

CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD
14th Session

Virtual session, 3-7 and 13 May 2021

Agenda Item 18

Approach to identify the need for revision of standards and related texts
developed by CCCF (CX/CF 21/14/16)

Mixed Competence
Member States Vote

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) welcome and appreciate the work done by the Electronic Working Group chaired by Canada and co-chaired by Japan and the United States of America on the discussion paper on the implementation of a structured approach to identify the need for review of Codex standards and related texts for contaminants in food

COMMENTS ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN CX/CF 21/14/16 – paragraphs 24-26

The EUMS agree to implement option 2 on a 3-year basis as outlined in paragraphs 9 to 13 of CX/CF 21/14/16 and to evaluate option 2 to as outlined in paragraphs 14 and 16 of CX/CF 21/14/16.

The EUMS agree to the prioritisation criteria for identifying Codex standards for review and to a large extent to their priority rankings presented in Appendix I. The EUMS also agree on the general application of the priority rankings outlined in paragraph 20 with consideration of the information provided in paragraphs 21 to 23 of CX/CF 21/14/16.

As regards the proposed prioritization of criteria for identifying Codex Standards for review, the EUMS wish to make the following observation as regards the criterion trade disruption. In case it relates to an ML for a certain food and contaminant combination that has been established because of health concerns, then the review should not lead to an increase of the ML. However a review could take place if:

- the trade disruption is related to a change of the Codex Classification of Food and Feed/ Codex commodity standard (and consequently additional commodities are covered by the ML for which no occurrence data were assessed for the establishment of the ML); and/or
- if a better description of the commodity covered by the ML could mitigate to a certain extent the observed trade disruptions (e.g. by adding “intended for further processing” or by specifying the portion of the commodity /product to which the ML applies).

Also for the other criteria, in case they are related to an ML for a certain food and contaminant combination that has been established because of health concerns, then the review should also not lead to an increase of the ML.