

European Union Comments
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fiftieth Session

Xiamen, China, 26-30 March 2018

AGENDA ITEM 5(c)

**DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE USE OF NITRATES (INS 251, 252) AND
NITRITES (INS 249, 250)**

(CX/FA 18/50/9)

European Union Competence
European Union Vote

General comments

The European Union (EU) welcomes and appreciates the contributions made by the Codex Members, Observers and FAO/WHO JECFA secretariat to the work of the electronic Working Group. The EU recognises both the importance and complexity of the issues related to nitrates and nitrites. The EU is looking forward to further discussions at the CCFA50.

Specific comments

Recommendation 1

The EU can support requesting a new scientific advice for all questions raised.

The EU notes that the scientific advice related to several aspects of QI-QIV is available at the EU level. The EU is aware that the data availability is the necessary precondition to carry out the scientific assessment and therefore in case of paucity of the relevant data is open to further discuss an appropriate follow up to QI-QV.

Recommendation 2

The EU can support that the questions from Recommendation 1 for which no further follow up to obtain a scientific advice is considered are addressed together with the CA concerns.

Recommendation 3

The EU observes a close link of this recommendation with Recommendation 1 and 2. In light of the comments made by the FAO and WHO JECFA secretariat the EU could support Option C.

Recommendation 4

The EU supports using the proposed template to collect the necessary information for nitrates and nitrites used as food additives.

Recommendation 5

The EU supports the recommendation.