

**European Union comments for the
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD
11th Session**

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3 – 7 April 2017

Agenda Item 7:

**Proposed Draft Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of
Arsenic Contamination in Rice
(CL 2017/25 CF)**

*Mixed Competence
Member States Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) welcome and appreciate the work on the code of practice for the prevention and reduction of arsenic contamination in rice by the electronic Working Group chaired by Japan and co-chaired by Spain.

The EUMS would like to submit the following comments on the proposed text that has been circulated to Codex members and observers via the CL 2017/25 CF:

1.1 The EUMS can agree to remove the square brackets in this section.

3. Definitions: The EUMS can agree on removing all the square brackets in this section. In para 3.8., the EUMS prefer the second option resulting in "*Aerobic condition* of soil in a paddy field where rice is grown is in well-drained, non-puddled, non-flooded and unsaturated soils."

4.1: The EUMS can agree on removing the square brackets in this section.

5.1: The EUMS wish retaining the term "by" rather than "to assess"; as this would clearly address how the effectiveness of the measures proposed are monitored.

5.2: The EUMS prefer the term "past" rather than "historical".

6.1: The EUMS have a preference for the second option ("considering...") as it is more balanced and inclusive.

6.3: The EUMS suggest deleting the first sentence in square brackets, maintain the second and delete the last one (starting with "Thus..." and assuming that it should be closed at the end of the paragraph, after the words "into polished rice").

The EUMS support the finalising of the CoP and advancing it to Step 5/8 for adoption by the 40th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.