

## SNE Statement Regarding Recalls of Infant Formula due to Traces of Cereulide

*NB: This document is provided for information purposes only and does not necessarily reflect the views or positions of all food business operators, especially given that not all of them are a part of the SNE network.*

As a number of manufacturers have been recalling infant formula in several countries, Specialised Nutrition Europe (SNE)<sup>1</sup> would like to provide some additional information:

Food safety and regulatory compliance are non-negotiable for our industry. We therefore welcome the European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) rapid risk assessment, published on 2 February 2026<sup>2</sup>. By establishing science-based action thresholds for cereulide in infant formula, follow-on formula and foods for special medical purposes for infants and young children, the assessment provides clarity and supports a coherent, harmonized approach for risk management of cereulide across Europe. Furthermore, SNE would support efforts to establish a uniform analytical methodology for detecting cereulide across EU countries. Our sector will continue to cooperate closely with EU and national authorities, in accordance with EFSA's assessment.

**Context:** The presence of cereulide was detected in certain batches of arachidonic acid (ARA) oil provided by a supplier. Cereulide is a toxin produced by some strains of *Bacillus cereus*, which can cause nausea and vomiting. It is particularly stable and resistant to heat, acidic conditions and digestive enzymes. Its occurrence in ARA oil is very uncommon. ARA oil is an omega-6 fatty acid and an ingredient used in the food industry. Infant formula manufacturers use it in some products, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/127.

The health of infants and the food safety and quality of products remain our sector's highest priorities.

### Media Contacts:

- For specific information that relates to products, brands or recalls of specific manufacturers, please contact the company in question.
- For further general information, please contact: Beat Späth, Secretary-General of SNE: [b.spath@specialisednutritioneurope.eu](mailto:b.spath@specialisednutritioneurope.eu)

<sup>1</sup> Specialised Nutrition Europe (SNE) represents the specialised nutrition sector across Europe. Transparency register: 33498019160-40.

<sup>2</sup> European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Press release: "EFSA provides rapid risk assessment on cereulide in infant formula" <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/news/efsa-provides-rapid-risk-assessment-cereulide-infant-formula>; EFSA rapid Risk Assessment: <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/9941>. EFSA also previously published a statement, which offers a factual overview of the situation: [Precautionary global recall of infant nutrition products following detection of Bacillus cereus toxin | EFSA](#), published 28 January 2026.