

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

**European Union comments on**

**CL 2022/24/OCS-NFSDU**

**Review of the Standard for Follow-Up Formula (CODEX STAN 156-1987)**

*European Union Competence  
European Union Vote*

**STRUCTURE**

The European Union (EU) supports option a, one standard with two parts.

As diets progressively diversify, the role of the products in question also changes over time in the diet of infants and young children, however, the products are conceptually similar (i.e. they are liquid elements in the diversified diet of older infants and young children). The EU is of the view that one standard sufficiently accommodates the role of the products in the diet of infants and young children by having two separate parts in it. This option would be consistent with the approach taken in the Infant Formula Standard (which has Part A covering infant formula and Part B covering formulas for special medical purposes intended for infants, both product types with differing objectives and compositions) as well as with the approach taken in other Codex standards and guidelines, such as the Standard for Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children (CXS 74-1981) and the Guidelines on Formulated Complementary Foods for older infants and young children (CXSG 8-1991), which are applicable to both infants and young children. Furthermore, option a is in line with the approach already taken before by having a Standard for Follow-up formula for the age range of 6–36 months, while a point of differentiation being included now at 12 months.

As regards option b, the EU wishes to reiterate that the European Food Safety Authority in its opinion of 2013 noted that these products are one of the means to increase intakes of certain nutrients at risk of inadequacy for some young children, but have no unique role and cannot be considered as a necessity to satisfy the nutritional requirements of young children when compared to other foods that may be included in their normal diet. The EU does therefore not support to have two separate standards for Follow-up Formula for older infants and products for young children.

**PREAMBLE**

- 1. Do you think this Standard(s) requires a Preamble? Yes/No. If yes, what is the purpose of having a Preamble for this Standard(s)? Please provide rationale and justification for your thinking (either Yes or No).**

The EU is not opposed to have a preamble if there is a support for it in the Committee.