

**European Union comments for the
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD
10th Session**

Rotterdam, the Netherlands, 4 – 8 April 2016

Agenda Item 7

**Proposed draft Code of practice for the prevention and reduction of arsenic
contamination in rice
(CX/CF 16/10/8)**

*Mixed Competence
Member States Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) welcome and appreciate the work on the code of practice for the prevention and reduction of arsenic contamination in rice by the electronic Working Group chaired by Japan and co-chaired by China.

The EUMS acknowledge that multi-year studies investigating the effect of irrigation regimes, contamination from anthropogenic sources, climate change, cultivated rice varieties and soil type are currently on-going in many countries. Without a clear view on the exact end date of all studies, the EUMS consider that it would be difficult to postpone discussions on the elaboration of a Code of Practice for the prevention and reduction of arsenic contamination in rice.

The EUMS propose to finalise the draft Code of Practice with the currently available information. Depending on the outcome of the on-going studies, the Code of Practice can be updated at a later stage.