

27 January 2015

**European Union comments for the
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS
24th Session**

Melaka, Malaysia, 9 – 13 February 2015

Agenda Item 4

**Review of the list of acceptable previous cargoes
(CX/FO 15/24/4)**

*European Union Competence
European Union Vote*

The European Union (EU) welcomes and appreciates the work on the review of the list of acceptable previous cargoes performed by the electronic Working Group under the lead of Malaysia.

The EU agrees with the recommendation made by the electronic working group regarding the review of the substances currently on the list of acceptable previous cargoes.

As for the criteria for prioritisation of substances to be recommended for JECFA evaluation, the EU considers that priority should be given to previous cargoes that are frequently (criterion iv) transported in high volumes (criterion iii) and that haven't been previously evaluated (criterion i). Substances for which information related to their impurities or reaction is missing (criterion ii), products and substances that are not on the current list of acceptable previous cargoes could be evaluated with lower priority. However, grouping of low priority substances with other substances belonging to the same chemical class should be considered where this could lead to a speedy progress of the evaluation process. As a consequence, the EU is not in favour of adding new substances such as methyl acetate (CAS No. 79-20-9) to the list of acceptable previous cargoes at this moment.

Substances which have been evaluated by JECFA should only be re-evaluated in case new data are provided related to the acceptability or rejection of a substance as acceptable previous cargo.

In view of the limited resources in JECFA and taking into account that safety evaluations from recognised bodies have been performed with favourable outcome, the EU would propose to follow a pragmatic approach **limited to the review of the list of acceptable previous cargoes**. In this regard, the EU considers that the substances **currently in the Codex List of acceptable previous cargoes**, including those that were not assessed by JECFA should be maintained in the Codex List without further evaluation by JECFA unless Codex members

have any objection. This approach could also be used to establish the priority list for JECFA evaluation.

For **all the new substances** a JECFA evaluation should be conducted before CCFO considers its inclusion in the **Codex List of acceptable previous cargoes**.

As for the other substances to be further deliberated, the EU

- Has no objection to Fatty acid methyl esters being an entry on its own right in the list of acceptable previous cargoes;
- Considers that white mineral oils meet the criteria for acceptability as a previous cargo;
- Agrees that insufficient data are currently available for a favourable evaluation of calcium lignosulfonate liquid awaiting the availability of such data, the substance can be recommended for JECFA evaluation with low priority;
- Considers that the evaluation of reaction products as for Calcium ammonium nitrate solution and calcium nitrate (CN-9) solution should be covered under Criterion 4 in the Recommended International Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk (CAC/RCP 36-1987).