

**Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification
Systems (23rd Session)**

Mexico City, Mexico, 1-5 May 2017

European Union comments on

Agenda Item 6:

**Discussion paper on the possible development of guidance on the use of
systems equivalence**

(CX/FICS 17/23/6)

*Mixed Competence
European Union Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank New Zealand, the United States and Chile for leading the work on revising the discussion paper and the project document on systems equivalence.

The revised paper addresses the comments made at the last session of the Committee. The EUMS consider the proposed new guidance would be mutually useful for importing and exporting countries as it could reduce unnecessary trade restrictions and save resources of competent authorities. Therefore, while acknowledging challenges in developing the proposed guidance, the EUMS support the new work as proposed in the project document.