

**European Union comments on
Codex Circular Letter CL 2016/10-CF
MATTERS FOR ADOPTION BY THE 39TH SESSION OF THE
CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

**Draft and Proposed Draft Standards and Related Texts
at Steps 8 or 5/8 of the Procedure**

Draft Maximum Level for Inorganic Arsenic in Husked Rice at Step 8

European Union Competence

European Union Vote

The European Union (EU) would like to introduce a reservation to the adoption of the ML for inorganic arsenic in husked rice.

An ML of 0,35 mg/kg for husked rice does not result in an important reduction of intake of inorganic arsenic. In addition, such a maximum level would not be coherent with the maximum level for polished rice previously agreed at 0,2 mg/kg. In fact, with a maximum level of 0,35 mg/kg for husked rice, this would mean that 24 % of the polished rice derived from compliant husked rice would be non-compliant. The European Union considers that this would have a significant negative effect on international trade and therefore reiterates its reservation.