

TACD

TRANS ATLANTIC
CONSUMER DIALOGUE

DIALOGUE TRANSATLANTIQUE
DES CONSOMMATEURS

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PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE

(SEE DETAILED POSITION PAPER FOOD-9PP-99)

The Precautionary Principle should apply in cases when the scientific evidence is not conclusive enough to determine a level of protection but there is a necessity to take measures for the purposes of protecting public health, safety, or the environment.

The TACD calls on the governments of the US and the EU to incorporate the Precautionary Principle in regulatory decisions involved in consumer health and safety and the environment.

In this perspective, the TACD calls on the Codex Alimentarius Commission to set a clear policy that includes the Precautionary Principle, along with science, social and ethical factors, animal welfare and environmental protection within the decision making process.

We urge deletion of the word "provisional" in the first sentence of Article 5.7 of the SPS agreement. We call on the US and EU to seek to strengthen this article. In addition, we urge reconsideration of the current rules relating to the burden of proof to demonstrate that a product is safe.