining to the agenda items for the 19th (Extraordinary) CCGP session, contact the FSIS Docket Clerk, 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.codexalimentarius.net>. If you would like to submit comments on one or more agenda items, please send them to the FSIS Docket Clerk and reference Docket #03–036N. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be available for public inspection in the Docket Clerk's Office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ed Scarbrough, U.S. Manager for Codex, U.S. Codex Office, FSIS, Room 4861, South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250, Telephone (202) 205–7760; Fax: (202) 720–3157. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should notify Dr. Scarbrough 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 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 General Principles was established to deal with such procedural and general matters as are referred to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Such matters have included the establishment of the General Principles that define the purpose and scope of the Codex Alimentarius, the nature of Codex standards and the forms of acceptance by countries of Codex standards; the development of Guidelines for Codex Committees; the development of a mechanism for examining any economic impact statements submitted by governments concerning possible implications for their economies of some of the individual standards or some of the provisions thereof; and the

establishment of a Code of Ethics for the International Trade in Food. The Committee is hosted by the government of France.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

Items on the Provisional Agenda will be discussed at the public meeting.

Provisional Agenda

Agenda Item 1

Adoption of the Agenda CX/GP 03/19/1

Agenda Item 2

Matter Referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, including the Joint FAO/WHO Evaluation of the Codex Alimentarius and Other FAO and WHO Work on Food Standards CX/GP 03/19/2

Agenda Item 3

(a) Proposed Amendments to the Rules of Procedure, including the Structure and Functions of the Executive Committee CX/GP 03/19/3

(b) Proposed Amendment to Rule VII.5 CX/GP 03/19/3 Add. 2

(c) Consideration of the Status of Observers in the Executive Committee CX/GP 03/19/3 Add.2

Agenda Item 4

Processes for Standards Management (including the Critical Review):

(a) Revision of the Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities CX/GP 03/19/4

(b) Processes for Standards Management (including the review of the Elaboration Procedures) CX/GP 03/19/4 Add. 1

Agenda Item 5

Review of the Principles concerning the Participation of International Non-Governmental Organizations in the Work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission CX/GP 03/19/5

Agenda Item 6

Review of the Guidelines for Codex Committees

(a) advice to host countries (including criteria for the selection of chairpersons) CX/GP 03/19/6

(b) conduct of meetings CX/GP 03/19/6 Add. 1

Agenda Item 7

Other proposals to facilitate standard development (other than Standard management Process): Review of the Guidelines for Codex Committees and other additional

text CX/GP 03/19/7

Public Meeting

At the public meeting, the issues and draft United States' positions on the issues will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Comments may be sent to the FSIS Docket Room (*see ADDRESSES*). In addition, they may be sent electronically to the U.S. Delegate (*see ADDRESSES*). Please state that your comments relate to CCGP activities and specify which issues your comments address.

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 make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly Constituent Update, which is communicated via Listserv, a free e-mail subscription service. 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 affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent Listserv consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through the Listserv and Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience.

For more information contact the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-9113. To be added to the free e-mail subscription service (Listserv) go to the "Constituent Update" page on the FSIS Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/oa/update/update.htm>. Click on the "Subscribe to the Constituent Update Listserv" link, then fill out and submit the form.

Done at Washington, DC, on October 20, 2003.

F. Edward Scarbrough,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

[FR Doc. 03-26817 Filed 10-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Intergovernmental Advisory Committee Meeting, Northwest Forest Plan

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC), Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP), will meet on November 5, 2003, at the DoubleTree Hotel, located at the DoubleTree Hotel, 1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, Oregon 97232. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and adjourn at approximately 4 p.m. In general, the purpose of the meeting is to continue committee discussions related to NWFP implementation. Meeting agenda items include, but are not limited to, a report from the Regional Interagency Executive Committee on potential NWFP implementation improvements, an overview of how the Federal budget process affects plan implementation, along with other progress reports (such as updates on the Survey and Manage and the Aquatic Conservation Strategy supplemental environmental impact statements). The meeting is open to the public and fully accessible for people with disabilities. A 15-minute time slot is reserved for public comments at 10:15 a.m. Interpreters are available upon request at least 10 days prior to the meeting. Written comments may be submitted for the meeting record. Interested persons are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding this meeting may be directed to Kath Collier, Management Analyst, Regional Ecosystem Office, 333 SW First Avenue, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208 (Phone: 503-808-2165).

Dated: October 7, 2003.

Anne Badgley,

Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 03-26975 Filed 10-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Lake Tahoe Basin Federal Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Lake Tahoe Basin Federal Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Nov. 14, 2003, at the North Tahoe Conference Center, 8318 North

Lake Blvd., Kings Beach, CA. This Committee, established by the Secretary of Agriculture on December 15, 1998, (64 FR 2876) is chartered to provide advice to the Secretary on implementing the terms of the Federal Interagency Partnership on the Lake Tahoe Region and other matters raised by the Secretary.

DATES: The meeting will be held Nov. 14, 2003, beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 1 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the North Tahoe Conference Center, 8318 North Lake Blvd., Kings Beach, CA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maribeth Gustafson or Jeannie Stafford, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Forest Service, 870 Emerald Bay Road, Suite 1, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150, (530) 543-2642.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The committee will meet jointly with the Lake Tahoe Basin Executives Committee. Items to be covered on the agenda include: Welcome Introductions & Review of Agenda, Federal Transportation Administration participation discussion, Role of LTFAC With the SNPLMA, USACE Tahoe Framework Implementation Study Update, TIIMS Prototype Rollout Presentation, Logistics/Review, and public comment. All Lake Tahoe Basin Federal Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. Issues may be brought to the attention of the Committee during the open public comment period at the meeting or by filing written statements with the secretary for the Committee before or after the meeting. Please refer any written comments to the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit at the contact address stated above.

Dated: October 20, 2003.

Mary Morgan,

Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-26835 Filed 10-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Fresno County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Fresno County Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Clovis, California. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and to recommend