

# **Submission**

to

New Zealand Delegates

attending the

## **Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses**

Thailand, 30 October – 3 November, 2006

From



Infant Feeding Association of New Zealand (Trust)

October 29 2006

## Introduction

The Infant Feeding Association of New Zealand (IFANZ) is a non-governmental charitable trust affiliated to the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN). The Trust has the vision that *“All mothers, families and caregivers are able to make and implement informed decisions about optimal feeding practices for infants and young children.”*

IFANZ Purpose is to:

- promote the health and well-being of infants and young children and their mothers, in New Zealand and internationally, through the protection, promotion and support of optimal infant and young child feeding practices;
- provide education and information that is free of commercial influence, to enable informed decision-making about infant and young child feeding;
- support full implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes and subsequent relevant World Health Assembly Resolutions.

## Submission

IFANZ urges the New Zealand delegation at the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses in Thailand, to support IBFAN and the International Association of Consumer Food Organizations (IACFO) positions to protect infant and young child health by:

1. Preserving the ban on health and nutrition claims
2. Limiting the number of optional ingredients
3. Strengthening warnings on labels to address issues of intrinsic contamination
4. Addressing the risks of soya
5. Supporting India and Thailand to reduce sugar and protein levels in the standard for processed cereal-based foods
6. Calling for declarations of interest from working group members

## Conclusion

We apologise for this late submission but trust you will share our concern that the European Union Commission, in particular, may weaken the standard on health and nutrition claims. This could open the door for a level of marketing that would not be in the best interests of health and optimal infant and young child feeding practice.

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