

CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD

PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ML FOR CADMIUM IN CHOCOLATE AND COCOA- DERIVED PRODUCTS

**Rommel Betancourt – Ecuador
London, September, 15th, 2014**

Aliados estratégicos del sector agropecuario



PRESENCE OF CADMIUM FOR CHOCOLATE AND COCOA-DERIVED PRODUCTS

UE concern
Modify

Regulation No. 1881/2006

Regulation No. 488/2014

DETAILS OF ACTIONS TAKEN

- MSF Committee of the WTO requires the revision of the amending to the Regulation No. 1881/2006, by which UE establish cadmium levels for cocoa-derived products.

October, 2011

January, 2012

- CCLAC manifests it's concern to the UE proposal to establish ML for cadmium in cocoa-derived products and its impact at the producing countries in the region.

DETAILS OF ACTIONS TAKEN

- At the CCLAC videoconference, Ecuador reiterated its preoccupation and received support of the countries that participated at the videoconference in order to propose the concerning theme at the CCCF meeting.

March 20, 2012

March 26, 2012

- Colombia proposes at the CCCF the inclusion of the issue in the Priority of Contaminants and Naturally Occurring Toxicants Proposed for Evaluation by JECFA.

DETAILS OF ACTIONS TAKEN

- At the 18th CCLAC meeting a regional work group was conformed with the participation of 20 cocoa producer countries to generate a proposal for sending data to JECFA.

**November 19-23,
2012**

**December 17,
2012**

- Ecuador was going to send available information to JECFA, in order to realize an evaluation of the exposition which results were going to be presented in June 2013.

DETAILS OF ACTIONS TAKEN

- At the 7th CCCF meeting, Ecuador informed that several countries of CCLAC have been working in generating additional data, then it could be used to strengthen the JECFA evaluation.

**April 8-12,
2013**

**June 19,
2013**

- JECFA made an evaluation and published a summary of the results of the exposition with the data that were submitted by some countries.

**March 31 -
April 04, 2014**

**8th CCCF
meeting,
Ecuador
leads EWG**

DETAILS OF ACTIONS TAKEN

- At the 37th CAC meeting the Commission approved the initiation of a new work:
- “Maximum Levels for cadmium in Chocolate and Cocoa-derived products.”

July 14-18, 2014

EWG

- 31 Country Members and 7 Observer Members.
- **30- sep-14:** 2nd Draft Document distribution.
- **30-oct-14:** Deadline to receive comments on the 2nd Draft Document.
- **30-nov-14:** Deadline to send the Project Standard to the Codex Secretariat.

KEY POINTS

- Support of CCLAC and countries of the Region.
- JECFA , during a videoconference gave guidelines on how fill the Call for Data 77 information.
- JECFA and the Codex Secretariat guidelines on how to provide the information.
- Support of other countries (e.g.: USA and some African countries)

WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE



- Data generation.
- Use the tool Codex to protect consumer health and enhance the national production for international and national consumption.



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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

77th Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) Rome, 4–13 June 2013

“The Committee noted that this total cadmium dietary exposure for high consumers of cocoa and cocoa products was likely to be overestimated and did not consider it to be of concern.”



PROPOSAL FOR ML FOR CADMIUM IN CHOCOLATE AND COCOA-DERIVED PRODUCTS

The Delegation (Ecuador) noted that while the evaluation of JECFA (77th meeting) had noted that the intake of cadmium from the consumption of chocolate and cocoa-derived products is not a health concern, that lack of an ML for cadmium in cocoa and its derived products could threaten exports from some Member Countries, especially developing countries who were the mayor exporters of cocoa.

CONCLUSION: The Committee agreed to initiate a new work on MLs for cadmium in chocolate and cocoa-derived products for approval by the 37th Session of the Commission. The Committee agreed to establish and EWG led by Ecuador, co-chaired by Ghana and Brazil, and working in English and Spanish, to prepare proposals for MLs for comments at **Step 3** and consideration at the next session of the Committee, subject to approval by the Commission.

