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**European Union comments for the  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD  
9th Session**

**New Delhi, India, 16 – 20 March 2015**

**Agenda Item 14**

**Discussion paper on maximum levels for methylmercury in fish  
(CX/CF 15/9/13)**

*European Union Competence  
European Union Vote*

The European Union (EU) welcomes and appreciates the work on the discussion paper on maximum levels for methylmercury in fish by the electronic Working Group under the lead of Japan and co-chaired by Norway.

The EU remains in favour of the establishment of maximum levels for methylmercury in fish. Apart for tuna, the EU considers that maximum levels should also be considered for fish species containing high levels of methylmercury that are already at the basis of trade disputes between geographical regions, such as for example swordfish and blue marlin.

As for the analysis of total mercury for screening purposes, the EU considers that screening could be performed by determination of the total mercury content. Screening levels for total mercury should be set at the same level as the maximum levels for methylmercury. When the measured level of total mercury is above the maximum level, the content of methylmercury should be determined. Compliance remains to be judged against the level of methylmercury.