

## CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of  
the United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 4

CX/CF 12/6/7 Add.1  
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ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

# JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

## CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

Sixth Session  
Maastricht, The Netherlands, 26 – 30 March 2012

### DRAFT MAXIMUM LEVELS FOR MELAMINE IN FOOD (*LIQUID INFANT FORMULA*) (AT STEP 7)

*Comments at Step 6 (in reply to CL 2011/16-CF) submitted by Benin, Egypt, European Union, Ghana, Iran, Kenya, Mali, Nicaragua and USA*

#### BENIN

La position du Bénin est de soutenir l'avant-projet de niveau maximal pour la mélamine de 0,15 mg/kg. Le niveau proposé de 0,15 mg/kg dans les préparations liquides est équivalent à celui autorisé pour les préparations en poudre et est protecteur de la sécurité basée sur le résultat de l'évaluation de risques conduite par le groupe de travail électronique du CCCF dirigé par le Canada. Le Bénin propose aussi de supprimer la note: « (REP11/CF, annexe III) Le niveau maximum ne s'applique pas aux préparations pour nourrissons liquides pour lesquels il peut être prouvé que le niveau de mélamine supérieure à 0,15 mg / kg est la conséquence de la migration à partir de matériaux au contact des aliments en tenant compte de toute limite de migration autorisé au niveau national ». En effet, les nourrissons constituent un groupe vulnérable et les matériaux d'emballage pour leur nourriture ne doivent pas contenir de la mélamine.

#### EGYPT

Referring to your document CL 2011/16-CF Concerning the Request for Comments on the draft maximum levels for melamine in food (liquid infant formula)

We Would like to inform you that Egypt fully supports the proposed draft for the maximum level of melamine in liquid infant formula at 0.5 mg/gkg.

#### EU

The European Union (EU) agrees with the proposed draft maximum level 0.15 mg/kg for melamine in liquid infant formula (as consumed).

As regards the note on migration from food contact materials, the EU can agree on keeping as well on deleting the note.

#### GHANA

#### SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Ghana supports the draft ML of 0.15 mg/kg for melamine in liquid infant formula.

Ghana however proposes the deletion of the footnote "The maximum level does not apply to liquid infant formula for which it can be proven that the level of melamine higher than 0.15 mg/kg is the consequence of migration from food contact materials taking into account any nationally authorized migration limit".

#### Rationale

Maximum limits are set to protect the health of consumers including infants. There is no justification in making provisions for National migration limits as a result of migration from food contact materials when melamine levels are found to be higher than 0.15mg/kg.

Ghana would want to emphasize the position that liquid infant formula should not be packaged in melamine-based packaging materials because infants are vulnerable to the effects of melamine.

## IRAN

Iran agreed with the proposed maximum level of 0.15 mg/kg for liquid infant formula (ready to consume), considering Reconstitution factors (with default dilution factor of 8) were applied to concentrations of melamine found in concentrated and powdered infant formula (that is, those products requiring dilution or reconstitution prior to consumption).

## KENYA

### Note- 0.15mg/kg

The maximum level does not apply to liquid infant formula for which it can be proven that the level of melamine higher than 0.15 mg/kg is the consequence of migration from food contact materials taking into account any nationally authorized migration limit.

*1.Kenya does not support the inclusion of the following Note stating " The maximum level does not apply to liquid infant formula for which it can be proven that the level of melamine higher than 0.15 mg/kg is the consequence of migration from food contact materials taking into account any authorized migration limit." 2.we support 0.15mg/kg maximum which should be for all ages too.*

Including this note will mean establishing exceptions according to the criteria of each country, and thus the effects of homologation are lost and the ML is left basically free.

We believe that international standards are set to protect the consumers and to facilitate trade and it superceeds the national authority/national standards.

## MALI

### Observations spécifiques:

- Le Mali approuve le niveau maximal (0,15 mg/kg) de mélamine dans les préparations liquides pour nourrissons et le retrait de la note « le niveau maximal ne s'applique pas aux préparations liquides pour nourrissons pour lesquelles il a pu être prouvé qu'un niveau de mélamine plus élevé que 0,15 mg/kg est directement la conséquence de la migration des matériaux en contact avec l'alimentation en prenant en compte toute limite de migration autorisée ».

## NICARAGUA

Agradece la oportunidad de poder presentar sus comentarios al documento del tema 4 del programa, y propone lo siguiente:

Nicaragua mantiene se establezca un nivel máximo de 0,15 mg/kg en alimentos (**PREPARADOS LIQUIDOS PARA LACTANTES**), y no apoyar la inclusión de la nota "El nivel máximo no se aplica a los preparados líquidos para los lactantes de los que se puede demostrar que el nivel de melanina superior 0,15 mg/kg sea consecuencia de migración desde materiales de contacto de los alimentos, teniendo en cuenta cualquier límite autorizado.

## USA

- The U.S recommends that the proposed draft ML for liquid infant formula (as consumed) be advanced to Step 8 for adoption.
- The U.S. supports the proposed ML of 0.15 mg/kg for liquid infant formula (as consumed) and notation stating that the ML does not apply to liquid infant formula for which it can be proven that the level of melamine higher than 0.15 mg/kg is the consequence of migration from food contact materials taking into account any nationally authorized migration limit for the following reasons:
  - The proposed ML is based on the adopted ML for powdered infant formula taking into account the dilution effect of reconstitution.
  - The proposed ML and notation allows for possible migration of small amounts of melamine into liquid infant formula from packaging materials during storage without raising public health concerns.
- The U.S., however, would not object to the removal of the proposed notation if the consensus in the Committee is to do so.