

23 May 2019

**European Union comments on  
Codex Circular Letter CL 2019/34-CS:  
Request for Comments: Analysis of responses to CL 2018/80- CS: draft  
standard for panela and/or common or vernacular name as known in each  
country (non-centrifuged sugar)**

*Mixed Competence*

*Member States Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to make the following comments:

Confusion should be avoided between the product 'Panela' and the sugars covered by the Codex Standard for Sugars. With this in mind, both the name of the product and the description of the product characteristics of the last draft version of the Codex Standard for Panela, which still made reference to “*non-centrifuged dehydrated sugar cane juice*”, were acceptable.

However, the proposed renaming of the Standard and the change of the product description represent a step backwards, because the designation “*non-centrifuged sugar*” creates the risk of confusion with the sugars covered by the Codex Standard for Sugars. This is also due to the fact that the denomination “*non-centrifuged sugar*” is in fact to become the sales name of the product.

“*Raw cane sugar*” is a type of sugar covered by the Codex Standard for Sugars and is defined as “*Partially purified sucrose, which is crystallised from partially purified cane juice, without further purification, but which does not preclude centrifugation or drying, and which is characterised by sucrose crystals covered with a film of cane molasses.*” As centrifugation is explicitly not a necessary process step in the extraction of “*raw cane sugar*”, “*raw cane sugar*” can also be a “*non-centrifuged sugar*”.

The EUMS believe that these problems could be avoided if the Codex Standard for Panela always referred to “*non-centrifuged sugar cane juice*” and recommend this denomination.