DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2015-0023]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products

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), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), are sponsoring a public meeting on September 24, 2015. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 34th Session of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), taking place in Ålesund, Norway from October 19-24, 2015. The Under Secretary for Food Safety, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Food and Drug Administration recognizes the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 34th Session of CCFFP and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2015, from 1:00–4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), Harvey Wiley Building, Room 1A–002, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD 20740. Documents related to the 34th Session of CCFFP will be accessible via the Internet at the following address: http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en/.

Dr. William Jones, U.S. Delegate to the 34th Session of CCFFP, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: William.Jones@fda.hhs.gov.

Call In Number: If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 34th Session of the CCFFP, by conference call, Please use the call in number listed below:

Call in Number: 301–796–7777 or Toll Free: 855–828–1770, Participant

Meeting ID: 17359750#, Participant Password: 4021401#

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by emailing Melissa. Abbott@fda.hhs.gov by
September 21, 2015. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will be held in a Federal building.
Attendees should also bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through security screening systems. Attendees who are not able to attend the meeting in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For Further Information About the 34th Session of CCFFP Contact: Dr. William Jones, Director, Division of Seafood Safety, Office of Food Safety, (HFS-325) U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD, 20740, Phone: (240) 402–2300, Fax: (301) 436–2601, Email: William.Jones@fda.hhs.gov.

For Further Information About the Public Meeting Contact: Paulo Almeida, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue, Room 4861, Washington, DC 20250. Phone: (202) 205–7760, Fax: (202) 720–3157, Email: Paulo.Almeida@fsis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius (Codex) was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). 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 protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The CCFFP is responsible for elaborating worldwide standards for fresh, frozen (including quick frozen) or otherwise processed fish, crustaceans and molluscs.

The Committee is hosted by Norway.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the agenda for the 34th Session of CCFFP will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters Referred to the Committee by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other Codex Committees
- Matters arising from the Work of FAO and WHO
- Draft Code of Practice for Processing of Fish Sauce

- Proposed Draft Code of Practice on the Processing of Fresh and Quick-Frozen Raw Scallop Products
- Proposed Draft Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (section on sturgeon caviar)
- Proposed Food Additive Provisions in Standards for Fish and Fishery Products
- Discussion Paper on Nitrogen Factors (amendments to section 7.4 of the Standard for Quick Frozen Fish Sticks (Fish Fingers), Fish Portions and Fish Fillets-Breaded or in Batter (Codex STAN 166–1989)
- Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (optional final product requirements for commodities/appendix on MAP)
 - Discussion Paper on Histamine
- Other Business and Future Work

 (a) New Work Proposal on a standard
 for Fresh Chilled Pirarucu Fillet or
 whole Fish
- (b) Discussion Paper on the future of the Committee

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Secretariat prior to the Meeting. Members of the public may access or request copies of these documents (see ADDRESSES).

Public Meeting

At the September 24, 2015, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S. Delegate for the 34th Session of CCFFP, Dr. William Jones (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 34th Session of CCFFP.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the FSIS Web page located at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register.

FSIS also will make copies of this publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, Federal Register notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The Update is available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email

subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

No agency, officer, or employee of the USDA shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs, exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person in the United States under any program or activity conducted by the USDA.

How To File a Complaint of Discrimination

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program
Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email: *Mail*: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW.,

Washington, DC 20250–9410. Fax: (202) 690–7442.

Email Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington, DC, on July 24, 2015. Mary Frances Lowe,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius. [FR Doc. 2015–18629 Filed 7–29–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees Program

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA. **ACTION:** Notice of solicitation of applications (NOSA).

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the United States

Department of Agriculture (USDA), announces that it is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2015 for the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee program (the Broadband Program). RUS has published on its Web site http://www.rd.usda.gov/newsroom/notices-solicitation-applications-nosas the amount of funding received through the final appropriations act.

In addition to announcing the application window, RUS announces the minimum and maximum amounts for broadband loans for FY 2015. Moreover, the Agency is concurrently publishing a proposed interim final rule that will revise the current Broadband Program regulations at 7 CFR part 1738, as necessitated by *Pubic Law 113–79*, the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill).

DATES: Applications under this NOSA will be accepted immediately, July 30, 2015 through September 30, 2015, subject to the requirements of the interim regulation published concurrently with this NOSA.

ADDRESSES: Applications should be submitted to the RUS General Field Representative or to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, Loan Originations and Approval Division, ATTN: Shawn Arner, STOP 1597, Room 2808–S, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250–1597, as provided in the application guide found online at http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/farm-bill-broadband-loans-loan-guarantees.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact Shawn Arner, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Loan Originations and Approval Division, Rural Utilities Service, STOP 1597, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–1597, Telephone (202) 720–0800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

General Information

The Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program (the Broadband Program) is authorized by the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*), as amended by the 2014 Farm Bill.

During FY 2015, loans will be made available for the construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment to provide service at the broadband lending speed for eligible rural areas. Applications must be submitted in accordance with the interim final rule published concurrently with this NOSA.

To assist in the preparation of applications, the application guide is available online at: http://

www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/ farm-bill-broadband-loans-loanguarantees. Application guides may also be requested from RUS by contacting the agency contact.

Application requirements and Addresses: All requirements and addresses for submission of an application under the Broadband Program will be set forth in the interim regulation published concurrently with this NOSA.

Application Materials: Applications for the Broadband Program will be available at http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/farm-bill-broadband-loans-loan-guarantees.

Minimum and Maximum Loan Amounts

Loans under this authority will not be made for less than \$100,000. The maximum loan amount that will be considered for FY 2015 is \$20,000,000.

Required Definitions for Broadband Program Regulation

The interim regulation for the Broadband Program requires that certain definitions affecting eligibility be revised and published from time to time by the agency in the Federal Register. For the purposes of this interim regulation, the agency shall use the following definitions: Broadband Service and Broadband Lending Speed. Until otherwise revised in the **Federal** Register, for applications in FY 2015, to qualify as broadband service, the minimum rate-of-data transmission shall be four megabits downstream and one megabit upstream for both fixed and mobile broadband service and the broadband lending speed will be a minimum bandwidth of ten megabits downstream and one megabit upstream for both fixed and mobile service to the customer.

Priority for Approving Loan Applications

Applications for FY 2015 will be accepted from July 30, 2015 through September 30, 2015. Although review of applications will start when they are submitted, all applications submitted by September 30, 2015 will be evaluated and ranked on the basis of the number of unserved households in the proposed funded service area. Subject to available funding, eligible applications that propose to serve the most unserved households will receive funding offers before other eligible applications that have been submitted.

Applications will not be accepted after September 30, 2015, until a new funding window has been opened with