

7 May 2019

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING
(Forty-fifth Session)
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada 13 – 17 May 2019

European Union Comments on

Agenda item 7:

Discussion paper on Internet sales / E-Commerce
(CX/FL 19/45/7)

Mixed Competence
European Union Vote

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank UK, Chile, Ghana, India and Japan for developing the discussion paper on internet sales/e-commerce.

The EU legislation¹ has introduced provisions to regulate the provision of food information to consumers for foods supplied by means of distance selling including internet sales. These provisions aim to ensure that, in principle, any food supplied through the means of distance selling should meet the same information requirements as food sold in shops in order to enable consumers to make informed choices with regard to health, economic, environmental, social and ethical considerations.

The EUMS agree with the recommendation of the development of a supplementary text to the GSLPF that will provide clear guidance on the provision of information for foods sold by internet/e-commerce.

The EUMS would like to support work to develop the supplementary text for all aspects proposed in the draft project document, which are relevant to the particularities of selling foods by means of e-commerce/internet channel.

More importantly:

- The EUMS consider that some information (i.e. the date marking and lot number) may not be available at the “end/conclusion of an online sale” but only at the “moment of delivery”.
- It would be important to clarify and define the points on the online sale (the “end/conclusion of an online sale” and the “moment of delivery”) in order to clearly clarify the latest point in the process of an online sale at which certain mandatory requirements need to be provided.

In conclusion, the EUMS fully support the draft project document as it is.

¹ Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers