

# codex alimentarius commission

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
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**Agenda Item 14(b)**

**CX/CF 07/1/18 Add.2**

April 2007

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

**First Session**

**Beijing, China, 16 - 20 April 2007**

**DISCUSSION PAPER ON OCHRATOXIN A (OTA) IN COFFEE**

*Comments to the Discussion Paper submitted by the European Community*

This document contains late submissions of comments received after the deadline, but those were submitted before 1 April 2007.

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITY**

The European Community and its Member States (ECMS) welcome the discussion paper on ochratoxin A in coffee.

The ECMS wish to make the following comments:

§ 13: It is appropriate to mention that the risk assessment by JECFA on ochratoxin A is scheduled for JECFA's 68<sup>th</sup> meeting which will take place from 19-28 June 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland.

§ 14: Instead of "(EFSA, 2002)" it should read "(EFSA, 2006)".

**Chapter on Dietary Exposure:** It is appropriate to mention the outcome of the recent exposure assessment of adult European consumers to OTA, performed by the Scientific Panel on contaminants in the Food Chain from EFSA in the opinion of the Scientific Panel on Ochratoxin A in Food (EFSA, 2006).

**Conclusions and recommendations**

- The ECMS support the development of a Codex Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of OTA in Coffee on the condition that extensively use is made of the existing FAO Guidelines for the Prevention of mould formation in Coffee to avoid duplication of work.

- It is not necessary that all coffee producing countries take part on the elaboration of the Codex Code of Practice but it is sufficient that all different climatic zones and agricultural conditions in the different coffee producing areas are represented in the working group enabling the development of a Code applicable in all coffee producing areas.

- As regards the third recommendation on the consideration of the setting of a maximum level for OTA in coffee after the development of the Code of Practice, aspects related to a representative sampling procedure and reliable analysis for OTA in coffee need to be considered.

**Reference 11:** This reference combines the reference to the EFSA opinion on ochratoxin A (2006) and the reference to the task for scientific co-operation "Assessment of dietary intake of Ochratoxin A in Food". Both references should be referred to separately.