European Union comments onCodex Circular Letter CL 2016/46-MMP:

Request for Comments: Analysis of responses to CL 2016/25-MMP on the Draft Standard for Dairy Permeate Powders (Step 6)

Mixed Competence Member States Vote

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) welcome the opportunity to submit comments on the draft standard for Dairy Permeate Powder at Step 6.

The EUMS appreciate the efforts made by New Zealand in order to find an acceptable compromise on this draft standard.

We note that no consensus has been reached on the use of additives in products covered by the standard, and in particular on the use of anticaking agents.

Specific comments

1. Advancement to step 8

The EUMS are in a position to support the advancement to step 8 of the draft standard presented in Appendix II of CL 2016/46-MMP providing that Section 4.1. is deleted.

2. Food additives (Appendix II, Section 4.1)

The EUMS believe that dairy permeate powders covered by the draft standard could be produced without resorting to the use of anticaking agents and that the use of anticaking agents is not technologically justified. Product stability of the products covered by the standard could be maintained by controlling the fraction of non-crystalline, amorphous lactose through a variety of means such strict environmental control - humidity and temperature, and packaging, along the production and distribution chain.

The EUMS have asked for information about the technological justification and conditions of use of anticaking agent(s) in each one of the products covered by the standard. However, no clear justification has been provided so far.

Therefore, the EUMS would like to propose deletion of the current text in Section 4.1.