

CONSULTATION

Topic: Draft Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on food additives authorised for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption

Start date of consultation: 17th October

Finish date: Open

Consultation details.

Comments are requested on the following.

The European Commission have tabled, at the level of the Member State Expert Group on Additives, a draft proposal for a new Framework Regulation on additives which will integrate the provisions of the current Framework Directive 89/107/EEC, Directives 94/35/EC on sweeteners, 94/36/EC on colours and 95/2/EC on food additives other than colours and sweeteners. This was signalled in the White Paper on Food Safety, in which the Commission announced that it would update and complete existing Community legislation with regard to food additives (Action 11 in the White Paper).

The Commission's draft proposal was initially discussed in an Expert Group meeting on 11th September, and the Commission plans to formally publish it in late 2003. One of the principal objectives of the proposal is to simplify food additive legislation by creating a single instrument for principles, procedures and authorisations. In addition to this, other new aspects of the proposal compared with the existing legislation include the following:

- the proposal will give the Commission power to update the Community list of authorised food additives through the procedure laid down in Council Decision 1999/468/EC;
- EFSA will play a major role in risk assessment, technical and consumer matters related to food additives;
- A 10 year re-evaluation programme for existing authorisations of food additives will be put in place;
- additives that consist of, contain or are produced from a GMO will be authorised under the proposal for a Regulation on GM food and feed prior to inclusion in the lists of authorised additives under this Regulation.
- The authorisations for E 1103 Invertase and E 1105 Lysozyme will be repealed from the date of application of the Regulation on food enzymes, as the Commission intends to introduce a parallel Regulation on Food Enzymes in parallel with this Regulation.

It is intended that the Annexes of the current Directives (94/35/EC, 95/35/EC, 95/2/EC) will remain in force in parallel to the new Regulation, once adopted, and as new additives are approved or existing ones re-evaluated they will be included in the Annexes of the Regulation

The draft proposal is associated with this summary as a Word file.

The proposal is at an early stage in the EU legislative process and revisions to the text will be made available to interested parties via this Consultation mechanism on an ongoing basis. Comments on this first draft of the proposal are welcomed. No closing date is put for the receipt of comments by FSAI.

All comments and views should be sent via email to: consultation@fsai.ie

Or post to:

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