

6 December 2021
182-21

Administrative Assessment Report – Proposal P1057

Review of the kava standard

1. Proposal details

Brief description of Proposal: To review the regulation of kava in the Code to ensure it adequately addresses public health and safety related to the potential increased availability of kava to the wider community.		Potentially affected Standard: 2.6.3
Procedure: Urgent (s.95, s.96)	Estimated total variable hours: 990 hours Reasons why: Urgent proposal	Estimated start date: November 2021
Reasons why: Unlimited commercial importation of kava will commence in Australia in December 2021 due to a Federal Government commitment to the Pacific.		

Other comments or Relevant Matters:

On 28 October 2021, Minister Colbeck, as Chair of the Food Ministers' Meeting, requested the Chair of the FSANZ Board to consider preparing a proposal, and then declaring it urgent. If the request is accepted the purpose is to review the Code to ensure it protects public health and safety when the commercial importation of kava into Australia becomes unlimited as part of the Federal Government commitment to the Pacific in December 2021. The intent is to amend the Code to more explicitly limit the preparation of kava beverages to traditional use, and to ensure that food additives and processing aids may not be added to dried or raw kava root or kava beverages. The proposal is only to review kava as a food, not therapeutic or medicinal products or food supplements.

2. Decision

Proposal prepared

Date: 10 November 2021

3. Consultation & assessment timeframe

Proposed length of public consultation periods:

10 business days

This reflects the statutory requirements under the Act for an urgent proposal, the nature and narrow scope of the proposal, the proactive communication efforts and the need to urgently address the problem.

Proposed timeframe for assessment:

Declaration of urgency

Completion of Initial Consideration (incl draft standard) (CFS report)	mid Dec 2021
Public comment	late Dec 2021
Board to finalise consideration (Approval)	early Feb 2022
Gazetta	mid Feb 2022
Standard assessed (CFS reaffirmed?)	mid June 2022
Public comment standard (reaffirmed?)	late June – early Sept 2022
Board reaffirm? (Approval report)	early Dec 2022

