10th Anniversary of the Food Improvement Agents Package (FIAP)

Background information

The FIAP in a few words
On 16th December 2008, the European Union adopted its Food Improvement Agents Package (also known as ‘FIAP’). The purpose of this new set of legal instruments was to harmonise, streamline the use of food additives, enzymes and flavourings; and establish a common authorisation procedure for these products. Based on the food safety principles enshrined in the EU General Food Law, the four original Regulations are now completed by secondary pieces of legislations, implementing measures as well as Guidance documents.

The FIAP more in details
The four basic Regulations adopted in December 2008 are:
- Regulation 1331/2008 establishing a common authorisation procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavourings.
- Regulation 1332/2008 on food enzymes;
- Regulation 1333/2008 on food additives;
- Regulation 1334/2008 on flavourings and certain food ingredients with flavouring properties for use in and on foods.

Focus on the common authorisation procedure
Established by Regulation 1331/2008 and completed by the Commission Regulation 234/2011 as amended by the Commission Implementing Regulation 562/2012, the common authorisation procedure for i.e. the authorisation of a new food improvement agent in the EU can be roughly summarised as follows:

Useful links and references:
- DG SANTE’s web pages on food improvement agents: https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_improvement_agents_en

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