

**European Union comments on
Codex Circular Letter CL 2014/24-FA
Request for information on commercial use of potassium diacetate
INS 261(ii) in food**

Mixed Competence.

Member States Vote.

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to provide the following comments:

The use of potassium diacetate (INS 261 (ii)) as a food additive (preservative) was permitted in the European Union (EU) by Regulation (EU) No 25/2013¹.

The use was requested as an alternative to the food additive sodium diacetate (INS 262 (ii)) which is used as a growth inhibitor of microorganisms. The replacement of sodium diacetate by potassium diacetate can contribute to the reduction of dietary sodium intake.

Since the use of potassium diacetate has been requested and authorised quite recently the EUMS are of the opinion that this food additive is in commercial use in the EU.

¹ COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 25/2013 of 16 January 2013 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council and the Annex to Commission Regulation (EU) No 231/2012 as regards the food additive potassium diacetate