



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fifty-third Session

PROPOSAL FOR ADDITION OF ADIPIC ACID (INS 355) TO JECFA PRIORITY LIST

(Prepared by the Chair of the Physical Working Group of the GSFA)

The Chair of the Physical Working Group of the GSFA (GSFA PWG) requests that Adipic Acid (INS 355) be placed on the JECFA priority list for the purposes of conducting an exposure assessment. Adipic acid has multiple draft and proposed draft provisions in the GSFA under the group header ADIPATES.¹

Provisions for ADIPATES are one of the few remaining groups of draft and proposed draft provisions in the GSFA. CCFA48 (2016) and CCFA49 (2017) determined that an exposure assessment conducted by JECFA is necessary to progress these provisions through the step process, and obtained data to be provided to the JECFA Secretariat on this topic. This CRD requests that ADIPATES be placed on the JECFA priority list for an exposure assessment to facilitate the future work of the GSFA PWG.

Background

Provisions for ADIPATES in the step process of the GSFA were circulated for comment by the electronic working group (EWG) on the GSFA and discussed by the GSFA PWG at CCFA48. During that discussion it was noted that the JECFA risk assessment for Adipates was conducted in 1966 and no exposure assessment was conducted by JECFA at that time ([see FA/48 CRD2](#)).

As a result, CCFA48 requested the Codex Secretariat issue a circular letter ([CL 2016/9-FA](#)) requesting information on use level in specific food categories be provided to the JECFA Secretariat for the purpose of exposure assessment ([REP 16/FA para 59](#)). Replies to CL 2016/9-FA were compiled in [CX/FA 17/49/8](#), [FA/49 CRD12](#) and [FA/49 CRD19](#).

The GSFA PWG at CCFA49 considered these replies and recommended that provisions for ADIPATES for which no use level information had been provided be discontinued and that the other provisions for ADIPATES be revised or moved to appropriate subcategories ([see FA/49 CRD2](#)). CCFA49 agreed with these recommendations and also agreed to provide all information received to the JECFA Secretariat ([REP 17/FA paras 86 – 87](#)).

In addition to the current provisions in the GSFA, CCFA49 also noted that replies to the CL provided information on uses not included in the GSFA (which could be submitted in response to the CL requesting proposals for new provisions to be added to the GSFA) and the importance of consideration by the JECFA Secretariat of provisions for adipic acid in commodity standards.

¹ Adipic acid (INS 355) is the only additive listed under the group header ADIPATES. The listings for Sodium adipates (INS 356), Potassium adipates (INS 357) and Ammonium adipates (INS 359) were previously removed from the group heading for ADIPATES due to a lack of JECFA specifications.