



2026/1890

30.7.2026

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2026/1890

of 29 July 2026

amending Regulation (EU) 2023/915 as regards maximum levels of the sum of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran in processed cereal-based food for infants and young children and in baby food

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 315/93 of 8 February 1993 laying down Community procedures for contaminants in food ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 2(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/915 ⁽²⁾ sets maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs.
- (2) Furan and alkylfurans, which include methylfurans such as 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran, are process contaminants that are formed in foods during thermal processing.
- (3) In 2017, the Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain ('the CONTAM Panel') of the European Food Safety Authority ('the Authority') adopted a scientific opinion on the risks that the presence of furan and methylfurans in food poses to public health ⁽³⁾. In its opinion the CONTAM Panel concluded that the current levels of exposure to furan indicate a health concern. As for methylfurans, it concluded that they may add significantly to the overall exposure to furan and alkylfurans and that, therefore, they are of increased health concern. However, as data are lacking on the presence of methylfurans in food, the CONTAM Panel recommended collecting additional data in this area.
- (4) In 2022, the Commission adopted a Recommendation ⁽⁴⁾ for the monitoring by Member States, in collaboration with food business operators, of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran in food, in particular in coffee, jarred baby food (including baby food in containers, tubes and pouches), ready-to-eat soups, potato-based crisps, fruit juices, breakfast cereals, biscuits, crackers and crispbread.
- (5) In 2024, there were several notifications in the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) on the presence of certain levels of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran in baby food that are of health concern.
- (6) Taking into account the conclusions of the scientific opinion of the CONTAM Panel, the availability of the occurrence data and the RASFF notifications, it is appropriate to establish maximum levels for the presence of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran in processed cereal-based food for infants and young children and in baby food.
- (7) Regulation (EU) 2023/915 should therefore be amended accordingly.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 37, 13.2.1993, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1993/315/oj>.

⁽²⁾ Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/915 of 25 April 2023 on maximum levels for certain contaminants in food and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 (OJ L 119, 5.5.2023, p. 103, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/915/oj>).

⁽³⁾ EFSA CONTAM Panel (EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain), 'Scientific opinion on the risks for public health related to the presence of furan and methylfurans in food', *EFSA Journal* 2017;15(10):5005, 142 pp., <https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2017.5005>.

⁽⁴⁾ Commission Recommendation (EU) 2022/495 of 25 March 2022 on monitoring the presence of furan and alkylfurans in food (OJ L 100, 28.3.2022, p. 60, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2022/495/oj>).

- (8) To enable economic operators to prepare for the new rules in processed cereal-based food for infants and young children and in baby food, it is appropriate to provide for a reasonable time until the new rules start to apply. It is also appropriate to provide for a transitional period in regard to food containing furan, 2-methylfuran or 3-methylfuran, which is lawfully placed on the market before the date of application of this Regulation.
- (9) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EU) 2023/915 is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 10(1) is amended as follows:
 - (a) the introductory phrase is replaced by the following:
'Food lawfully placed on the market prior to the dates referred to in points (a) to (s) may remain on the market until their date of minimum durability or use-by date:';
 - (b) the following point (s) is added:
'(s) 1 January 2028 as regards the maximum levels for sum of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran, expressed as furan, set out in point 5.6 of Annex I';
- (2) Annex I is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2028.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 29 July 2026.

For the Commission
The President
Ursula VON DER LEYEN

ANNEX

In Section 5 ‘Processing contaminants’ of Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2023/915, the entry 5.6 ‘Sum of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran, expressed as furan’ is added:

‘5.6	Sum of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran, expressed as furan	Maximum levels (µg/kg)	Remarks
			For the sum of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran, expressed as furan, maximum levels refer to lower bound concentrations, which are calculated on the assumption that all the values below the limit of quantification are zero. A factor of 0,83 is applied to the level of 2-methylfuran and 3-methylfuran and the maximum level refers to the sum of furan + 0,83 × 2-methylfuran + 0,83 × 3-methylfuran
5.6.1	Processed cereal-based food for infants and young children ⁽³⁾	40	
5.6.2	Baby food ⁽³⁾		
5.6.2.1	Dairy-based and fruit-based baby food Baby food consisting of a mixture of dairy and fruit.	30	The maximum level applies to baby food containing at least 80 % of dairy, fruit or of a mixture of dairy and fruit.’
5.6.2.2	Other baby food	80	