

Brussels 19 July 2021

**To:**

Food Standards Australia New Zealand

E-mail: [submissions@foodstandards.gov.au](mailto:submissions@foodstandards.gov.au)

**RE: Call for submissions – Application A1222 Steviol glycosides from *Yarrowia lipolytica***

The International Stevia Council (ISC) is a global trade association representing the stevia industry, including stevia leaf growers and producers, stevia extracts and steviol glycosides producers, users of steviol glycosides in final consumer products. ISC activities aim at improving the diets and health of people globally by addressing sugars and calories in food.

We would like to support the application A1222 made by Avansya V.O.F. to amend the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code to permit the use of a steviol glycoside mixture (rebaudioside MD) produced by fermentation from a genetically modified *Yarrowia lipolytica* production strain.

**ISC is in full support of the draft food regulatory measure as prepared.**

We are aligned with the FSANZ assessment that there are no public health and safety concerns identified with the Avansya rebaudioside MD preparation produced by genetically modified *Y. lipolytica*.

This approval is important for the food industry and consumers as it offers an additional alternative to the currently available non-nutritive sweeteners. Expanded availability of a broader ranges of stevia and steviol glycosides sweeteners supports public health directives to decrease sugar and calorie intakes in foods.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide our support on this amendment.

Kind regards,

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STEVIA  
COUNCIL

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