

## **Amendment to the Enforcement Ordinance of the Food Sanitation Law and the Standards and Specifications for Foods and Food Additives**

The government of Japan will revise the current standards for use of Magnesium Stearate.

### **Summary**

Under Article 10 of the Food Sanitation Law (Act No. 233, 1947) (hereinafter referred to as the “Law”), food additives shall not be used or marketed without authorization by the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (hereinafter referred to as “the Minister”). In addition, when specifications or standards are established for food additives based on Article 11 of the Law and stipulated in the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Notification (Ministry of Health and Welfare Notification No. 370, 1959), those additives shall not be used or marketed unless they meet the standards or specifications.

In response to a request from the Minister, the Committee on Food Additives of the Food Sanitation Council that is established under the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council has discussed the adequacy of the designation of Magnesium Stearate as a food additive. The conclusion of the committee is outlined below.

### **Outline of conclusion**

The Minister should revise the existing standards for use of Magnesium Stearate, based on Article 11. (see Attachment).

## Attachment

### Magnesium Stearate ステアリン酸マグネシウム

#### Current regulations

Magnesium Stearate is permitted only for use in capsule- and tablet-form foods for specified health uses and with nutrient function claims.

#### Revised regulations

The use of the additive is expanded for foods not in conventional food form, like those in capsule- or tablet- form<sup>※</sup> and tablet confectioneries.

※ In addition to foods for specified health uses and foods with nutrient function claims, in which the substance is permitted by the current regulations, Magnesium Stearate will be able to be used in foods that are not in conventional food form such as foods with functional claims.