17 February 2015

CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING
(36th Session)

Budapest, Hungary, 23 - 27 February 2015

INTERNAL

European Union Comments on
Agenda item 2

Other Matters

Mixed Competence
Member States Vote

Method for the detection of the toxic fraction in gluten harmful for individuals intolerant to gluten: ELISA G12 method

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) recognise that the ELISA G12 method meets the criteria listed in Codex Standard 118-1979, subsection 5.1, and that the assay is calibrated against the WGPAT (Working Group on Prolamin Analysis and Toxicity) gliadin standard material, the most recognized reference material available to the industry.

According to the information available, the EUMS note that the G12 method is a method which targets a certain peptide derived from prolamins, without being absolutely specific to this peptide. In principle, this makes it superior to other existing methods, among them the R5 antibody based assays, since they target a variety of prolamin derived peptides. Therefore, the EUMS believe that the G12 and the R5 assays cannot be used for the same specification for Codex purposes. Should the ELISA G12 method be included in the Codex Standard 118-1979, it should not replace the R5 method, but CCNFSDU could propose two separate specifications related to gluten, which would allow to introduce G12 next to the R5 ELISA.