

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 6

CRD4

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fifty-third Session

REPORT OF THE IN-SESSION WORKING GROUP ON THE INTERNATIONAL NUMBERING SYSTEM (INS)

Dr. Christine Vinkx (Belgium) chaired the meeting of the in-session Working Group (WG) on the INS. She was assisted by Dr. C. Evrevin (EU) as Rapporteur. The following Members and Observers participated: Australia, Canada, China, EU, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New-Zealand, Singapore, Sweden, UK, USA, AIDGUM, CCC, EU Specialty Food Ingredients, IADSA, ICBA, ICGA, IFAC, ILSI, IOFI, ISC, ISDI, NATCOL, as well as the JECFA secretariat and Codex secretariat.

1. Introduction

The Chair opened the meeting, and after an introduction of the INS (Codex Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives, CAC/GL 36-1989, amended 2021) and the process of updating the INS, informed the group that the report of the electronic Working Group (eWG), established at the 52nd session of the CCFA chaired by Belgium and co-chaired by Iran, was available as document CX/FA 23/53/13, and contained proposed changes to the current INS. Comments on the report of the eWG were compiled in documents CX/FA 23/53/13 Add. 1 and CRD26. A proposed agenda of the in-session working group was included in CRD7.

2. Proposed changes to of the INS (CAC/GL 36-1989) by the eWG

2.1 Changes to Functional Classes and Technological Purposes for Additives in the INS

The in-session WG agreed for the following additions:

- the functional class of "Carrier" and the technological purpose of "carrier" for Gum ghatti (INS 419),
- the functional class of "Humectant" and the technological purpose of "moisture-retention agent", the technological purpose "foam stabilizer" under the functional class of "stabilizer" and the technological purpose "texturizing agent" under the functional class of "thickener" for Cassia gum (INS 427),
- the technological purpose "coating agent" under the functional class of "glazing agent" for Methacrylate copolymer, anionic (INS 1207).

The in-session WG did not agree for the addition of the technological purpose of "plasticizer" under the functional class of "emulsifier" for Glycerol ester of wood rosin (INS 445(iii)).

The following discussion took place:

- One observer noted that the functional class indicated in the JECFA specifications for Glycerol ester of wood rosin (INS445(iii)) is "plasticizer (in chewing-gum bases)" and INS445(iii) doesn't not play a role of "emulsifier" in chewing-gum, therefore the proposal to add "plasticizer" under the functional class of "emulsifier" is not appropriate. Chewing-gum bases are excluded from the INS and then it can be questioned whether "plasticizer (in chewing-gum bases)" are included in the scope of the INS.
- Other delegations and the chair intervened and the in-session WG proposes that the plenary clarifies whether "plasticizer (in chewing-gum bases)" is in the scope of the INS and if so then the future eWG could continue the discussion.

2.2 Deletion of one additive from the INS

The in-session WG agreed with the deletion of Rebaudioside A from multiple gene donors expressed in *Yarrowia lipolytica* (INS 960b(i)).

3 Proposals not accepted or considered premature by the eWG

The in-session WG agreed with the conclusions of the eWG on proposals which were considered not acceptable or premature.

4 Future work

One observer expressed concern on possible impact on native gellan gum of assigning an INS to low acyl clarified gellan gum. As an alternative to assigning an INS number, one member suggested to use a footnote in the GSFA attached to future provision for INS 418 gellan gum where there is a need to restrict the use to low acyl clarified gellan gum only.

The chair proposed not to change the decision of the plenary.

5. Recommendations

Recommendation 1

The in session WG recommends that the CCFA53 forwards to CAC at step 5/8 the additions and deletions in Sections 3 of the INS as shown in Table 1 below (additions/deletions are shown in **bold** text).

Recommendation 2

The WG recommends that CCFA53 issue a new circular letter seeking requests for proposals for changes and/or additions to Section 3 of the Class Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives (CAC/GL 36-1989) with slightly modified text as shown in the annex.

Recommendation 3

The in session WG recommends that the CCFA53 clarifies whether “plasticizer (in chewing-gum bases)” is in the scope in the INS.

Recommendation 4

The WG recommends that CCFA53 consider the following terms of reference for the INS eWG for the 54th CCFA:

1. Consider the replies to the circular letter requesting proposals for changes and/or additions to Section 3 of the Class Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives (CAC/GL 36-1989),
2. Consider the proposals for the addition of the new additives glycolipids (INS 246) as a preservative, oat lecithin (INS 322a) as an emulsifier and carbomer (INS 1210) as a bulking agent, stabilizer, thickener in the CXG 36-1989) (as mentioned in CX/FA 23/53/13 Add.1),
3. Consider the addition of the functional classes of “stabilizer” and “thickener” for sodium sesquicarbonate (INS 500(iii)) (as mentioned on page 5 of CX/FA 23/53/6),
4. Consider the appropriateness of including the functional class of “preservative” for (INS 539)(as mentioned on page 204 of CX/FA 23/53/6),
5. Consider the appropriateness of including the functional class of “carrier” for INS 421, 1450, and 301 (as mentioned on page 270 of CX/FA 23/53/6),
6. Consider assigning an INS number to low acyl clarified gellan gum (see CX/FA 23/FA 23/53/2 Add. 2, request by CCFA53).

[7 Consider how the technological purpose of plasticizer in chewing-gum base can be appropriately added in the INS for Glycerol ester of wood rosin (INS 445(iii)).]

and prepare a proposal for circulation for comments at Step 3.

Table 1. Changes to the INS

The additions are highlighted in **bold/underlined**. Deleted entries are indicated in **~~bold/underlined/strikethrough~~** font.

| INS No. | Name of Food Additive | Functional class | Technological Purpose |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 419 | Gum ghatti | <u>Carrier</u> | <u>carrier</u> |
| | | Emulsifier | <i>emulsifier</i> |

| INS No. | Name of Food Additive | Functional class | Technological Purpose |
|----------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| | | Stabilizer | <i>stabilizer</i> |
| | | Thickener | <i>thickener</i> |
| 427 | Cassia gum | Emulsifier | <i>emulsifier</i> |
| | | Gelling agent | <i>gelling agent</i> |
| | | <u>Humectant</u> | <u>moisture-retention agent</u> |
| | | Stabilizer | <u>foam stabilizer</u> <i>stabilizer</i> |
| | | Thickener | <u>texturizing agent</u> <i>thickener</i> |
| 960b(i) | Rebaudioside A from multiple gene donors expressed in <i>Yarrowia lipolytica</i> (INS 960b(i)) | <u>Sweetener</u> | <u>sweetener</u> |
| 1207 | Methacrylate copolymer, anionic | Glazing agent | <u>Coating agent</u> <i>glazing agent</i> |

FORM FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO THE INS LIST

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.

The change is requested by (Name):

.....

Justification for the requested INS change in Section 3: assigning INS number to new food additives or including additional functional class and/or technological purpose
(Please select only the appropriate option and provide details in the space below. Proposals for deletion of INS entries cannot be submitted to this circular letter if there are existing provisions (adopted or in the Step Process) for the additive in the General Standard for Food Additives (CXS 192-1995).)

- Evidence that the compound has been or is capable of being used effectively for the technological purpose proposed
- A Codex Commodity standard has provisions for the use of the compound
- The JECFA specification monograph lists the technological purpose under the heading "Functional Uses"
- A national food authority has permitted such a use
- The food industry is currently using a substance for the technological purpose proposed
- Other justification, what?

Details:

Justification for the requested INS change in Section 3: modification of an existing INS name or INS number purpose *(Please select only the appropriate option and provide details in the space below)*

- The INS list contains an error
- The name in the INS is so different from that used by JECFA that confusion may result
- The name in the INS list is unsuitable for labeling purposes
- The name in the INS list is inconsistent with the names of other related additives
- Other justification, what?

Details

Justification for the requested INS change in Section 3: deletion of additive purpose *(Please select only the appropriate option and provide details in the space below)*

- Health risk issues, e.g. JECFA has withdrawn an acceptable daily intake (ADI) based on new toxicological data
- Evidence that the additive is not commercially manufactured or used
- Evidence that the additive cannot be considered to fall under the definition of a food additive
- Other justification, what?

Details

Additions are shown in **bold underline** text.