

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS

EWG Invitation

This message is sent on behalf of United States of America and China

Title	EWG on the Draft Standard for Microbial Omega-3 Oils
Committee	Codex Committee on Fats and Oils
Session	29th Session
Chair of EWG	United States of America
Co-Chair	China
Working Languages	English
Description of work	The Terms of Reference of the EWG are as follows: • consider the outstanding issues in square brackets, taking into account the discussions at CCFO29, and the comments submitted at Step 5/6 in reply to the Circular Letter (CL 2026/24 - CAC) that would be issued subject to the adoption of the proposed draft standard at Step 5 by CAC49; • elaborate proposed draft revisions to <i>Standard for Edible Fats and Oils Not Covered by Individual Standards</i> (CXS 19-1981) that would need to be applied consequential to the final adoption of the proposed draft standard for microbial omega-3 oils at a future session of CAC; and • prepare a report of the EWG for consideration by CCFO30 (March 2028), which should be submitted at least three months prior to the session.

CCFO29 agreed to keep open the possibility to convene a pre-session working group in advance of CCFO30 to further refine the draft standard.

Timetable for work	
15 July 2026	Deadline to register. First draft circulated for comments.
15 November 2026	Deadline for comments on the first round
15 January 2027	Second draft circulated for comments (including summary of comments received)
15 April 2027	Deadline for comments on the second round
15 June 2027	Third draft circulated for comments, if needed
15 August 2027	Deadline for comments on the third round
15 October 2027	Circulation of the final draft text + draft EWG report for comments
15 November 2027	Deadline for comments on the final draft text and draft EWG report
15 December 2027	Final draft text and EWG report submitted to the Codex Secretariat

Email for registration Gregory.noonan@fda.hhs.gov; marie.maratosbhat@usda.gov; isotc34sc4@163.com; codexchinamoa@126.com

Registration deadline 15 July 2026

EWG online platform Yes

Codex Members and Observers are invited to register their experts for this Electronic Working Group. When there are more than one expert, each country or observer organization shall designate **one** as the official representative to participate in the EWG.

Applications should be sent through the Codex Contact Point (CCP) of the member or recognized observer organization in an email detailing:

- participant's name
- official title or position
- organization or country
- email address

The EWG platform Link: <http://forum.codex-alimentarius.net/index.php>

Usergroup name: CCFO29 Microbial Omega-3 Oils (2026)

The platform will require members to login. New participants to the platform should first register.

Those participants who have previously registered on the platform can request to join the usergroup directly. Additional guidance may be found in the [online guide](#) and [video tutorial](#).

The EWG Chair and Co-chair will give participants access to the group online once they have verified their credentials, so please ensure that you follow the procedure for applications and email the chair through your CCP even if you are already registered on the platform.

Once your CCP has sent your application, you can request to join the EWG usergroup directly on the platform. You do not need to create a new registration if you have previously used the platform.

Technical support For all technical assistance regarding the platform, please contact the platform administrator (the Codex Secretariat) using the Contact link on the platform homepage or via codex@fao.org.

We look forward to your participation.

Ms. Marie MARATOS BHAT

US Codex Office

Dr. Gregory NOONAN

U.S. FDA

Dr. QI Xiaozhe

National Food and Strategic Reserves Administration (NAFRA), China