

**JOINT FAO/WHO ACTIVITIES ON PROVISION OF SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON FOOD SAFETY**  
**STATUS OF REQUESTS FOR FAO/WHO SCIENTIFIC ADVICE (September 2008) <sup>1</sup>**

**TABLE 1**

In prioritizing the requests for scientific advice to be addressed, FAO and WHO continue considering the set of criteria for the prioritization proposed by Codex (ALINORM 05/28/3, para 75) as well as the requests of advice from Member Countries and the availability of resources. The table below presents the overall status of pending requests for scientific advice received by FAO/WHO as of **September 2008**.

#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>[1]</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
1	Safety evaluation of residues of veterinary drugs in foods	CCRVDF	17 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 08/31/31, para. 83-94 and Appendix VII.	Joint FAO/WHO Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)	Planned for 70 <sup>th</sup> JECFA (Geneva, Switzerland, 21–29 October 2008)	250,000	Maximum Residue Limits or other advice as appropriate.
2	Safety evaluation of food additives	CCFA	40 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 08/31/12, para. 167-173 and Appendix XIV	Joint FAO/WHO Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)	Planned for 71 <sup>st</sup> JECFA (Geneva, Switzerland, 16-24 June 2009)	250,000	Maximum levels, Specifications for food additives, or other advice as appropriate
3	Risk assessment of contaminants in food	CCCF	2 <sup>nd</sup> Session ALINORM 08/31/41, para.173-190 and Appendix XIII	Joint FAO/WHO Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)	Planned for 72 <sup>nd</sup> JECFA (Rome, Italy, December 2009)	200,000	Maximum Limits or other advice as appropriate

<sup>1</sup> FAO and WHO express appreciation to those governments who have contributed to support FAO/WHO scientific advice activities, either through direct financial support, facilitation of meeting at national institutes, and technical input by national experts. Figures indicate cost of pending actions related to each activity. Figures do not consider staff cost.

[1] Total costs for FAO/WHO, including publication of reports, but excluding staff costs.

#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>[1]</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
4	Assessment of benefits and risks of the use of “active chlorine” in food processing.	CCFAC	37 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 05/28/12, para. 108 and Appendix XV	TOR of expert consultation specified by 37 <sup>th</sup> CCFH and 37 <sup>th</sup> CCFAC. 29 <sup>th</sup> CAC supported this request asking for scientific advice accordingly.	Expert consultation was implemented in May 2008.  Report to be completed by the end of 2008.	200, 000	Recommendations regarding the safe use of active chlorine.
		CCFH	36 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 04/27/13, para. 158				
		CAC	37 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 05/28/13 paras 170–174  29 <sup>th</sup> Session requested FAO/WHO for scientific advice, ALINORM 06/29/41, para. 225.				
5	Fresh produce – Control of microbial hazards.	CCFH	38 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 07/30/13 paras 224–231, Appendix VI.  39 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 08/31/13 Paras 160 – 163,	Implementation of a series of expert meetings to provide scientific advice on a range of fresh fruit and vegetables in order of priority from a global perspective.	Step wise approach to elaborate scientific advice adopted. Phase 1 of data collection and initial expert meeting on ranking of priorities implemented and report provided to 39 <sup>th</sup> CCFH  Phase 2 expert meeting implemented from 5 to 9 May 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand to develop specific scientific advice on leafy green vegetables and report will be available in October 2008.	200, 000	Development of commodity-specific annexes for the “Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables”.  Leafy green vegetables and herbs will be the first commodity group to be addressed.  Additional commodities may be selected and prioritized by CCFH.

#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>[1]</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
6	Evaluation of residues and toxicology of pesticides for the establishment of acceptable intake levels and of MRLs.	CCPR	38 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 06/29/24, paras 54, 56, 61,81, 84, 86, 88, 90, 104, 123, 211–221 and Appendix VIII.	Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues.	JMPR Meeting implemented from 18-27 September 2007 for evaluation of 31 pesticides. Summary report posted on the FAO/WHO website Report provided to 40 <sup>th</sup> CCPR in 2008. Next JMPR session is scheduled for 9-18 September 2008, in Rome	370, 000	Proposed Draft Maximum Residues for Pesticides.
7	Joint WHO/FAO Project Updating the principles and methods of risk assessment for chemicals in food	Melbourne Conference	Melbourne Conference Report 35 <sup>th</sup> Session ALINORM 03/24A paras 20–31.	Develop draft document on updated principles and methods of risk assessment for chemicals in foods to replace EHC 70 and 104.	Several workshop reports are published on the web. A final consultation will be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, supported by KFDA from 11 to 14 November 2008. Publication forseen in 2009.	80, 000	Harmonised methods of risk assessment for chemicals in foods to be used within the provision of scientific advice to Codex.

#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>[1]</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
8	Risks and Benefits of consumption of fish and other seafood	38 <sup>th</sup> CCFAC, paras 191– 193  CAC	29 <sup>th</sup> Session  ALINORM 06/29/41, para 195.	FAO/WHO advice on the health risks and health benefits associated with the consumption of fish and other seafood	A preliminary meeting 28–30 May 2007 has been implemented to agree next steps and scope of the work. Final meeting to be held in 2009.  Extrabudgetary resources available.	120, 000	Develop methodology for risk and benefit assessment.  Guidance document on the safe consumption of fish and seafood taking sensitive subpopulations into account.
9	Risks associated with <i>Enterobacter sakazakii</i> in follow-up formula	CCFH	39 <sup>th</sup> session ALINORM 08/31/13	Implement an expert meeting that specifically addresses the risks associated with follow-up formula	Meeting implemented from 15 to 18 July 2008 in Washington DC, USA.  Report will be available in October 2008.	80, 000	Use scientific advice to determine if a microbiological criteria for <i>E. sakazakii</i> in follow-up formula if should be developed or recommend another approach for addressing the risk
10	Risk mitigation options for <i>Salmonella</i> in bivalve molluscs	CCFFP	29 <sup>th</sup> Session  ALINORM 08/31/18  (paras 89-93)	Expert elicitation and consultation to evaluate the impact of microbiological criteria and sampling plans applied to harvesting areas and product lots as a means of reducing the risk from <i>Salmonella</i>	Preliminary planning under way.  Extra budgetary resources required to support this activity.	80,000	Use of the scientific advice to determine whether or not to establish microbiological criteria for <i>Salmonella</i> in bivalve molluscs and if needed use the scientific advice to guide the selection of appropriate criteria

#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>[1]</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
11	Decision-tree approaches for the evaluation of veterinary drugs	CCRVDF	17 <sup>th</sup> Session (ALINORM 08/31/31 paragraph 119).	Convene an expert group to develop a general decision tree approach for the evaluation of veterinary drugs, which could identify different options for hazard identification and characterization, and exposure assessment	Preliminary discussions will be held at meeting under the item 1. Extra budgetary resources will be required to support this activity	To be determined	Use the output to assist in the development of risk management guidance on veterinary drug residues without ADI's and MRL's

**TABLE 2**

**FAO/WHO Expert Meetings not directly requested by Codex Alimentarius**

#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Expected Output
1	Nanotechnology	FAO		FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Food Safety Assessment of the Use of Nanotechnology Techniques	Core group meeting held on 14 – 15 May 2008 Expert meeting will be organized in early 2009. Extrabudgetary resources needed to support this activity.	100, 000	Scientific advice on food safety implication of nanotechnologies applied to food and agriculture sectors with particular attention to nanoparticles in foods
2	Pesticide Specifications	FAO/WHO	Memorandum of understanding between FAO and WHO <a href="http://www.fao.org/AG/AGP/AGPP/Pesticid/">http://www.fao.org/AG/AGP/AGPP/Pesticid/</a> and public health	Meetings of the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Specifications (JMPS)	The 7 <sup>th</sup> JMPS implemented in Germany in June 2008. Report posted on the FAO/WHO website Next session, 8 <sup>th</sup> JMPS will be held from 3 to 7 June 2009 in San Salvador, El Salvador.	150, 000	FAO and WHO Specifications for pesticides to be used in agriculture and public health