

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH

Section on General Food Law

Summary Record of Meeting of 19th July 2006

Chairman: Mr Basil Mathioudakis

The agenda was adopted.

- 1. Discussion and possible opinion on a Draft COMMISSION DECISION of [...] authorising the placing on the market of “maize-germ oil high in unsaponifiable matter” as a novel food ingredient under Regulation (EC) No 258/97 of the European Parliament and of the Council**
- 2. Discussion and possible opinion on a Draft COMMISSION DECISION of [...] authorising the placing on the market of “rapeseed oil high in unsaponifiable matter” as a novel food ingredient under Regulation (EC) No 258/97 of the European Parliament and of the Council**

The Commission presented the draft Decisions.

The Committee welcomed the drafts. With respect to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) the Committee noted that the specification was the same as that included in Regulation (EC) No 466/2001 and considered that if that Regulation is modified, with respect to the limits applicable to PAH in oils and fats intended for direct human consumption or use as an ingredient in foods, coherence should be ensured with this decision.

The SCFCAH gave a favourable opinion unanimously to both the above draft decisions.

- 3. Discussion and possible opinion on the recast of Directive 91/321/EEC Draft Commission Directive of [...] on infant formulae and follow-on formulae**

The Commission presented the draft recast of Directive 91/321/EEC on infant formulae and follow-on formulae.

Some Members of the Committee indicated that they would have liked to have an authorisation procedure for the inclusion of new ingredients. The Commission noted that any modification to Annex I, which specified the essential composition of infant formula, had to be done through the Regulatory Committee procedure. For other new ingredients, the Commission explained that the framework legislation of Council Directive 89/398/EEC on foods for particular nutritional uses did not provide for the introduction of an authorisation procedure in the specific Directives. The Commission said, however, that as part of the next revision of the framework Directive the Commission will investigate the inclusion of provisions that would provide for an authorisation procedure to be introduced when appropriate with respect to developments in foods for particular nutritional uses.

Some Members of the Committee sought reassurance that with respect to modifications of the list of authorised claims for infant formula the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) would be consulted on claims that were likely to have an impact on public health. The Commission explained that this was already foreseen in the framework legislation

and gave the assurance that the Commission would seek an opinion from the EFSA on any such new claims that are likely to have an effect on public health, as provided for in Article 4(1) of Directive 89/398/EEC.

There was a discussion on the issue of the conversion factor used for the calculation of the protein content of the products. It was agreed to include a new recital to explain the specificity of the protein requirements for the products covered by the Directive.

The SCFCAH gave a favourable opinion by qualified majority (in favour: 317 votes; abstentions: 4 votes).

4. Discussion and possible opinion on a draft Directive amending Annex IIIa of Directive 2000/13/EC (allergenic ingredients).

The Commission presented the draft Directive. Following the request of Member States the transition periods were adjusted.

The SCFCAH gave a favourable opinion by qualified majority (in favour: 308 votes; abstentions: 13 votes).