

**European Union Position**

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING  
39<sup>th</sup> Session**

**Québec City, Canada, 9 – 13 May 2011**

**Agenda Item 7:  
Proposed Draft Definition of Nutrient Reference Values  
(CX/FL 11/39/14)**

*European Union competence  
European Union vote*

The European Union (EU) thanks the Canadian delegation for preparing the document CX/FL 11/39/14.

In its reply to Circular Letter 2010/21-FL, the EU, representing the views of 27 members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, supported the short definition for NRV: "*Nutrient reference values are a set of numerical values established and used for purposes of nutrition labelling*" as proposed by the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the CCNFSDU. The EU continues to believe that a short definition is appropriate.

The EU is surprised that the option for a short version of a definition has not been retained as an option in CX/FL 11/39/14 despite the level of support for this option. The document only notes that there was "some support" for this option. The EU supported this option and this position was provided on behalf of 27 members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Therefore, a consensus was clearly not reached, the EU requests the Committee to consider not only the options proposed in the document but also the following option:

*"Nutrient reference values (NRVs) are a set of numerical values established by Codex Alimentarius for purposes of nutrition labelling".*

The EU does not consider that it is necessary to extend the definition with the statements that further explain the basis or principles that might underlie the identification of the nutrient reference values themselves. The EU considers that the extension of the definition would make it unnecessarily complicated and potentially restrictive.