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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 8**

**Proposed draft code of practice for the prevention and reduction of arsenic  
contamination in rice  
(CX/CF 15/9/8)**

*Mixed Competence  
Member States Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) welcome and appreciate the work on the code of practice for the prevention and reduction of arsenic contamination in rice by the electronic Working Group under the lead of Japan and co-chaired by China.

The EUMS support the recommendation made by the electronic working group to re-establish an electronic working group for additional collection of information and data and further elaboration of this code of practice before recirculation for comments at Step 3.

The EUMS agree that large scale field studies should be conducted to identify feasible and effective measures for the reduction and prevention of arsenic contamination in rice.

As regards the processing and cooking measures, the EUMS consider that the Code of Practice should emphasise the role of producers rather than of the consumers by limiting the scope of the Code of Practice to the source directed measures and the agricultural measures and by including the processing and cooking measures in the guidance on risk communication. As such, the EUMS are in favour of removing the sentences in square brackets in sections 4.3.1 and 6.1 from the Code of Practice.