



ANALYSIS OF AGENDA ITEMS IN PREPARATION FOR THE 54th SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

26 June - 1 July 2023 in Beijing, P.R. China

Agenda item 3: MATTERS REFERRED TO CCPR BY CAC AND/OR OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

OBJECTIVES

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 (CCPR)**, scheduled to take place from 26 June - 1 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 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.

**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.*

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MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEStandards and related texts adopted by CAC45 (2022) at Steps 8 and 5/8 of the Procedure including consequential amendments 1

- The Guidelines for the recognition of active substances or authorized uses of active substances of low public health concern that are considered exempted from the establishment of maximum residue limits or do not give rise to residues **at Step 8**;
- Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for different combinations of pesticide/commodity (ies) at **Step 5/8**;
- The Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989): definitions for edible offal, fat, meat/muscle, including the definitions for the portion of the commodity to which MRLs apply and which is analysed for fat and muscle;
- The Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989): Consequential amendment to Class D, Processed Food of Plant Origin. Inclusion of additional commodities for citrus fruits pulps (dried) and oils (edible) and soya flour.

Discontinuation of work

- MRLs for different combinations of pesticides/commodity (ies) in the Step Procedure recommended for withdrawal (discontinuation).
- The review of the IESTI equations.

Revocation

- CXLs for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) noting the reservation of India regarding the revocation of the MRL for Chlorpyrifos;
- Guidelines on the use of mass spectrometry for the identification, confirmation and quantitative determination of residues (CXG 56- 2005).

Application of the Statements of Principle Concerning the Role of Science in the Codex Decision-Making Process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account (SoP)

- ✓ The draft guidance is available as an appendix to the report of CCEXEC83
- ✓ CAC45 agreed to refer the draft Guidance for Codex Chairpersons and Members on the Application of the SoP to the chairpersons of Codex subsidiary bodies to facilitate deliberations on matters that fell within the scope of the SoP and urged members to take account of the draft guidance as appropriate during the process of standards development and advancement.
- ✓ CAC further requested the Codex Secretariat to issue a circular letter (CL) inviting Members and Observers to provide specific suggestions to improve the draft guidance, its finalization and its possible incorporation into guidance documents for Chairpersons and Members

New food sources and production systems (NFPS)

- ✓ CAC encouraged Members to submit proposals related to NFPS using existing Codex mechanisms, and Codex subsidiary bodies to consider NFPS in their deliberations, and requested the Codex Secretariat to send a CL to Members and Observers to identify possible issues related to NFPS that the current structure and procedures could not address and options to address them for discussion at CAC46



- ✓ CAC strongly encouraged FAO and WHO to continue sharing information on NFPS with CAC and its subsidiary bodies through the agenda item on “Matters arising from FAO and WHO”, to ensure Codex Members were fully aware of upcoming issues in this area and could consider them as appropriate.

Future of Codex

CAC45 requested the Codex Secretariat to consult with the FAO and WHO Legal Offices on a possible amendment to the rules of procedure allowing the Commission to take place virtually if needed and to prepare a paper on this specific issue for consideration by the 33rd Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP33, 2023) which in turn should advise CAC46.

MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES (CCFA): FOR INFORMATION

Removal of ORTHO-PHENYLPHENOLS from the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA, CXS 192-1995, Information on commercial use of ortho-phenylphenol (INS 231) and sodium orthophenylphenol (INS 232) in food: they were not in use as food additives and the maximum use levels for use of these two substances had been established for their use as fungicides,

FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (CCLAC): MATTERS FOR ACTION

Amendment of the portion of commodities to which maximum residue limits apply and which is analysed, CXA 4-1989 Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds

Forward the following request to the Electronic Working Group on the Revision of the Classification, which is chaired by the United States of America and co-chaired by the Netherlands:

- To make available on the codex website the updated version of CXA 4-1989 Classification of Food and Feed and requested the Codex Secretariat to prioritize this update and ensure that the latest versions of standards were made in a timely manner.
- One Member asked the CCPR to clarify provisions for the portion of commodities to which MRLs apply and which is analysed with regard to Group 014 (Assorted fruits – Inedible peel) and Group 006 (Assorted tropical and subtropical fruits – Inedible peel) to ensure that commodity classifications in the Guidelines on the portion of commodities to which MRLs apply and which is analysed (CXG 41-1993) and the Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989) are harmonized, in order to safeguard the health of consumers and avoid adverse effects on trade

CODEX COMMITTEE ON RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS (CCRVDF)

Coordination of Work between CCPR and CCRVDF: CCRVDF agreed to

- 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 and also to consider ways in which data can be shared between the two expert committees and to 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
- continue supporting the current Joint EWG to identify and prioritize issues affecting both committees (CCPR and CCRVDF) and recommend ways to address the issues and to inform CAC accordingly
- support the continued work of the EWG chaired by the United States of America and co-chaired by Brazil and in addition to task the EWG to:



- 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 4);
- 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 (revised Recommendation 5).

Work in parallel on issues pertaining to harmonization of edible offal:

- (i) the CCRVDF EWG on extrapolation and the CCPR EWG on Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989) should continue working separately until such a time when there is sufficient experience and data to support exploring the possibility of developing a common mechanism for consolidation of an edible offal hierarchical classification;
- (ii) to task the joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG to consider the matter related to harmonized food descriptors to be used by JECFA/JMPR;
- (iii) To terminate the EWG on edible offal having concluded its primary task of developing a harmonized definition of edible offal.

CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD (CCCF16)

Ethylene Oxide

- ✓ to defer the addition of ethylene oxide (EtO) and 2-chloroethanol (2-CE) to the priority list until next year
- ✓ to request clarification from CCPR on whether EtO meets the Codex definition of pesticide and whether coordination of risk assessment between JECFA and JMPR would be required to evaluate EtO as a contaminant
- ✓ to inform CCFA of this decision as EtO can potentially be found as an impurity in certain food additives.

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS (CCFICS)

Inform on the proposed review and update of the Principles for Traceability/Product tracing as a tool within a food inspection and certification system (CXG 60-2006)

RECOMMENDATIONS CAC FOR ENDORSEMENT BY CCPR

CCPR is invited to:

- (i) Note the matters for information referred by CAC and CCEXEC;
- (ii) Encourage Members and Observers, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of Codex, to plan and implement activities to build awareness of Codex and to engage high level political support for Codex work and to consider the implementation of a regional event to mark the 60th anniversary;
- (iii) Encourage Members and Observers to actively engage in opportunities to contribute to the discussions in CCEXEC and CAC (i.e. the operationalization of the SoP; the future of Codex; new food sources and production systems, and monitoring the use of Codex standards) by providing replies to relevant CLs;
- (iv) Encourage Members and Observers to provide relevant comments on the requests from CCLAC and CCCF
- (v) Note that matters concerning the coordination of work between CCPR and CCRVDF would be considered under Agenda Item 8.

