



26 – 29 May 2013, Kyiv, Ukraine

LEGISLATION ON FOOD ADDITIVES IN THE EU AND UKRAINE

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ABSTRACT

Food additives are used in the food industry to improve the technological properties of food products. In the EU the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) evaluates the safety of food additives. In Ukraine such function belongs to Department of Sanitary Inspection of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine.

The "Codex General Standard for Food Additives" (GSFA, Codex STAN 192-1995) sets forth the conditions under which permitted food additives may be used in all foods.

In the EU food additives should be approved and used only if they fulfill the criteria of the EU. Food additives must be safe when used, there must be a technological need for their use, and their use must not mislead the consumer and must be of benefit to the consumer. The European Parliament has the right to forbid the additive that is used if there are the results of its harmfulness.

Regulatory framework on food additives in Ukraine is presented by Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine № 12 "On approval of the list of food additives authorized for use in food" of 4 January 1999 and Order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine № 222 of 23 July 1996 "On approval of sanitary regulations on food additives" that are general rules, but they do not specify each particular additive.

In 2007 National Codex Alimentarius Commission of Ukraine has considered the project "Sanitary norms and regulations on food additives, enzymes, supplementary materials for processing and some flavourings", but it was not registered in the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine. The fate of the document is unknown.

KEY WORDS

Food additives, legislation on food additives, food safety

Indicate type of presentation: Oral Poster