

Foreword

Supplementing **Council of Europe Resolution CM/Res(2013)9**, the Technical guide is intended to ensure the safety and suitable quality of **food contact materials and articles made from metals and alloys**. Chemical elements that constitute metallic food contact articles and that may be present in certain alloys are stated in the current edition and specific release limits (SRLs) have been set for each element, where appropriate. This new set of documents supersedes the previously established Guidelines on Metals and Alloys (first issued on 9 March 2001 and revised on 13 February 2002 under the former Council of Europe Partial Agreement in the Social and Public Health Field).

The revision of the 2002 guidelines was triggered by a series of comments from official inspection services and analytical control laboratories in several European countries. When testing food contact materials and articles, certain metal ions were detected that could pose a health risk for consumers if released into food in relevant amounts. An increasing number of notifications on metal ions from food contact materials was transmitted through the EU-Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) over recent years.

Information presented in this guide

- **Chapter 1:** General provisions and Specific Release Limits (SRL) for metal
- **Chapter 2:** Safety review and recommendations
- **Chapter 3:** Analytical methods for release testing of food contact materials and articles made from metals and alloys
- **Chapter 4:** Declaration of compliance for metals and alloys used in food contact materials and articles

Metals and alloys used in food contact materials and articles

The general provisions and recommendations are intended to assist national policy makers and to enhance the harmonisation of technical standards among the States Parties to the Convention on the Elaboration of a European Pharmacopoeia.

Where relevant, they should be read in conjunction with Article 3 (1) of Regulation (EC) No. 1935/2004 of the European Parliament and the Council of 27 October 2004 on materials and articles intended to come into contact with food.

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