TO:  Codex Contact Points  
Interested International Organizations

FROM:  Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

SUBJECT:  REQUEST FOR COMMENTS/INFORMATION ON PRIORITY LIST OF VETERINARY DRUGS REQUIRING EVALUATION OR REEVALUATION

BACKGROUND

1. The Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) at its 19th Session (September 2010) agreed to forward the Priority List of Veterinary Drugs for Evaluation or Reevaluation by JECFA to the 34th Session of the Commission.

2. The Committee also agreed to establish a physical working group, which would meet immediately before its next session, under the chairmanship of Australia, to consider the replies to the Circular Letter requesting members and observers to provide comments and information on the priority list of veterinary drugs requiring evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA and the report of the electronic working group on the database on need for MRLs of developing countries. The Committee reiterated the need to submit requests for inclusion in the priority list by following the procedures described in the “Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF” (Ref. REP11/RVDF paras 83-84 and Appendix VI).

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS/INFORMATION

3. Governments and interested organizations are invited to make proposals for veterinary drugs to be included to the priority list for subsequent recommendation to JECFA for evaluation or re-evaluation and to provide the information according to the template in the Annex to this document.

4. According to Section 3.1.2 “Establishment of Priority List” of the Risk Analysis Principles applied by the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission), in order to appear on the priority list of veterinary drugs for the establishment of a MRL, the proposed veterinary drug shall meet some or all of the following criteria:
   - A Member has proposed the compound for evaluation;
   - A Member has established good veterinary practices with regard to the compound;
   - The compound has the potential to cause public health and/or international trade problems;
   - It is available as a commercial products; and
   - There is a commitment that a dossier will be made available.

5. Governments and interested international organizations wishing to submit the above should do so in writing, preferably by e-mail, to the U.S. Codex Office, Food Safety and Inspection Service, US Department of Agriculture, Room 4861, South Building, 14th Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington DC 20250, USA (E-mail: CCRVDF-USSEC@fsis.usda.gov; Telefax: +1 202 720 3157), with a copy to the Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy (Email: codex@fao.org, telefax: +39 06 5705 4593) before 15 December 2011.
ANNEX

TEMPLATE FOR INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR PRIORITIZATION BY CCRVDF

Administrative information
1. Member(s) submitting the request for inclusion
2. Veterinary drug names
3. Trade names
4. Chemical names
5. Names and addresses of basic producers

Purpose, scope and rationale
6. Identification of the food safety issue (residue hazard)
7. Assessment against the criteria for the inclusion on the priority list

Risk profile elements
8. Justification for use
9. Veterinary use pattern
10. Commodities for which Codex MRLs are required

Risk assessment needs and questions for the risk assessors
11. Identify the feasibility that such an evaluation can be carried out in a reasonable framework
12. Specific request to risk assessors

Available information\(^1\)
13. Countries where the veterinary drugs is registered
14. National/Regional MRLs or any other applicable tolerances
15. List of data (pharmacology, toxicology, metabolism, residue depletion, analytical methods) available

Timetable
16. Date when data could be submitted to JECFA

\(^1\) When preparing a preliminary risk profile, Member(s) should take into account the updated data requirement, to enable evaluation of a veterinary drug for the establishment of an ADI and MRLs, published by JECFA.