



ANALYSIS OF AGENDA ITEMS IN PREPARATION FOR THE 16th SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

26 JUNE - 1 JULY 2023, Beijing, P.R. China

AGENDA ITEM 8: COORDINATION OF WORK BETWEEN CCPR AND CCRVDF: JOINT CCPR/CCRVDF WORKING GROUP ON COMPOUNDS FOR DUAL USE – STATUS OF WORK

Objective

This document offers a review and analysis of the agenda items planned for discussion at the 54th session of the **Codex Committee on Pesticide residues (CCPR54)**, scheduled to take place in Beijing, P.R. China from 26th June to 1st July 2023. 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 CCCF, which may be useful for delegations from Arab countries to prepare their positions considering 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.

**It is important to note that experts – members of the Expert Working Group (EWG) – do not represent the organizations and / or jurisdictions to which they are affiliated. The selection and participation in the EWG 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: CX/PR22/53/6 and CX/PR 22/53/6-Add.1

Document CX/PR 23/54/10

CCPR54 is invited to consider the recommendations made by the Joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG, as updated by CCRVDF26 (2023), and endorse them as recommendations to CAC46 (2023).

Background

- ❖ CCRVDF25 (2021) sought advice from the CCEXEC on a mechanism for cooperation between CCPR and CCRVDF on the establishment of harmonized MRLs for compounds with dual use.
- ❖ CCPR52 (2021) also encouraged ways to facilitate and promote cooperation on cross-sectional issues between CCRVDF and CCPR.
- ❖ CCEXEC81 (2021) recommended that CCRVDF and CCPR make use of a Joint 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 compounds with dual use.
- ❖ Regarding the timeframe, the Joint EWG will continue its work as long as both CCRVDF and CCPR consider it useful.
- ❖ 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
- ❖ CCPR53 (2022) noted the information provided by the Chair of the Joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG on the status of work under their mandate, supported the activities of the Joint EWG and encouraged members and observers to actively participate in the work of the Joint EWG

Analysis

Recommendations to CCPR and CCRVDF

- 1) The EWG recommends that CCPR and CCRVDF ask JECFA and JMPR to continue working towards harmonizing their risk assessment methodologies, including ways to establish single, harmonized acceptable daily intake values and MRLs for dual-use compounds. This might include exploring the feasibility of a joint evaluation of dual-use compounds and the formation of Joint JMPR/JECFA EWG.
- 2) The EWG recommends that CCPR and CCRVDF ask JECFA and JMPR to consider ways in which data can be shared between the two expert committees. This might include JECFA/JMPR asking sponsors to consent to data sharing upon submission of the data packages.
- 3) The EWG recommends that CCPR and CCRVDF continue to support the current joint EWG to identify and prioritize issues affecting both committees and recommend ways to address the issues and to inform CAC accordingly.
- 4) The EWG recommends that CCPR and CCRVDF develop a database of dual-use compounds that can be shared between committees to facilitate the development of a single, harmonized MRL. Member countries will provide the entries to the database.
- 5) The EWG recommends that CCPR and CCRVDF form a Joint EWG that will identify dual-use compounds that have different MRLs for the same edible commodity of animal origin and recommend a single, harmonized MRL(s) for the compound(s) and affected commodity(ies). The working group might consider selecting the

higher MRL value and recommending that JMPR/JECFA conduct a risk assessment using the higher value to determine its acceptability.

Conclusions from the 26th Session of CCRVDF (CCRVDF26; 2023)

The 26th Session of CCRVDF agreed to:

- (i) Endorse Recommendations 1 and 2 with the understanding of the limitations for the JECFA Secretariat to negotiate data sharing;
- (ii) Recommend that when a call for compounds for the priority list is issued to ask whether the compound is a dual-use compound and whether the data could be shared with JMPR and to request CCPR to consider doing the same;
- (iii) Endorse Recommendation 3; and
- (iv) Modify Recommendations 4 and 5 as additional terms of reference for the joint EWG as follows:
 - Revised Recommendation 4: develop a list of compounds with dual use as a pesticide and veterinary drug for which no or only one Codex MRL has been established and that member countries will provide the information to populate this list •
 - Revised Recommendation 5: identify dual-use compounds that have different Codex MRLs for a similar edible commodity of animal origin and recommend on a case-by-case basis, a single, harmonized MRL(s) for the compound(s) and affected commodity(ies). The EWG might recommend that CCRVDF/CCPR consider selecting the higher MRL value

Comments and discussions

- ❖ Egypt, Canada, Chile, Kenya, Uruguay, Iraq agree with the proposed recommendations.
- ❖ Canada has no objections to the first three recommendations and the fourth revised recommendation proposed by the Joint EWG and revised by CCRVDF26 **listed in CL 2023/36-PR**. However, for the revised recommendation 5, for dual use compounds that have diverging MRLs for the same edible commodity of animal origin, Canada is concerned with selecting the higher MRL value as the harmonized value without a thorough assessment of each JECFA/JMPR evaluation. The higher value may be based on older evaluations that considered outdated information or that were based on standards that no longer reflect current standards.

Canada offered the following revision to the Revised Recommendation 5: identify dual-use compounds that have different Codex MRLs for a similar edible commodity of animal origin and recommend on a case-by-case basis, a single, harmonized MRL(s) for the compound(s) and affected commodity(ies). The EWG might recommend that CCRVDF/CCPR consider selecting the higher MRL value, provided the higher MRL is based on contemporary toxicology data used to establish the HBGV, residue data used to conduct the exposure assessment and risk assessment methodologies

Canada recommended that the underlying JECFA/JMPR evaluations and risk assessments for each MRL be reviewed in greater detail and that harmonization be considered on a case-by-case, based on the most contemporary information.

- ❖ One member referenced the development of a draft OECD Guidance Document on the definition of residue. The member suggested that JMPR/JECFA could consider the work carried out by the OECD Working Group.

Conclusion and recommendations

Arab codex delegations may support the on-going work of the Joint EWG