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FINAL

European Union comments for the

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES
29th Session**

Paris, 9 – 13 March 2015

Agenda Item 4

**Proposed Amendments to the Procedures for the Elaboration of
Codex Standards and Related Texts**

(CX/GP 15/29/4)

***Member States Competence
Member States Vote***

The Member States of the European Union (MSEU) agree that it is necessary to avoid overlaps and inconsistencies in the work carried out by different committees, whether it concerns general subject or commodity committees. They also agree that it is necessary, prior to the approval of new work, to pay attention not only to existing standards but also to ongoing work.

The responsibility lies with committees when they develop proposals for new work based on Member proposals and ultimately with the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius (CCEXEC) when it carries out the critical review of new work proposals. In the case of the CCEXEC, it is clear that it should be rigorous when conducting the critical review and should only recommend for approval to the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), those proposals for new work that are fully in line with the provisions of the Codex Procedural Manual regarding work priorities and the Codex strategic plan.

In assessing new work proposals, the MSEU also believe there is a role to be played by the Codex secretariat in providing advice to committees and reminding them of the need to ensure proper coordination with other committees where related work is being carried out. This is essential in those cases where areas overlap or where gaps are identified.

Therefore, the MSEU fully support the proposed amendments to the Procedures for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts, as already endorsed at CCGP level last year, as they would be beneficial for the efficiency of Codex work as a whole.