

European Union comments
CODEX COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS
3rd Session
Chennai, India, 6 -10 February 2017
Agenda Item 10 (a):
Glossary of terms for CCSCCH Standards
(CX/SCH 17/3/10)

Mixed Competence.

Member States Vote.

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank the United States of America for proposing a glossary of terms to be used within the CCSCCH.

The EUMS would like to submit the following comments:

1. Food additives

The proposed definition of food additives does not correspond to the definition of food additive as laid down in the Codex Procedural Manual and in the preamble to the GSFA.

The EUMS believe that the Committee should not deviate from existing definitions already agreed by the relevant General Subject Committee.

It is therefore proposed to delete the definition or to make reference to the existing GSFA definition.

2. Contaminant / Contamination

In the glossary “contamination” is described as: "Intentional or unintentional addition of extraneous material, foreign material (e.g. dirt, hair, excreta, moulds etc.) to a product rendering it unfit for the original intended purpose".

The Codex Procedural Manual currently define contaminants as: “Any substance not intentionally added to food or feed for food producing animals, which is present in such food or feed as a result of the production (including operations carried out in crop husbandry, animal husbandry and veterinary medicine), manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food or feed, or as a result of environmental contamination". The definition does not include insect fragments, rodent hairs and other extraneous matter.

The EUMS considers that the addition of a definition of contamination different than the one provided for by the Codex Procedural Manual could engender unnecessary confusion.

It is therefore proposed to delete the new proposed definition and to make reference to the existing definition of contaminant.