



ANALYSIS OF AGENDA ITEMS IN PREPARATION FOR THE 53rd SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

4th – 8th and 13th July 2022 | Virtual Meeting

AGENDA ITEM 8

*Joint CCPR/CCRVDF Working Group on Compounds for Dual Use –
Status of work*

Objectives

This document offers a review and analysis of the agenda items planned for discussion at the 53rd session of the **Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)**, scheduled to take place virtually July 4th – 8th and 13th, 2022. This document is intended for possible use by the Codex communities of practice, promoted by [GForSS](#) and [PARERA](#), as part of their contribution to enhancing awareness and supporting effective participation in international food standard setting meetings (Codex meetings) by representatives from members and observers.

The analysis provided in this document offers a factual review of agenda items, their background and a discussion of some considerations. This analysis is indicative in nature and does not represent an official position of the organizations mentioned above ([PARERA](#) and [GForSS](#)), their membership or their management. It provides a synthesis and analysis of the work currently under discussion by the CCPR, which may be useful for delegations from Arab countries to prepare their positions taking into account the needs and specificity of the region and the potential impact of the proposed food standards.

This analysis is prepared as part of the **Codex Initiative for the Arab Region: Arab Codex Initiative**, implemented by [PARERA](#) and [GForSS](#), hosted and coordinated by the [Arab Industrial Development, Standardization and Mining Organization \(AIDSMO\)](#) and funded by the US Codex Office, US Department of Agriculture.

The focus of the analysis of agenda items 7(d) and 8 of CCPR53, relates to the **coordination of work between CCPR and CCRVDF related to the harmonization of meat mammalian MRLs (Class B – Primary food commodities of animal origin), the harmonization of definitions for edible offal and other edible animal tissues, as well as the status of work of the joint EWG on compounds for dual use.**

**It is important to note that experts – members of the Arab Expert Working Group – do not represent the organizations and / or jurisdictions to which they are affiliated. The selection and participation in the Arab Expert Working Group proceedings is based on each expert's own credentials and experience, which should not be misconstrued as the country's / delegation's / organization's position to which they belong.*

Agenda item 8: Coordination of work between CCPR and CCRVDF: Joint CCPR/CCRVDF Working Group on Compounds for Dual Use – Status of work

Document

CX/PR 22/53/10

CCPR53 is invited to consider the status of the Joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG work.

Background

CCRVDF25, held in 2021 sought advice from the Executive Committee (CCEXEC) on a mechanism for cooperation between the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) and CCRVDF on the establishment of harmonized Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for compounds with dual use. The 52nd session of CCPR (CCPR52, 2021) also encouraged ways to facilitate and promote cooperation on cross-sectional issues between CCRVDF and CCPR.

The 81st session of CCEXEC (CCEXEC81, 2021) recommended that CCRVDF and CCPR make use of a joint Electronic Working Group (EWG) to further advance the work on cross-sectional issues between CCRVDF and CCPR to facilitate the establishment of single/harmonized MRLs for edible animal tissues for compounds with dual use.

Following the recommendation of CCEXEC81, the 44th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC44, 2021) agreed to establish a Joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG chaired by the United States of America, open to all Members and observers working with the support of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) and the Codex Secretariat, to address procedural and technical issues related to the establishment of harmonized MRLs for compound with dual use as described in the Terms of Reference (ToRs) agreed by CAC44:

- i. The Joint EWG will review work already done cooperatively between CCRVDF and CCPR and will identify, and if possible, prioritize areas of possible further collaboration between CCRVDF and CCPR and how this could be carried out (e.g., jointly, in parallel, etc.) so as to facilitate the consideration of compounds with dual uses by both committees and the possible harmonization of MRLs;
- ii. This may include reflections on improved synchronization of work between CCPR and CCRVDF as well as collaboration between CCPR/CCRVDF and JMPR/JECFA;
- iii. The Joint EWG will provide an update on their preliminary findings to CCRVDF26 and CCPR53.

The Joint EWG will not replace the ongoing parallel cooperation between the established EWGs under CCRVDF (edible offal) and CCPR (revision of the Classification) within their respective ToRs.

Status of work

The EWG has convened and currently is generating the first round of comments on the following questions:

1. What work has been done cooperatively between CCRVDF and CCPR?
2. What are areas where CCRVDF and CCPR could collaborate in the future?
3. What mechanisms could be used to collaborate between CCRVDF and CCPR?



Comments

Canada offered comments where it agreed that harmonization of the terminology is necessary for transparency as well as monitoring and surveillance and that any future change in terminology could have impacts on the existing MRLs for meat/muscle and create potential confusion.

Conclusion and recommendations

Given the importance of this effort to alleviate confusion and prevent situations where there may be misaligned standards for the same substances, depending on their intended use, with possible negative impacts on international trade, it is recommended that Arab Codex delegations offer their support to the continuation of this work, with a possible commitment to actively participate in the activities of the EWG and bring the perspective of the region to it.

