

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 6

FL49/CRD30

Original language only

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING

Forty-ninth Session

Ottawa, Canada

11-15 May 2026

### COMMENTS FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

#### **Agenda item 6: Amendments to the *General standard for the labelling of pre-packaged foods* (CXS 1-1985): Provisions relevant to joint presentation and multipack formats (Step 4)**

The EU and its Member States (EUMS) consider that the text proposed in FL49/CRD06 could be subject to diverging interpretations as it is not clear whether the proposed provisions in subsections 4.2.1, 4.3.4 and 4.7.1 apply in all cases or only when the relevant mandatory food information particular is not readily discernible and legible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods.

The EUMS propose therefore following modifications to further enhance the clarity of the proposed provisions under Section 4 of the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1- 1985):

#### **On the proposed amendments to subsection 4.2.1 (list of ingredients)**

4.2.1 (bis) For pre-packaged foods subject to section 8.1.3.1 where the lists of ingredients are not readily discernible and legible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods, either separate lists of ingredients for each type of individually packaged food that makes up the container, or a combined list of ingredients shall be declared on the outer packaging, as appropriate to the nature of the food such as whether the individually packaged foods are intended to be consumed separately or together.

#### **On the proposed amendments to subsection 4.3.4 (net content)**

4.3.4 For pre-packaged foods that are subject to section 8.1.3.1, where the number of individually packaged foods cannot be easily counted or the net contents are not readily discernible and legible on at least one of each type of the individually packaged foods [and intended to be consumed separately], the net contents shall be declared by indicating on the outer packaging:

- the total net contents of the pre-packaged food sold as a single unit; and/or
- the number of individually pre-packaged foods per type and their respective net contents, ~~either on the outer container or on the individually packaged foods that make up the container, if they can easily be counted and their net contents per type are clearly discernible and legible.~~

#### **On the proposed amendments to subsection 4.7.1 (date marking)**

4.7.1 (vi) bis: For pre-packaged foods subject to section 8.1.3.1, where the earliest best-before date, best quality-before date, use-by date, or expiration date on the individually packaged foods is not readily discernible and legible, that ~~the best before date, best quality before date, use by date, or expiration date shall be~~ which is declared on the outer packaging, ~~shall correspond to the earliest date of the individually packaged foods that make up the container when these differ.~~ If the individually packaged foods have more than one type of date marking, the earliest date of the foods that fall under section 4.7.1(i) must be declared.