

Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (21st Session)

Brisbane, Australia, 13-17 October 2014

European Union comments on

Discussion paper on the revision of the Principles and Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Safety Emergency Situations (CAC/GL 19-1995)

(Agenda item 6, CX/FICS 14/21/5)

*Mixed Competence
European Union Vote*

The European Union and Member States (EUMS) would like to thank the United States for leading the electronic Working Group developing the discussion paper and the draft project document on the revision of CAC/GL 19-1995.

The EUMS agree that it is worth having a thorough review of CAC/GL 19-1995 taking into account that the text is almost 20 years old and there have been important developments in the handling of food safety emergencies, including the new FAO/WHO tools. The EUMS can agree with the approach for the revision as described in the discussion paper as it is clear now that the new work should not include aspects of risk analysis which are outside the mandate of CCFICS.

Concerning the inclusion of guidance on prompt notification of food safety emergencies and the expansion of guidance on food safety emergency plans, these may be looked at when the work evolves.

The EUMS note that the *FAO/WHO guide for application of risk analysis principles and procedures during food safety emergencies* contain very useful guidance on how to manage food safety emergencies and is a valuable resource for the review of CAC/GL 19-1995.

Concerning the draft project document, the EUMS would like to suggest adding the following sentence in section "*Work already undertaken by other international organisation in this field and/or suggested by the relevant international intergovernmental body(ies)*":

"The relevant OIE and IPPC guidance will also be considered in the course of the work."