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**Summary of the application: Chia seeds in confectionery products.**

Applicant: Majami Spółka z ograniczoną odpowiedzialnością Spółka komandytowa, Chmielowskiego 8 Street, 97-400 Bełchatów, Poland

This application concerns the authorisation of use of the novel food “chia seeds” (*Salvia hispanica*) in confectionery product.

The application refers to the EU Novel Food Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 and the related legal acts. Chia seed is consumed globally as a whole seed or included as an ingredient in food throughout Europe, North America, South America, Australasia and Asia. Chia seeds are considered as Novel Food within the European Union, with the first authorisation dating from 2009 (Commission Decision 2009/827/EC). Since then, several extensions of use were notified, ranging from chia seeds in baked products and breakfast cereals to fruit, nut and seed mixes, see Novel Food Union List (Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470). Following the increased availability in a variety of products, chia seeds have become very popular within the EU and are part of the diet for many European consumers. Despite the increasing intake, adverse effects of chia seeds have not been reported yet. Meeting consumers demand of confectionery product containing chia seeds, we apply for authorisation to introduce on the European market these products. The maximum level shall be fixed to 8 % chia seeds, considering the levels fixed for other foodstuffs as well as organoleptic properties of the final product.

To meet the requirements by EFSA for the maximum daily intake of chia seeds considered safe - 15 g/day for addition of whole, mashed or ground chia seeds, the maximum daily amount of the product (sesame seed with chia seeds) is recommended not more than 10 unit packages (nominal weight of one unit package: 18 g), which gives about 14.4 g chia seeds.

Dozens of recipe books are dedicated to chia seed as an ingredient or include some recipes with chia seed. Apart from the EU, the use of Chia seeds is not regulated in any market. In addition, confectionery products such as the sesame seeds with chia seeds are available on the market outside the EU.

Consequently, use of the chia seeds (*Salvia hispanica*) in confectionery product does not lead to a significant increase in possible safety concerns and does not carry additional risks for the consumers. This is valid for adults as well as for toddlers, representing the most sensitive consumer group. In order to inform the consumer, the product shall be clearly labelled with a hint to chia and the full designation “Chia seeds (*Salvia hispanica*)”.

Yours sincerely,

Quality Management Representative