NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** AUSTRALIA**If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):**  |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)**Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:** Australian WTO TBT Enquiry PointOffice of Global Trade NegotiationsDepartment of Foreign Affairs and TradeCanberra ACT 0221tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au+61 2 6261 1111 |
| **3.** | **Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [ ], 5.7.1 [ ], 3.2 [ ], 7.2 [ ], other:**  |
| **4.** | **Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):** Foods sold in Australia (both imported and domestically produced) |
| **5.** | **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Call for submissions, Application A1260 – 2-Methyloxolane as a processing aid; Supporting Document 1 Risk and technical assessment report, Application A1260 – 2-Methyloxolane as a processing aid;; (28 page(s), in English); (23 page(s), in English) |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** FSANZ has assessed an application to amend the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code) to permit use of 2-methyloxolane (2-MeOx) as an extraction solvent processing aid. 2-MeOx can be used to extract and separate oils and proteins from plant-based products, including oilseeds. It can also be used to extract components such as flavours, fragrances and colours, again from plant-based sources.FSANZ concluded the extraction solvent achieves its technological purpose. An identity and purity specification is to be inserted into Schedule 3 of the Code (which reflects the specifications detailed in Commission Directive (EU) 2023/175 dated 26 January 2023), to ensure the product meets the appropriate requirements so that the presence of certain impurities is minimised. FSANZ proposes to set maximum permitted levels (MPL) for residual 2-MeOx in foods: 3 mg/kg for infant formula products; 5 mg/kg in foods for infants and formulated supplementary foods for young children; and 20 mg/kg for other foods.No public health and safety concerns were identified from 2-MeOx as an extraction solvent at the proposed MPLs. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** A relevant international standard for 2-MeOx does not exist. Commission Directive (EU) 2023/175 authorised the use of 2-MeOx as an extraction solvent in the production or fractionation of fats, oils or cocoa butter; preparation of defatted protein products and defatted flours; and preparation of defatted cereal germs, with maximum residue limits (mg/kg) in the extracted foodstuff or food ingredient which are generally more restrictive than those proposed for inclusion in the Code. |
| **8.** | **Relevant documents:** Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (English). Available at <https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/food-standards-code> |
| **9.** | **Proposed date of adoption:** Notification to Australian and New Zealand Government anticipated November 2024 with adoption planned upon gazettal Dec 2024, pending government consideration.**Proposed date of entry into force:** December 2024 |
| **10.** | **Final date for comments:** 24 October 2024 |
| **11.** | **Texts available from: National enquiry point [ ] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:** The assessment summary and proposed draft variation to the Code are available (in English) from the FSANZ website:<https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/food-standards-code/applications/Application-A1260-2-methyloxolane-as-a-processing-aid> |