

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(76) 407 final.

Brussels, 26 July 1976.

Commission Report to the Council on the action to be taken
following the request for information on the specifications
for additives contained in the letter sent by the Chief of
the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme (CL 1976/7)

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Commission Report to the Council on the action to be taken following the request for information on the specifications for additives contained in the letter sent by the Chief of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme (CL 1976/7).

The letter in question relates to requests for information on the specifications contained in the document "Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Some Food additives" (FAO Nut. Meet. Rep. Ser. N° 54 B WHO/Food Add/7).

The Commission proposes the following procedure :

Additives controlled by Community legislation

The Commission will tell the FAO/WHO secretariat of the Community Directives that already exist on Colours, Preservatives, Antioxidants and Emulsifiers (etc.) and will give information on the specification contained therein for those substances under discussion by the FAO/WHO. To this end the Commission proposes to send to Codex the letter, the draft of which is to be found annexed to this document.

Additives not yet controlled by Community legislation

The Commission proposes that the Member States write individually. Member States could inform the FAO/WHO that work is in progress on many classes of food additives at Community level and that this may in the future have an impact on their acceptance or non-acceptance of the specifications.

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DRAFT LETTER TO FAO/WHO

Subject : Criteria of Purity referred to in the letter of March 1976
N° CL 1976/7

In reply to your letter of March 1976 (CL 1976/7) I would remind you that the Commission wrote en (ref.) about the Directives of the European Economic Community on colours, preservatives, antioxidants and emulsifiers (etc...) which may be used in food within the Community. Annexed to that letter were summaries of the so-called "general criteria" drawn up for all additives.

I now enclose a summary of the Community's provisions relating specifically to the additives listed in your letter (CL 1976/7).

Additive	EEC N°	Reference
<u>Colours</u>		
Annatto Extracts	E 160 (b)	Council Directive 23/10/62 (OJ N° 115, 11/11/62) Council Directive 25/10/65 (OJ N° 178, 26/10/65)
Azorubine	E 122	Council Directive 23/10/62 (OJ N° 115, 11/11/62)
Beet Red	E 162	Council Directive 23/10/62 (OJ N° 115, 11/11/62)
β-apo-8' carotenoic	E 160 (e)	Council Directive 23/10/62 (OJ N° 115, 11/11/62) Council Directive 25/10/65 (OJ N° 178, 26/10/65)
β-apo-8' carotenal acid ethyl ester	E 160 (f)	
β-carotene (ex-carotenes)	E 160 (a)	
Brilliant Black PN	E 151	Council Directive 23/10/62 (OJ N° 115, 11/11/62)
Canthaxanthin	E 161 (g)	Council Directive 23/10/62 (OJ N° 115, 11/11/62)
Caramel (ammonia process) (ex-caramel)	E 150	Council Directive 25/10/65 (OJ N° 178, 26/10/65)
Chlorophyll/chlorophyllins		
copper complexes	E 141	
Erythrosine	E 127	Council Directive 23/10/62 (OJ N° 115, 11/11/62)
Food Green S	E 142	Council Directive 24/10/67 (OJ N° 263, 30/10/67)
Indigotine	E 132	Council Directive 23/10/62 (OJ N° 115, 11/11/62)
Iron oxides (hydroxides)		
	E 172	
Patent Blue	E 131	
Ponceau 4 R	E 124	
Quinoline Yellow	E 104	
Turmeric	(provisions left to national legislation)	

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Additive	EEC N°	Reference
<u>Emulsifiers etc.</u>		
Carrageenan	E 407/	
	E 408	} Council Directive 18/6/74 (OJ N° 189, 12/7/74) general provisions, specific criteria of purity under consideration
Pectin	E 440	
Mannitol	E 421	
<u>Antioxidants</u>		
Calcium lactate	E 327	} Council Directive 13/7/70 (OJ N° L 157, 18/7/70) general provisions : specific criteria of purity under consideration
Potassium lactate	E 326	
Sodium lactate	E 325	
<u>Preservatives</u>		
Potassium acetate	E 261	} Council Directive 5/11/63 (OJ N° 12, 27/1/64) and Council Directive 26/1/65 (OJ N° 22, 9/2/65)