



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

*Thirty-fourth Session*  
*Geneva, Switzerland, 4-9 July 2011*

**MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO**

(Prepared by FAO and WHO)

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**PART I: RECENT FAO/WHO EXPERT MEETINGS AND CONSIDERATION BY CODEX**

1. The scientific advice provided by FAO and WHO through JECFA, JMPR, JEMRA and *ad hoc* expert meetings remains a high priority for FAO and WHO and continues to serve as basis for Codex standards. The CAC remains an important client for this advice, where the results are used extensively in the development of Codex texts. The advice may be equally relevant for member countries of FAO and WHO, in the strengthening of science-based decision making on food safety and nutrition issues at national and regional level.

*Expert meetings and outputs*

2. **Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), 73<sup>rd</sup> meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, 8-17 June 2010.** This meeting was held in the framework of the on-going programme on the risk assessment of food additives, including flavourings, contaminants, natural toxins and residues of veterinary drugs in food. The meeting was devoted to (a) elaborate further principles for evaluating the health risk of food additives and contaminants, (b) evaluate a number of food additives, including a large number of flavourings, and (c) re-evaluate the food contaminants cadmium and lead. The results were considered by the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Additive (CCFA) and the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF).

3. **Joint Meeting of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Residues in Food and the Environment and the WHO Core Assessment Group on Pesticide Residues (JMPR), Rome, Italy, 21-30 September 2010.** This meeting was held in the framework of the on-going programme on the risk assessment of pesticide residues in food, feed and drinking water and the recommendation of maximum residue levels when used according to good agricultural practice. The Joint Meeting assessed 23 pesticides, and the results were considered by the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR).

4. **Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA).** A report on the most recent meetings can be found in a paper on activities of FAO and WHO prepared for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) held in 2010 (available at [ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccfh42/fh42\\_03e.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccfh42/fh42_03e.pdf)). **The web-based decision-support tool for the control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* spp. in chicken meat and the web-based tool to assess the performance**

of **microbiological sampling plans** were reviewed in April/May 2010. The tools were presented at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCFH and are at present in the final stages for launching.

5. **Joint FAO/WHO expert meeting on issues relating to *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and *Vibrio vulnificus*, Rome, Italy, 13-17 September 2010.** The specific issues to be addressed were to: evaluate the predictive risk models developed by the United States of America based on FAO/WHO risk assessments, with a view to constructing more applicable models for wide use among member countries, including adjustments for strain virulence variations and ecological factors; review the available information on testing methodology and recommend microbiological methods for *Vibrio* spp. in order to monitor the levels of pathogenic *Vibrio* spp. in seafood and/or water; evaluate growth rates and doubling times for *V. parahaemolyticus* and *V. vulnificus* in *Crassostrea virginica* (Eastern or American oyster) using strains isolated from different parts of the world and different bivalve molluscan species. One of the main conclusions was that there is a lack of data and that further work on modelling is also necessary. The work will therefore focus on data collection for a couple of years before further modelling work is to be attempted.

6. **Joint FAO/WHO Electronic Expert Group on assessment of public health risk due to the presence of *Salmonella* in bivalve molluscs. (3 electronic meetings and electronic discussion board during Dec 2010-April 2011).** A risk assessment had been requested to determine whether there is a significant public health risk from *Salmonella* associated with the consumption of bivalves and to evaluate whether criteria for *Salmonella* are meaningful to ensure adequate consumer health protection. The interim report of the Electronic Expert Group presented to the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP) highlighted the issues, uncertainties, data gaps and challenges in addressing the question and presented certain scenarios to illustrate the risk, epidemiological evidence and the performance of sampling plans at different levels of prevalence of *Salmonella* in bivalves. The conclusion was that the present sampling plan would have very little value in public health protection. The final report will be presented to the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of CCFH and the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCFFP.

7. **Joint FAO/WHO expert meeting to review toxicological and health aspects of Bisphenol A.** The ad hoc expert meeting was held 2-5 November 2010 in Ottawa, Canada, supported by Health Canada, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the US-FDA and by EFSA, to assess all aspects related to the safety of Bisphenol A for human health. It was preceded by a stakeholder meeting. A detailed summary report and brief summary of the stakeholder meetings have been published and the final report is in preparation. The summary report is available at the FAO and WHO websites at: [http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/chemicals\\_en.asp](http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/chemicals_en.asp) and <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/chem/chemicals/bisphenol/en/>.

8. The Commission is **invited** to note the information described above. To facilitate the transfer and uptake of the relevant scientific advice by Codex, the FAO/WHO Secretariats of these activities make every effort to attend Codex working groups and Codex committee meetings. FAO and WHO would like to thank all those who supported the programme of work to provide the above mentioned scientific advice and in particular the various experts from around the world and the donors who contributed financially and in kind to the programme either through or outside the Global Initiative for Food-related Scientific Advice (GIFSA).

### **Publications**

9. In addition to the above, FAO and WHO are continuously working on a range of activities which support, expand on and follow-up on specific expert meetings. Such activities include:

#### **a) Updating the principles and methods of chemicals risk assessment**

The FAO and WHO have finalised the project to update the principles and methods for risk assessment of chemicals in food, including food additives, contaminants and natural toxins, residues of veterinary drugs and pesticides. The purpose of this extensive monograph is 2-fold: 1) to provide descriptive guidance for JECFA and JMPR, as well as other risk assessment bodies, to ensure the continuation of transparent and sound expert evaluations of scientific data for risk assessments of chemicals in food; and 2) to be informative for users of the outputs from JECFA and JMPR, such as risk managers and other risk assessment bodies in Member countries and authorities.

The document is published as the Environmental Health Criteria No 240 and is available on the web at: <http://www.who.int/ipcs/food/principles/en/index1.html>.

**b) JECFA publications**

Report of the 72<sup>nd</sup> JECFA – Evaluation of certain contaminants in foods. WHO TRS 959, 2011.

Report of the 73<sup>rd</sup> JECFA - Evaluation of certain food additives and contaminants. WHO TRS 960, 2011.

Monographs of the 72<sup>nd</sup> JECFA - Safety evaluation of certain contaminants in food. WHO Food Additives Series No. 63, FAO JECFA Monographs 8, 2011.

Monographs of the 73<sup>rd</sup> JECFA - Safety evaluation of certain food additives and contaminants. WHO Food Additives Series No. 64, 2011.

Residue evaluation of certain veterinary drugs. JECFA – Meeting 2010 – Evaluation of data on ractopamine residues in pig tissues. FAO JECFA Monographs 9, 2010.

Compendium of Food Additive Specifications, 73<sup>rd</sup> JECFA meeting. FAO JECFA Monographs 10, 2010.

These and other JECFA publications are available on the FAO ([www.fao.org/ag/agn/jecfa/works\\_en.stm](http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/jecfa/works_en.stm)) and WHO ([www.who.int/ipcs/publications/jecfa/en/](http://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/jecfa/en/)) websites.

**d) JMPR publications**

Pesticide residues in food – 2010. Report of the Joint Meeting of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Residues in Food and the Environment and WHO the Core Assessment Group. FAO Plant Production and Protection Paper, 200, 2010 .

Pesticide residues in food 2010: Evaluations Part I – Residues. FAO Plant Production and Protection Paper 206.

The FAO Training Manual on the submission and evaluation of pesticide residues data for the estimation of maximum residue levels in food and feed (Trial edition). These publications are available on the FAO ([www.fao.org/ag/AGP/AGPP/Pesticid/Default.htm](http://www.fao.org/ag/AGP/AGPP/Pesticid/Default.htm)) and WHO ([www.who.int/ipcs/publications/jmpr/en/](http://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/jmpr/en/)) websites.

**e) Nutrition publications**

The report of a Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Fats and Fatty Acids in Human Nutrition (FAO Food and Nutrition Paper 91, 2010) is available at: <http://foris.fao.org/preview/25553-0ece4cb94ac52f9a25af77ca5cfba7a8c.pdf> .

**Upcoming meetings**

10. FAO has implemented, together with CAPES and the Ministry of Agriculture of Brazil (EMBRAPA), a conference on Nanotechnology in the food and agriculture sectors in San Carlos, Brazil, 20-25 June 2010. New and emerging applications of nanotechnologies in food and agriculture and issues related to their use were the focus of this Conference. In addition to exploring relevant scientific and technological advances, the Conference also highlighted areas of research with the greatest potential to benefit society. A report summarizing the discussion and recommendations from several round table discussion forums is available at [ftp://ftp.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/NANOAGRI\\_2010.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/NANOAGRI_2010.pdf). For more information, visit [www.nanoagri2010.com](http://www.nanoagri2010.com).

11. The 74<sup>th</sup> meeting of JECFA will be convened on 14-23 June 2011 in Rome, Italy and will be dedicated to **food additives and contaminants**. The tentative agenda and the call for data can be accessed at: [http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa/JECFA74\\_call\\_Final\\_13.9.2010.pdf](http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa/JECFA74_call_Final_13.9.2010.pdf) and <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/chem/JECFA74.pdf> .

12. The 75<sup>th</sup> meeting of JECFA will be convened on 7-17 November 2011 in Rome, Italy and will be dedicated to **residues of veterinary drugs in foods**. The tentative agenda and the call for data can be accessed at: [http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa/JECFA\\_75\\_Call\\_for\\_data\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa/JECFA_75_Call_for_data_FINAL.pdf) and [http://www.who.int/foodsafety/chem/jecfa/JECFA\\_75\\_Call\\_for\\_data\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/chem/jecfa/JECFA_75_Call_for_data_FINAL.pdf) .

13. A joint FAO/WHO ad hoc expert meeting on **dietary exposure assessment for veterinary drug residues in food** will be held in November 2011 in conjunction with the 75<sup>th</sup> JECFA meeting. The call for data with background information is available at: [http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa/JECFA\\_Call\\_for\\_data\\_food\\_consumption.pdf](http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa/JECFA_Call_for_data_food_consumption.pdf) .

14. The **2011 JMPR** meeting will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, 20-29 September 2011, to evaluate number of pesticides. The call for data is available at: [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/agphome/documents/Pests\\_Pesticides/JMPR/Call\\_for\\_data\\_for\\_2011\\_JMPR\\_final.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/agphome/documents/Pests_Pesticides/JMPR/Call_for_data_for_2011_JMPR_final.pdf) .

15. FAO and WHO have issued a call for data and experts on **foodborne parasitic diseases**. This follows request from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene to review the available information on foodborne parasites to better assess the global problem associated with them, the commodities involved and the related public health and trade/socio-economic issues and to identify the parasite-commodity groups of greatest interest and the risk management options available to address the issue. The call is available at: [ftp://ftp.fao.org/ag/agn/jemra/JEMRA\\_Call\\_for\\_data\\_experts\\_parasites.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/ag/agn/jemra/JEMRA_Call_for_data_experts_parasites.pdf) and <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/micro/jemra/data/en/index.html> .

16. FAO and WHO have issued a call for data related to **identification and control of microbiological hazards associated with melons**. This follows request from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene to follow up on previous activities to develop commodity specific guidelines as annexes to the Codex Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables. The call is available at: [ftp://ftp.fao.org/ag/agn/jemra/Call\\_for\\_data\\_Melons\\_Final.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/ag/agn/jemra/Call_for_data_Melons_Final.pdf) and <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/micro/jemra/data/en/index.html> .

## **PART II Other related initiatives underway in FAO and WHO**

17. **WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group (NUGAG)**. Following the new guideline development process institutionalized in WHO, the WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group (NUGAG) was established in February 2010 in order to carry out the work of updating and developing new nutrition guidelines. The NUGAG consists of four subgroups: 1) Micronutrients, 2) Diet and Health, 3) Nutrition in the Life Course and Undernutrition and 4) Monitoring and Evaluation. The members of NUGAG include experts from various WHO Expert Advisory Panels and those identified through open calls for experts taking into consideration a balanced mix of genders, multiple disciplinary areas of expertise, and representation from all WHO Regions. A 2011 meeting of the NUGAG was held in Geneva, Switzerland from 14 - 17 March 2011. It was the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the NUGAG Subgroup on Micronutrients, the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the NUGAG Subgroup on Diet and Health, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the NUGAG Subgroup on Nutrition in the Life Course and Undernutrition: Area Acute Malnutrition.

18. The NUGAG Subgroup on Micronutrients discussed the scope of the guidelines for the effects and safety of home (point-of-use) fortification with multiple micronutrient powders for infants and young children (6-23 months of age) and for pregnant women, and the effects and safety of iron supplementation for low birth-weight (<2500 g) infants, infants and young children (6-23 months of age, 24-59 months of age, and 60 months of age and older), non-pregnant women of reproductive age, pregnant women and lactating women. The global guidelines on intermittent supplementation with iron for preschool and school-age children, intermittent supplementation with iron and folic acid for menstruating women, intermittent iron and folic acid supplementation for non-anaemic pregnant women, daily iron and folic acid supplementation for pregnant women, home fortification of foods with multiple micronutrient powders for children (6 to 23 months old) and for pregnant women are going through the final clearance at present. The NUGAG Subgroup on Diet and Health reviewed draft systematic reviews on 1) the effects of the level of total fat intake in relation to weight gain; 2) the effects of the level of sugars intake in relation to weight gain as well as to dental caries and agreed on the areas of further analyses to be undertaken to complete the systematic reviews and the evidence profiles to evaluate the strength of evidence in order to develop recommendations on sugars and total fat at the next NUGAG meeting to be held in November 2011. The Subgroup on Diet and Health also reviewed the draft scoping questions, and priority outcomes for recommendations on sodium and potassium to guide systematic reviews. Draft recommendations related to sugars, total fat, sodium and potassium are scheduled to be reviewed during the next NUGAG meeting in November 2011. The NUGAG Subgroup on Nutrition in the Life Course and Undernutrition discussed the systematic reviews and evidence profiles on the management of severe acute malnutrition as well as on moderate acute malnutrition. A follow-up meeting is planned for November 2011 to finalize the guidelines on the management of severe and moderate acute malnutrition, nutritional care of adolescents and adults living with HIV (including pregnant and lactating women), and nutritional/food support for patients with TB.



19. **Development of the Guidance on Nutrient Profiling.** WHO initiated the work in 2009 to develop an evidence-based framework and guiding principles which Member States and others concerned can use to develop or adapt a nutrient profile model for various applications including marketing foods to children, health and nutrition claims, front of pack labelling, provision of food to public institutions, and use as a tool to orient food consumption in conjunction with food-based dietary guidelines. A draft guiding principle and framework manual was developed in September 2009 and was peer-reviewed from December 2009 - February 2010 by experts and some of the major institutions undertaking the work of nutrient profiling. It was further reviewed by the joint WHO/ International Association for the Study of Obesity (IASO) technical meeting held in London, UK, in October 2010. The 1st edition of the guiding principles and framework manual is currently being field-tested in a number of countries with a view to also help facilitate nutrient profiling work in those countries while assessing whether the content of the manual is understandable, relevant, practical and if applied would help lead to the adaptation or development of an appropriate nutrient profile model for a specific purpose. Furthermore, as a tool to support the country process, a catalogue of nutrient profile models has also been compiled. The aim of the catalogue is to develop an accessible resource information that summarises key characteristics of the nutrient profile models. The catalogue will be made available on the WHO website together with the 1st edition of the guiding principle and framework manual.

#### ***Global Initiative for Food-related Scientific Advice (GIFSA)***

20. GIFSA is a mechanism established by FAO and WHO to facilitate the provision of extra-budgetary resources for scientific advice activities. Resources provided through GIFSA are allocated to activities in an independent and transparent manner, taking into consideration the criteria for prioritization of activities already agreed by Codex, FAO and WHO and the specific needs of FAO and WHO member countries. Contributions from governments, organizations and foundations are being accepted in accordance with WHO and FAO rules. For additional information and advice on the procedure for making a donation/contribution please contact Ms Dominique Di Biase, Policy Assistance and Resources Mobilization Division ([Dominique.DiBiase@fao.org](mailto:Dominique.DiBiase@fao.org); Tel: + 39 06 57055391) at FAO; and Dr Angelika Tritscher, Department of Food Safety and Zoonoses, WHO ([tritschera@who.int](mailto:tritschera@who.int); Tel: + 41 22 7913569).

21. In addition, FAO has developed a Strategy for the Provision of Scientific Advice for Food Safety (2010-2013) which aims to enhance the provision of scientific advice, facilitate dissemination of scientific information, strengthen national and regional scientific capacity and build scientific communities and networks. The strategy is available at [http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/advice\\_en.asp](http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/advice_en.asp) (English), [http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/advice\\_es.asp](http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/advice_es.asp) (Spanish) and [http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/advice\\_fr.asp](http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/advice_fr.asp) (French) or for more information contact: [Mary.Kenny@fao.org](mailto:Mary.Kenny@fao.org).

#### ***Establishment of a new program: Emergency Prevention System for Food Safety (EMPRES Food Safety)***

22. FAO's recently established Emergency Prevention System for Food Safety (EMPRES Food Safety) is now becoming operational and work will be required on assessment of emerging risks. Effective pooling of scientific excellence will contribute significantly to this effort, thus a new **FAO Food Safety Expert Roster will be established** in 2011. For more information, see Para 17 of Annex II, CX/NASWP 10/11/3 Part 2 ([ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccnaswp11/na11\\_03e\\_par2.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccnaswp11/na11_03e_par2.pdf)), contact [empres-fs@fao.org](mailto:empres-fs@fao.org) or visit <http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/>.

#### ***FAO/WHO Guidance for application of Risk Analysis during food safety emergencies***

23. As part of the joint FAO/WHO publications series of tools (framework or guidance) during an emergency on food safety, FAO and WHO member states have expressed the need to generate guidance for application of risk analysis during food safety emergencies. It will contain the essential elements for establishing procedures for assessing and managing risks within the framework of the countries food safety emergency response plans. Even though the elements for conducting a risk analysis have been documented by Codex, the process of applying the risk analysis concept operationally during an emergency has not been sufficiently addressed. It is specially needed to take management decisions and communicating risk in the face of time constrains, lack of data and even knowledge gaps. A joint FAO/WHO Workshop to develop such guidance was held in Headquarters FAO Rome, 21-25 March 2011. The final document is in preparation and will be published by the end 2011.

### ***WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR)***

24. A WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR) was established in December 2008 to support WHO's effort to minimize the public health impact of antimicrobial resistance associated with the use of antimicrobials in food animals. In particular, the Advisory Group will assist WHO on matters related to the integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and the containment of food-related antimicrobial resistance. The World Health Organization convened the first meeting of the Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR) in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 15 to 19 June 2009. During the meeting a five-year strategic plan was drafted and four sub-committees were established to address specific issues such as capacity building, pilot studies, antimicrobial use monitoring and software development for integrated AMR surveillance. The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of AGISAR was held from 5 to 7 June 2010 in Guelph, Canada and the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of AGISAR is scheduled from 14 to 17 June 2011 in Oslo, Norway. All reports of AGISAR meetings as well as AGISAR guidance documents on antimicrobial usage monitoring and antimicrobial resistance monitoring are available at [http://www.who.int/foodborne\\_disease/resistance/agisar/en/](http://www.who.int/foodborne_disease/resistance/agisar/en/).

### ***Improving the safety of poultry products in East Africa***

25. FAO is involved in a series of interlinked activities in East Africa aimed at improving the safety of poultry products to minimise the risk to human health and to ensure market opportunities are optimized. A recently concluded project in Uganda contributed to the management of the risks posed by microbial hazards in poultry products through the application of a risk-based approach to the development and implementation of control measures at appropriate steps in the food chain. This has included the development of guidelines on good hygienic practices at appropriate steps of the poultry chain, using as a basis the Codex draft guidelines for the control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* spp. in Chicken Meat. In parallel, FAO, in collaboration with WHO has recently initiated a series of studies in Kenya, that aim to assess and manage in an integrated manner, the public health risks associated with use of antimicrobials, microbiological contamination (*Salmonella* spp., *Campylobacter* spp.), and antimicrobial resistance (AMR), along the poultry value chain continuum from production to consumption.

### ***Global Food-borne Infections Network (GFN)***

26. GFN has five main programme components: international training courses, a passive *Salmonella* surveillance system, an annual External Quality Assurance System (EQAS), focused regional and national projects, and reference testing services. To date, GFN has held over 75 international training courses in Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish, and Russian for more than 1400 microbiologists and epidemiologists from over 130 countries. More than 80 countries have provided data to the Country Databank on over 1.5 million human isolates and close to 400 000 isolates from non-human sources to help us provide a global overview of the epidemiology of *Salmonella*. The GFN EQAS is one of the world's largest annual proficiency test with more than 150 laboratories participating worldwide. GFN has developed and made available laboratory protocols for pathogens such as *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Shigella*, *E. coli*, *Clostridium botulinum* and *Vibrio cholerae*.

## **PART III: STATUS OF REQUESTS FOR FAO/WHO SCIENTIFIC ADVICE**

27. Both organizations continue to jointly prioritise the requests taking into consideration the criteria proposed by Codex as well as the requests for advice from Member Countries and the availability of resources. A table which contains a description of the current requests for scientific advice posed to FAO and WHO directly by Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies as well as meetings being planned by FAO and WHO in response to request from member countries is attached. It presents the overall status of pending requests for scientific advice received by FAO/WHO as of May 2011. The attached Annex shows the requests received.

28. FAO and WHO would like to emphasize the severe financial problems faced by the Organizations for the scientific advice program. The current financial situation does not allow anymore to respond to all requests for scientific advice, including requests listed below brought forth by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. It has to be emphasized that this scientific advice forms the basis for the respective Codex Standards. Efforts need to be undertaken by Members to provide support for scientific advice activities in order to be able to support the work of Codex.

## ANNEX

**JOINT FAO/WHO ACTIVITIES ON PROVISION OF SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON FOOD SAFETY  
STATUS OF REQUESTS FOR FAO/WHO SCIENTIFIC ADVICE<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 requests for scientific advice as of May 2011.

#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>2</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
1	Safety evaluation of food additives and contaminants	CCFA CCCF	42 <sup>nd</sup> Session of CCFA 4 <sup>th</sup> Session of CCCF	Joint FAO/WHO Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)	Planned for 74 <sup>th</sup> JECFA (Rome, Italy, 14-23 June 2011)	350,000	Maximum levels, specifications for food additives, or other advice as appropriate
2	Safety evaluation of food additives and contaminants	CCFA CCCF	43 <sup>rd</sup> Session of CCFA 5 <sup>th</sup> Session of CCCF	Joint FAO/WHO Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)	To be planned for 2012-2013 Extra-budgetary resources will be required	To be determined	Maximum levels, specifications for food additives, or other advice as appropriate
3	Safety evaluation of residues of veterinary drugs	CCRVDF	19 <sup>th</sup> Session of CCRVDF	Joint FAO/WHO Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)	Planned for 75 <sup>th</sup> JECFA (Rome, Italy, 7-17 November 2011)	300,000	Maximum residue limits, 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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>2</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
4	Exposure assessment methodologies for residues of veterinary drugs	CCRVDF	19 <sup>th</sup> Session of CCRVDF	Secretariat of JECFA will organise a workshop	Planned to be held in conjunction with 75 <sup>th</sup> JECFA	120,000	Advice on updated exposure assessment methodologies to be considered by JECFA and taken into consideration by CCRVDF for risk analysis policy
5	Safety evaluation of pesticide residues (toxicology and residue)	CCPR	43 <sup>rd</sup> Session of CCPR	Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues	Planned to be held 20-29 September 2011 (Geneva, Switzerland)	370, 000	Maximum Residue Limits and other advice in risk management of pesticide residues.
6	Decision-tree approaches for the evaluation of veterinary drugs	JECFA Subsequently supported by CCRVDF	17 <sup>th</sup> Session of CCRVDF	Convene several expert groups to develop a detailed decision tree approach for the evaluation of veterinary drugs, which provides greater flexibility in the advice that JECFA can provide on issues relating to the potential human health effects	First draft of working document prepared and discussed at 70 <sup>th</sup> JECFA, provided to 18 <sup>th</sup> CCRVDF.  Additional extra budgetary resources will be required to support this activity	To be determined	Change in current work process and interaction with JECFA.  Use the output to assist in the development of risk management guidance on veterinary drug residues, including for compounds without ADIs and MRLs



#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>2</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
7	Public health risk related to <i>Salmonella</i> in bivalves and value of criteria for <i>Salmonella</i> in bivalves for consumer health protection	CCFFP	31 <sup>st</sup> Session of CCFFP	Risk assessment to determine the public health risk related to <i>Salmonella</i> in bivalves and evaluation of the impact of criteria for <i>Salmonella</i> on consumer health	An interim report of the Electronic Expert Group was presented to 31 <sup>st</sup> Session of CCFFP. The Session advised FAO/WHO to present the final report to 43 <sup>rd</sup> Session of CCFH and the 32 <sup>nd</sup> Session of CCFFP.	80,000	Use of scientific advice to amend the current Codex Standard for Live and Raw Bivalve Molluscs.
8	Scientific evaluation of measures for the control of <i>Salmonella</i> and <i>Campylobacter</i> in poultry and a risk-based decision tool to facilitate their management.	CCFH	40 <sup>th</sup> , 41 <sup>st</sup> and 42 <sup>nd</sup> Sessions of CCFH	Implement an expert meeting to evaluate potential control measures and develop a user friendly web-based decision support tool.	Expert meeting implemented and report provided to 41 <sup>st</sup> CCFH  Development of web-based tool will be continued and finalized in 2011. All relevant references available in conjunction with the tool will be made available.	250,000	Use of the scientific advice to facilitate the development of the guidelines for the control of <i>Salmonella</i> and <i>Campylobacter</i> in poultry and the decision support tool to complement the Codex guidelines.
9	Development and validation of risk assessment tools on <i>Vibrio</i> spp. in seafood and advice on methodology for <i>Vibrio</i> spp. in seafood.	CCFH	41 <sup>st</sup> and 42 <sup>nd</sup> Sessions of CCFH	Implement an expert meeting to review methodology and develop and validate web-based risk assessment tools.	Work planning underway.  Extra budgetary resources will be required.	250,000	Web-based tools and consensus methodology to support the implementation of Codex Guidelines.

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#	Request for Advice	Originator	Reference	Required Action by FAO/WHO	Status of Planning/Implementation	Estimated Cost (US\$) <sup>2</sup>	Expected Output by Codex
10	Pesticide Specifications	FAO/WHO	Memorandum of understanding between FAO and WHO	Meetings of the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Specifications (JMPS)	10 <sup>th</sup> JMPS will be held from 8-13 June 2011 in Beijing, China.	150,000	FAO and WHO Specifications for pesticides to be used in agriculture and public health sectors

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