

2. PREFACE

2.1 About IOFI

The International Organization of the Flavor Industry (IOFI) is an association of regional and national associations of the global flavour industry, consisting of the national associations of flavour manufacturers of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Singapore, South Africa and the United States, and the regional flavour association of Europe (EFFA) which consists of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

2.2 Mission Statement

The International Organization of the Flavor Industry represents the interests of the global flavour industry and its partners by providing leadership in safety, scientific and regulatory matters.

2.3 Roles and Responsibility

The safe use of flavourings is the flavour industry's first priority, in order to prevent risk to the health of consumers, employees and the environment. Acting in partnership with its members, IOFI provides sound scientific information to the industry, its customers, and government agencies in order to promote the benefits and safe use of flavours. As the global flavour industry's representative, IOFI:

- 2.3.1 Promotes and supports a consistent global approach for the safety assessment of flavouring substances based on sound science.
- 2.3.2 Supports and promotes legislation and regulation that will enhance its ability to provide safe flavours worldwide.
- 2.3.3 Communicates with its members about current and emerging scientific and regulatory issues that have an impact on the safety assessment of flavours.

2.4 IOFI and the CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

- 2.4.1 The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) to develop international food standards, guidelines and recommendations to protect the health of consumers and to ensure fair practice in food trade pursuant to the World Trade Organization (WTO) treaties. The Commission has the responsibility for developing food standards that may be adopted by member countries. The standards are science-based and are elaborated taking into consideration expert advice by the highly

regarded Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), the group responsible for performing safety assessments of food additives and flavouring substances for use by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in its work in developing global food standards.

- 2.4.2 IOFI serves as a non-governmental organization (NGO) and has been granted Observer status with the Codex Alimentarius Commission with a standing invitation to Codex meetings and meetings of its subsidiary bodies such as the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA), the Codex Committee on Food Contaminants (CCFC), and the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL). See www.codexalimentarius.net for more information on the Codex Alimentarius Commission.
- 2.4.3 IOFI has been involved in the development of the Codex Guidelines for the Use of Flavourings (CAC/GL 66-2008; C of P Annex III). IOFI supports the Codex Guidelines and recognizes their value in providing principles for the safe use of components of flavourings evaluated by JECFA and determined to present no safety concern at estimated levels of intake.

2.5 IOFI and the Global Reference List

The IOFI secretariat will maintain on the IOFI-website (www.iofi.org) a Global Reference List, which will identify flavouring substances and natural flavouring complexes appropriate for the formulation of flavourings as described in Section 18.1 of this Code of Practice. The Global Reference List will be subject to regular updates.

2.6 Application of the Code of Practice

The Code of Practice consists of information describing best practices regarding the safety, composition, manufacture, description and labeling of flavourings. The application of the Code of Practice does not relieve individual manufacturers from the obligation to comply with all local, national, or international regulations that pertain to their operations. These regulations take precedence over this Code. In those countries where specific legislation and regulations applicable to flavourings are not in force, the Code of Practice should serve as a best practices resource.

2.7 Accessibility

IOFI makes the Code of Practice available to its members and other interested parties through its website.