NOTIFICATION

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** EUROPEAN UNION  **If applicable, name of local government involved:** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** European Commission, Health and Food Safety Directorate-General |
| **3.** | **Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):** Non-parboiled milled rice (polished or white rice), rice flour, rice‑based drinks, fish, crustaceans, bivalve molluscs, food for infants and young children, fruit juices, concentrated fruit juices and nectars and salt |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**  **[****X]** **All trading partners**  **[****]** **Specific regions or countries:** |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 as regards maximum levels of arsenic in certain foods (Text with EEA relevance).**Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 4+3  [https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/EEC/22\_3417\_00\_e.pdf](https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/EEC/22_3417_00_e.pdf" \t "_blank)  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/EEC/22_3417_01_e.pdf> |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** The draft Regulation lowers the existing maximum level for inorganic arsenic in non-parboiled milled rice (polished or white rice), for which currently already an EU ML is established under Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006, and it establishes new maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in rice flour, rice-based drinks, fish, crustaceans, bivalve molluscs, food for infants and young children, fruit juices, concentrated fruit juices and nectars and salt. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale: [****X]****food safety, [****]****animal health, [****]****plant protection, [****]****protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [****]****protect territory from other damage from pests.** |
| **8.** | **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:**  **[****X]** **Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:** Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXC 1995)  **[****]** **World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:**  **[****]** **International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:**  **[****]** **None**  **Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?**  **[****]** **Yes [****X]** **No**  **If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** On the basis of a risk assessment the European Food Safety Authority concluded that in view of the exposure of EU consumers to inorganic arsenic, a risk to consumers cannot be excluded. On the basis of the available occurrence data in the European Union, there is margin to lower the ML for non-parboiled milled rice (polished or white rice). This measure is considered necessary to ensure a high level of human health protection. |
| **9.** | **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:** |
| **10.** | **Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** Estimated December 2022.  **Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** Estimated December 2022. |
| **11.** | **Proposed date of entry into force: [****]****Six months from date of publication**, **and/or** ***(dd/mm/yy)*:** 20 days after publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.  **[****]** **Trade facilitating measure** |
| **12.** | **Final date for comments: [****X]****Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 12 July 2022  **Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [****X]****National Notification Authority, [****X]****National Enquiry Point.** **Address, fax number and e‑mail address (if available) of other body:**  European Commission  DG Health and Food Safety, Unit D2-Multilateral International Relations  Rue Froissart 101  B-1049 Brussels  Tel: +(32 2) 29 54263  Fax: +(32 2) 29 98090  E-mail: [sps@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sps@ec.europa.eu) |
| **13.** | **Text(s) available from: [****X]****National Notification Authority, [****X]****National Enquiry Point.** **Address, fax number and e‑mail address (if available) of other body:**  European Commission  DG Health and Food Safety, Unit D2-Multilateral International Relations  Rue Froissart 101  B-1049 Brussels  Tel: +(32 2) 29 54263  Fax: +(32 2) 29 98090  E-mail: [sps@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sps@ec.europa.eu) |