



13 May 2022

(22-3763)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>EUROPEAN UNION</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: European Commission, Health and Food Safety Directorate-General
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Non-parboiled milled rice (polished or white rice), rice flour, rice-based drinks, fish, crustaceans, bivalve molluscs, food for infants and young children, fruit juices, concentrated fruit juices and nectars and salt
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 as regards maximum levels of arsenic in certain foods (Text with EEA relevance). Language(s): English. Number of pages: 4+3 https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/EEC/22_3417_00_e.pdf https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/EEC/22_3417_01_e.pdf
6. Description of content: The draft Regulation lowers the existing maximum level for inorganic arsenic in non-parboiled milled rice (polished or white rice), for which currently already an EU ML is established under Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006, and it establishes new maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in rice flour, rice-based drinks, fish, crustaceans, bivalve molluscs, food for infants and young children, fruit juices, concentrated fruit juices and nectars and salt.
7. Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text): Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXC 1995) <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number): <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number): <input type="checkbox"/> None Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard: On the basis of a risk assessment the European Food Safety Authority concluded that in view of the exposure of EU consumers to inorganic arsenic, a risk to consumers cannot be excluded. On the basis of the available occurrence data in the European Union, there is margin to lower the ML for non-parboiled milled rice (polished or white rice). This measure is considered necessary to ensure a high level of human health protection.</p>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): Estimated December 2022. Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): Estimated December 2022.</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: [] Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 20 days after publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. [] Trade facilitating measure</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 12 July 2022 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body: European Commission DG Health and Food Safety, Unit D2-Multilateral International Relations Rue Froissart 101 B-1049 Brussels Tel: +(32 2) 29 54263 Fax: +(32 2) 29 98090 E-mail: sps@ec.europa.eu</p>
<p>13. Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body: European Commission DG Health and Food Safety, Unit D2-Multilateral International Relations Rue Froissart 101 B-1049 Brussels Tel: +(32 2) 29 54263 Fax: +(32 2) 29 98090 E-mail: sps@ec.europa.eu</p>