

European Union Comments
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fifty-first Session

Jinan, China, 25-29 March 2019

AGENDA ITEM 3(b)

**PROPOSED DRAFT SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE IDENTITY AND PURITY OF FOOD
ADDITIVES ARISING FROM THE 86TH JECFA MEETING**

(CX/FA 19/51/4)

European Union Competence
European Union Vote

The European Union (EU) would like to submit the following comments:

Recommendation to review the specifications designated as “Full” for the food additives listed in Annex 1

The EU would like to thank JECFA for preparing the draft specifications arising from the 86th JECFA meeting. The EU generally supports the adoption of the full specifications for substances listed in Annex 1.

However, in case of the draft specifications for INS 1205 Basic methacrylate copolymer the EU notes that the part ‘Definition’ includes the following sentence:

“Basic methacrylate copolymer is used as a coating and glazing agent for food supplements and foods for special medical purposes.”

The EU observes that such sentence is not usually included in the specifications. The EU notes that the GSFA provides for the provisions for the use of food additives in different foods. The EU further notes a common practice to include food additives with an ADI ‘not specified’ in Table 3 which permits their use in a wide variety of foods.

Thus, the EU believes that there are 2 issues which need to be considered:

1. Appropriateness of the sentence *“Basic methacrylate copolymer is used as a coating and glazing agent for food supplements and foods for special medical purposes.”* in the specifications taking into account that it is the GSFA that provides for the provisions for the use of food additives in foods.
2. Appropriateness of including INS 1205 in Table 3 if the aforementioned sentence was inserted in the specifications to indicate that the safety assessment (and an ADI ‘not specified’) is limited to its use as a coating and glazing agent for food supplements and foods for special medical purposes.

The EU would welcome the views and comments of the Committee and JECFA on those two issues.