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## FACT SHEET

### Stevioside: Supplementary Information

#### Reasons for Approving the Use of Stevioside as a Sweetener

1. Japan
  - 1.1 According to a reply made by Mr Seigoro MIYATA, Vice-Consul of the Consulate General of Japan dated 27 March 2002, "Stevioside, as a natural sweetener, is listed on the Existing Additive List provided by the Food Hygiene Law. It is permitted for use in Japan without defining targeted foods or the quantity used. *It is not considered to have any safety problems at the present stage. It is not considered to cause cancer, so far, internationally.*"
  
2. China
  - 2.1 According to the press statement issued by China Stevia Association dated 27 March 2002, "the production and application of Stevioside in China have been approved by the Ministry of Public Health in its documents No. 37/1985 and No. 66/1986... So far, the monitoring departments of the Ministry of Public Health have not doubted the safety of Stevioside."
  
  - 2.2 Relevant Legislation
    - (a) State Bureau of Standardization:  
"Standard of Stevioside GB 8270-87"; and  
"Food Hygiene Standard GB 2760 - 86".
    - (b) Ministry of Public Health:  
"Sanitation Standard of Food Additives GB 2760 -1996";  
"No. 1 Notice of 2000"; and  
"No. 6 Notice of 2001".
    - (c) State Bureau of Quality Technology Supervision:  
"Standard of Stevioside G B 8270-1999".

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