

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fifty-fourth Session

Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China

22-26 April 2024

European Union Comments on

AGENDA ITEM 2

**MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

(CX/FA 24/54/2)

*European Union Competence
European Union Vote*

The European Union (EU) would like to submit the following comments:

Comments on CX/FA 24/54/2

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 46TH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS
COMMISSION (CAC46)**

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

The EU would like to refer to (i) para 60 of REP23/CAC pointing at the comment made on the importance of the new call for data on carotenoids to ensure that JECFA's update of the exposure assessment is done as soon as possible and relies on the actual uses of these food additives, (ii) para 66 mentioning the CCFA53 statement on the importance of robust and globally applicable use data being provided to JECFA in response to a call for exposure data and (iii) para 67 by which CAC46 encouraged stakeholders to provide JECFA with precise and reliable data and information relating to food additives and their uses.

MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND OTHERS

A. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

**16th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants (CCCF16) and 54th Session of the Codex
Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR54)**

Ethylene Oxide and 2-chloroethanol

The EU would like to inform the Committee of its risk management measures taken in 2022 in particular due to findings of ethylene oxide in a number of food additives¹. Ethylene oxide may not be used for sterilising purposes in food additives in the EU. No residue above 0,1 mg/kg, irrespective of its origin, of ethylene oxide (sum of ethylene oxide and 2-chloro-ethanol expressed as ethylene oxide) shall be present in food additives, including mixtures of food additives, in the EU.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022R1396&qid=1709399726118>

B. MATTERS FOR ACTION

11th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNE11)

Alignment of the food additive provisions in the Regional Standards with the GSFA

The EU supports that the Committee takes appropriate actions taking into account the work on alignment done by CCNE. The EU takes note of the CCNE conclusion on the appropriate GSFA food category for mixed zaatar (CXS 341R-2020), i.e. FC 12.2.1. The EU believes that the appropriate GSFA food category warrants further examination as the products conforming to the standard consist to a large extent (more than 50 %) of sesame seed and other ingredients like grains and nuts, legumes, pomegranate molasses, vegetable oil and wheat bran, which are not herbs. In the EU's view, FC 12.2.2 may be more appropriate for the products und consideration.

53rd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA53)

Recommendations on riboflavins and carotene-related food additives

The EU supports the recommendations outlined in paras 24 and 25 and in Appendices I and II of CX/FA 24/54/2.

Comments on CX/FA 24/54/2 Add.1

MATTERS FOR ACTION

Chlorophylls in CXS 19-1981 and paprika extract in CXS 253-2006 and CXS 256-1999

The EU welcomes the response of CCFO as regards the technological need for the use of chlorophylls (INS 140) in products conforming to CXS 19-1981 and paprika extract (INS 160c (ii)) in products conforming to CXS 253-2006 and CXS 256-1999. The EU supports that the Committee takes appropriate actions in light of no technological need reported by CCFO for the mentioned uses.