

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) Call for Toxicological and Epidemiological Experts

C O D E X A L I M E N T A R I U S
International Food Standards



World Health
Organization



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations

The Chilean Agency for Food Safety and Quality, ACHIPIA, invited to participate in the call by the JECFA of the call at the renewal of the current roster of experts on food additives.

1. Background

The Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) is an independent international scientific expert committee administered jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and WHO. The Committee provides science advice on potential human health impact of food chemicals as basis for acceptable levels of chemicals in food to the Codex Alimentarius Commission and to Member States in their regulatory control programmes.

The Committee is convened on a regular basis since 1956, initially to conduct the safety evaluation of food additives (including flavours and processing aids).

Its work now also includes the evaluation of contaminants, naturally occurring toxicants and residues of veterinary drugs in food.

WHO uses procedures for the selection of experts that assure the excellence, independence, and transparency of the recommendations of its scientific committees. This process was developed to ensure that the pool of available experts includes a diversity of expertise and viewpoints and includes scientists from all geographic regions of the world.



The objective of this call is to renew the current expert roster by identifying qualified scientists willing to serve as WHO experts on JECFA and to assist the Secretariat in the preparation of working papers.

2. Expertise and resources required

Experts will be responsible for reviewing epidemiological, toxicological, mechanistic and related data and for establishing, where possible, acceptable daily intakes (ADIs) or provide other safety advice for food additives, establish ADIs and acute reference doses for veterinary drugs, and tolerable intakes or other risk assessment advice for contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants.

The scientific food safety risk assessment is a multidisciplinary exercise that involves specialists in biology, chemistry, toxicology, medicine and applied statistics. Experts should be recognized within their scientific community by the way of peer-reviewed publications in national and international journals or otherwise have demonstrated expertise in one or more of the components of the risk assessment process (hazard identification, hazard characterization, exposure assessment, risk characterization) at national or regional level.

Successful candidates should meet most or all of the following qualifications:

- Hold an advanced university degree(s) in toxicology, pharmacology, biochemistry, pathology, epidemiology, molecular biology or statistics.
- Scientific excellence evidenced by publications in peer-reviewed specialized journals.
- Professional experience in food chemicals or a related field.
- Practical experience in reviewing, analyzing, evaluating, and extrapolating experimental, animal, and other biological data on toxic chemicals to humans.
- Experience in delivering scientific assessments at the national or international level
- Ability to converse in and write documents in English.
- Ability to prepare documents and spreadsheets in electronic format.
- Familiarity with the risk analysis processes, in particular as it relates to JECFA and Codex.
- Ability to work with people from different cultural backgrounds as well as with scientists from various disciplines.



Interested scientists are invited to submit their curriculum vitae:

The applicant should include a description of education, work experience, and a list of peer reviewed publications in the application, including reference to two persons with knowledge of the professional qualifications.

Scientists preparing background papers and draft evaluations should have hands-on experience in reviewing toxicological dossiers and in preparing evaluation reports.

Scientists to be considered as Members (Reviewers) of the Committee should have longstanding and broad experience in the evaluation of chemicals in food.

Experts should also indicate whether time would be made available by his or her employer for the review of dossiers and preparation of working papers before the meeting and if he or she would have ready access to other experts, such as pathologists, pharmacologists, epidemiologists or statisticians to offer advice on various scientific issues as they arise during the review and preparation of the working papers.

3. Process for selection of experts

The curriculum vitae that are submitted will be reviewed by a selection panel, which will determine whether the applicant meets the essential requirements outlined in this call.

The experts who are selected will be appointed to a roster from which experts for individual meetings are selected.

Appointments to the roster will be for a period of 5 years. The names and affiliations of those scientists placed on the roster will be public information.

Applications should be submitted by March 30th 2016 to:

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