

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 8

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Forty-first Session

Shanghai, China, 21-25 March 2009

COMMENTS TO SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE IDENTITY AND PURITY OF FOOD ADDITIVES ARISING FROM THE 69th JECFA MEETING

The following comments have been received from the following Codex members and observers:

Chile and IOFI

Chile

Chile está de acuerdo con el documento

IOFI (The International Organization of the Flavor Industry)

The International Organization of the Flavor Industry (IOFI) wishes to convey its appreciation for the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) efforts of discussing, preparing and reviewing specifications for 185 food additives and flavourings at the 69th JECFA meeting.

Specifically, regarding the 111 flavourings specifications IOFI recommends that these are reviewed by the CCFA with a view of recommending their adoption by the Commission as Codex Specifications.

Regarding the specifications for the group of 40 furan-substituted aliphatic hydrocarbons, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, carboxylic acids, and related esters, sulfides, disulfides and ethers (JECFA 1487, 1488, 1489, 1490, 1491, 1492, 1493, 1494, 1495, 1496, 1497, 1498, 1499, 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, 1508, 1509, 1510, 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1517, 1518, 1519, 1520, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1525, 1526) that were prepared at the 65th and 68th JECFA meetings, IOFI appreciates that the evaluation of these flavourings could not be completed at the 69th JECFA meeting due to unresolved safety concerns. However, IOFI recommends that these specifications are maintained in the on-line searchable database at the JECFA website at FAO.

The substances are in global use and the relevant specifications in the JECFA database contain a statement that their evaluation isn't completed, fully informing the Codex membership on their evaluation status. Moreover, the FAO and WHO report (CX/FA 09/41/3) relating to matters of interest arising from the 69th JECFA meeting does not request the CCFA to take any specific action for these flavourings (See recommendation in Table 2 of CX/FA 09/41/3). Finally, on behalf of the global flavour industry IOFI is committed to help in providing the requested additional data (para 20 of CX/FA 09/41/3) for concluding their evaluation.

The same holds true for the flavouring substance 2-isopropyl-N,2,3-trimethylbutyramide (JECFA 1595) for which IOFI recommends that the specification is also maintained in the JECFA database pending the conclusion of its re-evaluation.