

C O D E X A L I M E N T A R I U S C O M M I S S I O N



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 5

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

5th Session

The Hague, The Netherlands, 21 – 25 March 2011

PROPOSED DRAFT MAXIMUM LEVELS FOR MELAMINE IN FOOD (*LIQUID INFANT FORMULA*) (N13-2009)

Comments at Step 3 submitted by Australia and Kenya

AUSTRALIA

Australia supports the setting of a maximum level of melamine in liquid infant formula based on the same rationale as that supporting the setting of MLs for powdered infant formula and other foods i.e. the need to manage the risk of adulteration. Australia considers that the ML should be equivalent to that adopted for powdered infant formula.

The level set for powdered infant formula (1mg/kg) is based on the WHO recommended Tolerable Daily Intake (TDI) for melamine of 0.2 mg/kg body weight per day. Powdered formula may be made up at different ratios i.e. there is variability in the reconstitution factors for different formulations and nutrient densities, such as for low-birth weight formulas. Therefore calculation of equivalence cannot be exact. However, the value proposed in CL 2010/13-CF for ready prepared infant formula (0.5mg/kg) is higher, by a factor of approximately 3-fold, than would be predicted from reconstitution from powdered formula. It is proposed that a level of 0.15mg/kg for liquid infant formula would more closely approximate the level adopted by CCCF for powdered

KENYA

Supports position of 0.125mg/kg for liquid infant formula considering we can achieve a level of less than 1mg/kg in powder infant formula. Use of melamine containing packaging material should be discouraged.