

codex alimentarius commission E



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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CL 2008/26-FA
August 2008

TO: Codex Contact Points
Interested International Organisations

FROM: Secretary, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, Codex Alimentarius Commission,
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla,
00153 Rome, Italy

SUBJECT: Request for information and comments on: (i) Priority List of Food Additives Proposed for Evaluation by JECFA; and (ii) Text of the Circular Letter on Priority List of Food Additives Proposed for Evaluation by JECFA

DEADLINE: 15 February 2009

COMMENTS: To:

Secretariat
Codex Committee on Food Additives
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Safety, China CDC
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Beijing 100021, China
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BACKGROUND

1. The 40th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) agreed to forward the Priority List of Food Additives for the Evaluation by JECFA to the 31st Session of the Commission for approval (ALINORM 08/31/12, para. 170 and Appendix XIV). The 31st Session of the Commission approved the list as proposed by the Committee (ALINORM 08/31/REP, para. 92 and Appendix X).
2. The 40th CCFA Committee noted that the in-session Working Group on Priorities did not have enough time to consider the proposal by the Delegation of the USA to modify point 8 of the "Form on which information on the additive to be evaluated by JECFA is provided" (requesting whether a compound has been approved for use in two or more countries), currently attached as Annex 2 to the Circular Letter requesting comments on the priority list of food additives proposed for evaluation by JECFA. The Committee agreed with the recommendation of the Working Group to request comments on the text of the Circular Letter, in particular on point 8 of the form, together with the request for comments on and additions to the priority list. Replies would be considered by the in-session Working Group to be established by the 41st Session of the CCFA (ALINORM 08/31/12, para. 172).

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AND COMMENTS

3. Members and interested International Organizations, as directed above, are invited to provide:
- (i) information on new requests and on compounds already included in the Priority List of Food Additives Proposed for Evaluation by JECFA. Comments should be submitted on the basis of the following attached Annexes to this Circular Letter:
 - **Annex 1** - Criteria for the Inclusion of Additives in the Priority List;
 - **Annex 2** - Form on which Information on the Additive to be evaluated by JECFA is provided.
 - **Annex 3** - Priority list of food additives to be evaluated by JECFA approved by the 31st Session of the Commission.
 - (ii) comments on the text of the Circular Letter on Priority List, in particular on Point 8 of the “Form on which information on the additive to be evaluated by JECFA is provided”.

Information and comments, submitted in response to this Circular Letter, will be considered at the 41st Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives, to be held in China on 16-20 March 2009.

Annex 1**CRITERIA FOR THE INCLUSION OF FOOD ADDITIVES IN THE PRIORITY LIST OF SUBSTANCES FOR JECFA REVIEW**

(Codex Procedural Manual – *Risk Analysis Principles applied by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods*)

The Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) shall consider the following when preparing its priority list of substances for JECFA review:

- Consumer protection from the point of view of health and prevention of unfair trade practices;
- CCFA's Terms of Reference;
- JECFA's Terms of Reference;
- The Codex Alimentarius Commission's Strategic Plan , its relevant plans of work and *Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities*;
- The quality, quantity, adequacy, and availability of data pertinent to performing a risk assessment, including data from developing countries;
- The prospect of completing the work in a reasonable period of time;
- The diversity of national legislation and any apparent impediments to international trade;
- The impact on international trade (i.e., magnitude of the problem in international trade);
- The needs and concerns of developing countries; and,
- Work already undertaken by other international organizations;

Annex 2**FORM ON WHICH INFORMATION ON THE ADDITIVE TO BE EVALUATED BY JECFA IS PROVIDED**

In completing this form, only brief information is required. The form may be retyped if more space is needed under any one heading provided that the general format is maintained.

1. Proposal for inclusion submitted by:

2. Name of compound; trade name(s); chemical name(s):

3. Names and addresses of basic producers:

4. Has the manufacturer made a commitment to provide data?

5. Identification of the manufacturer that will be providing data (Please indicate contact person):

6. Justification for use:

7. Food products and food categories within the GSFA in which the compound is used, including use level(s):

8. Has the compound been approved for use in 2 or more countries (please identify the countries)?

9. List of data (toxicology, dietary exposure, specifications on chemical identity and purity, analytical methods) available:

10. Date on which data could be submitted to JECFA:

Annex 3

(Appendix XIV of ALINORM 08/31/12)

PRIORITY LIST OF FOOD ADDITIVES PROPOSED FOR EVALUATION BY JECFA

	<i>Question(s) to be answered</i>	<i>Data availability (when, what)</i>	<i>Proposed by</i>
<i>Previous Requests</i>			
Sucrose oligoesters Type I and II ¹ .	Safety assessment and specification	March 2008	Japan
		Tox, exposure, specification	
<i>New Requests</i>			
Branching enzyme from <i>Rodothermus obamensis</i> expressed in <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> ¹ .	Safety assessment and specifications	June 2008	Denmark
		Tox, metabolism, specifications	
Aluminium compounds	Studies on bioavailability, developmental toxicity and multi-generation study	Aluminium phosphates (end 2009) CEFIC, IFAC	Japan
		Aluminium oxide and hydroxide (end 2009) IAI	
Sodium aluminium sulfate	Safety assessment and specification	End 2009 CEFIC	Switzerland
Flavours ¹ .	247 compounds, Safety assessment and specifications	January 2009	USA

	<i>Question(s) to be answered</i>	<i>Data availability (when, what)</i>	<i>Proposed by</i>
Glycerol ester of gum rosin ¹	Safety assessment and specifications	April 2008	USA
		Tox, exposure, specifications	
Glycerol ester of tall oil rosin ¹	Safety assessment and specifications	April 2008	USA
		Tox, exposure, specifications	
Sodium hydrogen sulfate	Safety assessment and revision of specifications	Available	USA
		Tox, exposure, specifications	
OSA (octenyl succinic acid) modified acacia gum (gum Arabic) ¹	Safety assessment and specifications	April 2008 ICGMA	
		Tox, exposure, specifications	
DATEM (Diacetyl tartaric and fatty acid esters of glycerol) ¹	Revision of specifications	Available EFEMA	
Lycopene oleoresin extract from tomato	Safety assessment and specifications	Available NATCOL	Israel
		Tox, exposure, specifications	
Ferrous ammonium phosphate ¹	Safety assessment for use in food fortification, specifications	September 2008	Switzerland
		Tox, exposure, specifications	Ghana

	<i>Question(s) to be answered</i>	<i>Data availability (when, what)</i>	<i>Proposed by</i>
Flavours – aliphatic, linear alpha-beta unsaturated aldehydes, acids and related alcohols, acetals and esters	Revaluation of dietary exposure in relation to potential genotoxic effects of 157 flavours of this group. Defer discussion to next year's CCFA (pending the outcome of exposure assessment methods by JECFA).		EC
Cyclamic acid and salts ¹	Dietary exposure assessment, including different maximum levels of use of 250 mg/kg, 500 mg/kg, 750 mg/kg, and 1000mg/kg in food category 14.1.4 "Water-based flavoured drinks, including "sport", "energy", or "electrolyte" drinks and particulated drinks"	Available Australia, Denmark	40 th CCFA
Cassia gum	Safety assessment and specifications	Available	France
Nisin preparation ¹	Revision of definition and reconsider title	Available	40 th CCFA

¹ High priority