

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 5(a)

CX/PR 01/3

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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

Thirty-third Session

The Hague, The Netherlands, 2-7 April 2001

#### DIETARY EXPOSURE IN RELATION TO MRL SETTING: ACUTE DIETARY RISK ASSESSMENT

#### Progress Report by WHO on the Development of Databases for Acute Exposure Assessment

##### A. Acute Dietary Risk Assessment at the National Level

1. In CAC Circular Letter CL2000/27 - PR, Part 4 (A), governments were requested to inform the Committee on whether and how they performed acute dietary risk assessments. In response, only four countries responded (Australia, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States of America).
2. Both the United Kingdom and the United States of America indicate that their governments presently undertake acute exposure assessments using probabilistic approaches. Australia and South Africa stated that methodologies and databases to conduct acute exposure assessments were currently being developed. Australia and the United States stated that the principles used by the JMPR in its acute exposure assessments are consistent with those used by their governments.
3. It would appear that few countries are now conducting acute exposure assessments. Based on the availability of short-term food consumption data for individuals, few countries have the necessary data to conduct such assessments.

##### B. Information Requested on Acute Exposure Assessments of Pesticide Residues

4. In CAC Circular Letter CL2000/27 - PR, Part 4 (B), governments were requested to provide data necessary for conducting acute exposure assessments of pesticide residues (large portion consumption data and body weights and ages of the relevant populations and , median weight of commodity units and percentage edible portion, . Responses were received from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United Kingdom.
2. However, no new usable data were included in these submissions. Therefore, the current database for acute exposure assessment of pesticide residues has not been altered from the version previously provided to the Committee<sup>1</sup> except for a correction for the consumption of tea to express consumption on a dry weight basis. The current databases for acute exposure assessment may be viewed at [who.int/fsf](http://who.int/fsf).

<sup>1</sup> CX/PR 00/3-Add 1