

European Union Comments

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL
DIETARY USES**

Thirty-seventh Session

Bad Soden, Germany, 23 – 27 November 2015

**Agenda item 2: Matters Referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission
and other Committees**

Part B. MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (70th Session)

Monitoring of Standards Development

Member States competence

Member States vote

The Member States of the European Union (MSEU) do not see a need to develop an approach for the management of the work of CCNFSDU similar to that used by CCFH. However, the MSEU remain open to consider any suggestion that may be proposed for setting criteria for the prioritisation of the work of the Committee.

Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF8)

ML for lead in infant formula

European Union Competence

European Union Vote

The European Union agrees with the removal of this ML from the section on contaminants in the Standard for Infant Formula and Formulas for Special Medical Purposes Intended for Infants and instead to make reference to the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (GSCTFF).

Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS36)

*Mixed competence
Member States vote*

Lowest level of trans fatty acids

In light of the answer from CCMAS, the European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to ask the Committee to resume the discussion on the basis of the proposals made by Canada (CX/NFSDU 14/36/10), for the setting of the conditions of use of the claims 'trans-fat free': 0.1g per 100g/100ml/serving.

Once these are agreed, CCMAS could be consulted on the basis of these conditions, if questions about their enforceability are raised.

Committee on Food Additives (CCFA47)

Use of gum Arabic (INS 414) and carrageenan (INS 407)

*European Union Competence
European Union Vote*

Before commenting on the use of specific food additives, the EU would like to reiterate the approach discussed and proposed by JECFA in 1971, implemented by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and endorsed by the 43rd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (2011) that “*baby foods should be prepared without food additives whenever possible. Where the use of a food additive becomes necessary in baby foods, great caution should be exercised regarding both the choice of additive and its level of use*”.

As regards the use of INS 414 Gum arabic in food category 13.1 “Infant formula, follow-up formula, and formula for special medical purpose for infants” and in products conforming to the corresponding commodity standards, the EU is of the view that products falling under the mentioned food category and under the corresponding commodity standards could be prepared without the use of INS 414, in the same way that products available on the EU market are. Taking into account the principle referred to in the previous paragraph (i.e. baby foods should be prepared without food additives whenever possible) the EU does not support the use of INS 414 in food category 13.1.

A similar cautious approach should be taken as regards the use of INS 407 Carrageenan in food category 13.2 Complementary foods for infants and young children and in products conforming to the corresponding commodity standards. For example, the EU is not aware of the necessity to use INS 407 for processed cereal-based foods and baby foods for infants and young children. Without the information as to why the use of INS 407 is necessary, at what level and for which products, the EU cannot support the use of INS 407 in food category 13.2 and the corresponding commodity standards.