

13/04/2023

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING
(Forty-seventh Session)**

**Gatineau, Quebec, Canada
15 – 19 May 2023**

European Union Comments on

Agenda item 12:

**Sustainability labelling claims
(CX/FL 23/47/12)**

*Mixed Competence
European Union Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to make the following comments on the discussion paper on sustainability labelling claims CX/FL 23/47/12.

1. On the initiation by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL) of new work on sustainability-related labelling

The EUMS are in favour of Codex work on the development of guidance that would assist governments (and other relevant stakeholders) in the development, implementation and/or regulation of sustainability-related labelling as described in the discussion paper.

The EUMS acknowledge the value of sustainability-related labelling that is clear, comparable, verifiable and reliable.

The new work on sustainability labelling would be in line with Codex's mission to 'protect consumer health and promote fair practices in food trade by setting international science-based food safety and quality standards'. It would contribute to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (in particular SDG12 'ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns'). It would fall within the terms of reference for CCFL (in particular to draft provisions on labelling applicable to all foods and to study problems associated with the advertisement of food with particular reference to claims).

2. On the scope of the new work on sustainability-related labelling to be initiated by the CCFL

The EUMS are of the opinion that such work should focus on the establishment of necessary definitions and general principles for sustainability-related labelling on food.