

**European Union comments for the
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD
9th Session**

New Delhi, India, 16 – 20 March 2015

Agenda Item 12

Discussion paper on submission and use of data from GEMS/food

(CX/CF 15/9/11)

*Mixed Competence
Member States Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) welcome this discussion paper on submission and use of data from GEMS/Food, prepared by WHO with inputs from FAO and the Codex Secretariat.

The EUMS submit occurrence data on contaminants to the GEMS/Food database via the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

The EUMS agree with the conclusions and recommendations as regards the submission of data to the GEMS/Food database as outlined I in paragraphs §§ 6-9.

However as regards the use of the data from the GEMS/Food database by Codex Members, the EUMS wishes to inform the CCCF that the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has recently adopted and published a report¹ providing rules on access to data in the EFSA's Data Warehouse (EFSA DWH). These rules for access were accepted by the Member States.

According to these rules, EFSA doesn't have an automatic right to share raw data at individual data level, and all occurrence data submitted by EFSA on behalf of the EUMS to the GEMS/Food database are subject to these rules.

In 2010 a statement² was agreed by the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (Committee where all competent authorities of the Member States are represented)

¹ European Food Safety Authority, 2015. The EFSA Data Warehouse access rules. EFSA supporting publication 2015:EN-768. 18 pp. Available on line: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/doc/768e.pdf>

² Occurrence data collection in the area of contaminants in food and feed. Collected in the frame of the activities of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health and related Expert Committees Rules on use,

with specific rules on use, disclosure and re-use of occurrence data on contaminants and feed and food, Within the framework of that statement, EFSA shares raw data on occurrence of contaminants in feed and food with the WHO for exclusive use for JECFA risk assessment purposes and for discussions within the CCCF.

Therefore, the raw and individual data, shared by EFSA on behalf of the EUMS for JECFA risk assessment purposes and CCCF risk management purposes, cannot be made accessible at the raw data level via GEMS/Food database.

disclosure and re-use of these dat. Available online:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/committees/regulatory/scfcah/toxic/docs/summary19052010_en.pdf