GMAP, GME, GMIA, SAGMA – Statement on regulatory requirements.

The members of the four independent regional gelatine associations worldwide\(^{(1)}\) constitute approximately 90% of the worldwide production. The gelatine manufacturers they represent consider that the standard for the production and trade of bovine gelatine is the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (TAHC), chapter 11.4. Most of the countries where the members are located belong to the OIE and participated in the establishment of the OIE TAHC.

Bovine gelatine is used for food as well as pharmaceutical applications i.e. capsules.

Gelatine is unique and is used in a wide range of food and pharmaceutical applications for its unique properties. No other gelling agent has a similar mouth-feel as gelatin. Moreover, because gelatine melts at body temperature, it helps in creating special textures like foams and contributes in lowering the calories of ready to eat meals. In addition, gelatine is harmless to the human body, easily digested and absorbed with the ability to form an oxygen barrier film. It is therefore used as an ingredient for various types of capsules.

The OIE TAHC standard was established taking into account the most current scientific knowledge and expertise and we believe provides all the appropriate measures to produce gelatine of the highest quality, sufficient to protect the final consumer. Creating or maintaining restrictions is detrimental to the global availability and trade of gelatine that is critical to the supply of markets discussed above.

We, the regional associations of global gelatine producers, ask the governments that have not yet done so to modify their regulations on bovine gelatine in order to be in-line with OIE TAHC chapter 11.4 in order to improve availability and trade of gelatine worldwide.

President, GME

President, GMIA

President, GMAP

President, SAGMA

\(^{(1)}\) The four independent regional gelatine associations worldwide are:

Europe: Gelatine Manufacturers of Europe (GME) est. 1974.
North America: The Gelatin Manufacturers Institute of America (GMIA) est. 1956.