

# CONSULTATION REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF NOVEL FOOD STATUS

## Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283

**Recipient Member State:** Germany

**Name and description of the food:**

Mumijo (synonyms: shilajit, asphaltum panjabinum).

Mumijo is a complex product of both organic and mineral origin which is formed by natural processes in various mountainous regions of the earth. It is characterised by the humic and fulvic acids, non-humic components (e.g. dibenzo- $\alpha$ -pyrones) and diverse other minerals it contains.

Mumijo is not uniquely defined either in origin (animal, vegetable or mineral) or in composition. It is often dark brown and resinous, with a characteristic smell.

Mumijo is not to be confused with 'mumia', a powder made from decomposed mummies, which was sold in the past as a folk remedy (Mumia vera aegyptiaca, genuine Egyptian mummy).

**Novel food status:**

The product is not novel only when used as or in food supplements.

It is novel when used as or in foods other than food supplements.

**Appropriate Novel Food Category in accordance with Article 3(2) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283:**

The food falls under category (iii) (food from material of mineral origin) or category (iv) (food from plants or their parts) of Article 3(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283.

**Justification:**

The documentation submitted did not provide any evidence that the food in question was used for human consumption to a significant degree within the Union before 15 May 1997 (significant consumption), nor was any information indicating significant consumption of the product forthcoming when the senior German federal-state authorities responsible for food monitoring were consulted.

However, the Member State Czechia has stated that mumijo was used there in food supplements before 15 May 1997.