

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 6 (b)

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS

Thirty-eighth Session

The Hague, the Netherlands, 24 – 28 April 2006

WORKING DOCUMENT FOR INFORMATION AND SUPPORT TO THE DISCUSSION ON THE GENERAL STANDARD FOR FOOD ADDITIVES

1. The 37th Session of the Committee requested the Codex Secretariat to prepare every year an updated working document on the GSFA to reflect the most recent decisions of the Commission on the GSFA (ALINORM 05/28/12, para. 67).
2. The following should be noted with respect to the revised Tables 1 and 2 of the GSFA (Appendix I and Appendix II, respectively):
 - a. The “Step” column indicates the status of specific provisions in the Codex 8 Step elaboration procedure. Food additive provisions for the priority additives to be discussed by the 38th CCFAC are listed at Step 3 or Step 6. Food additive provisions that require future work by the Committee are listed at Step 4 or Step 7. Food additive provisions that have been adopted at Step 8 by the Commission contain the notation “adopted” and the year of adoption..
 - b. The functional effects listed for each additive in the GSFA are derived primarily from the functional class titles for food additives in the International Numbering System (INS)¹. Where JECFA has specified additional functional class titles (e.g., carrier solvent, release agent, sequestrant), these additional functional classes have been included in the GSFA. In some cases, Codex Members reported an intended technical effect that is not listed for an additive in either the INS or by JECFA. In such cases, the technical effect is also included in the GSFA. Thus, the list of functional effects for each additive in the GSFA may contain a mixture of the INS functional effects, JECFA functional effects, and Codex Member State-provided functional effects.
3. The following should be noted with respect to the revised Table 3 of the GSFA (Appendix III):
 - a. The status of each additive in the Codex procedure is indicated in columns entitled “Step”. If the inclusion of a specific additive has been adopted at Step 8 by the Commission, the year of this decision is noted in the column entitled: “Year”.

Note from the Codex Secretariat

Due to their volume, the appendices to this document are only being distributed electronically. A limited number of paper copies will be made available at the 38th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants.

¹ CAC/GL 36 “Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives.”

The Appendices of this document may be downloaded from the Codex FTP server as follows:

Electronic link to Appendix I (Table 1): <ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccfac38/fa3808ae.pdf>

Electronic link to Appendix II (Table 2): <ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccfac38/fa3808be.pdf>

Electronic link to Appendix III (Table 3): <ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccfac38/fa3808ce.pdf>