

9 September 2021

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING
(Forty-sixth Session)
Virtual, 27 September – 1 October and 7 October 2021

European Union Comments on

Agenda Item 11:

**Labelling of Prepackaged Foods in Joint Presentation and
in Multipack Formats**

Mixed Competence
European Union Vote

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank Colombia for the preparation of the *Discussion paper on the labelling of prepackaged foods in joint presentation and prepackaged multi-packaged foods* (CX/FL 21/46/11) together with the corresponding project document.

The EUMS consider that the Codex *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985) provides labelling requirements that apply to all prepackaged foods to be offered as such to the consumer or for catering purposes, whether offered in individual packages or in joint presentations or multipack formats.

The EUMS would like to highlight in particular following parts of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (GSLPF) which could be of interest for foods offered in joint presentations or multipack formats:

“2. DEFINITION OF TERMS

[...]

“Container” means any packaging of food for delivery as a single item, whether by completely or partially enclosing the food and includes wrappers. A container may enclose several units or types of packages when such is offered to the consumer.

[...]

“Prepackaged” means packaged or made up in advance in a container, ready for offer to the consumer, or for catering purposes.”

“8. PRESENTATION OF MANDATORY INFORMATION

8.1 General

[...]

8.1.2 Statements required to appear on the label by virtue of this standard or any other Codex standards shall be clear, prominent, indelible and readily legible by the consumer under normal conditions of purchase and use.

8.1.3 Where the container is covered by a wrapper, the wrapper shall carry the necessary information or the label on the container shall be readily legible through the outer wrapper or not obscured by it.”

The EUMS therefore do not consider appropriate to create a specific Codex text (standard or guideline) for foods offered in joint presentations and multipack formats. They would nevertheless not be opposed to verify whether the GSLPF needs to be further specified or complemented in order to clarify the requirements for prepackaged foods offered in joint presentations or multipack formats.

The EUMS are however of the opinion that this work does not constitute a priority considering the other topics under discussion in the Committee.