

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

39TH SESSION

27 JUNE – 1 JULY 2016

EUROPEAN UNION COMMENTS ON

CL 2015/31-FH:

MATTERS FOR ADOPTION BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION:

3. Proposed Draft Annex I “Examples of Microbiological Criteria for Low-Moisture Foods when Deemed Appropriate in Accordance with the *Principles and Guidelines for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria Related to Foods (CAC/GL 21-1997)*” and Annex II “Guidance for the Establishment of Environmental Monitoring Programmes for *Salmonella spp.* and other Enterobacteriaceae in Low-Moisture Food Processing Areas” to the *Code of Hygienic Practice for Low-Moisture Foods (CAC/RCP 75-2015)* (REP16/FH para. 41 and Appendix IV).

*Mixed Competence
European Union Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) support the adoption of Annexes I and II at step 5/8.

However, the EUMS would like to express their concerns regarding the inclusion of examples of microbiological criteria for low-moisture foods in Annex I. This is because their relatively low risk compared to other foods does not justify microbiological criteria. In the EUMS view, guidance on good hygiene practices would be sufficient. The EUMS consider that such criteria would put a disproportionate burden on producers.