

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
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Agenda Item 12(b)

CX/PR 11/43/14  
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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

43<sup>rd</sup> Session

Beijing, P.R. China, 4 - 9 April 2011

#### CONSIDERATION OF THE STATUS OF CODEX MRLS FOR LINDANE

(Prepared by the Codex Secretariat)

#### Background

1. The Stockholm Convention<sup>1</sup>, which was adopted in 2001 and entered into force in 2004, requires Parties to take measures to eliminate or reduce the release of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) into the environment. The Convention text was amended in May 2009 to include nine new POPs which were added to Annexes A (Elimination), B (Restriction) and C (Unintentional Production). The amendments entered into force in August 2010. The nine additional chemicals listed as POPs are as follows:

- **Pesticides:** chlordecone, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane, lindane; pentachlorobenzene;
- **Industrial chemicals:** hexabromobiphenyl, hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, pentachlorobenzene, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride, tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether; and
- **By-products:** alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane and pentachlorobenzene.

2. Lindane is currently listed in Annex A by which Parties must take measures to eliminate the production and use of the chemicals listed under this Annex. Specific exemptions for use or production are listed in the Annex and apply only to Parties that register for them.

3. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee on Pesticide Residues (April 2010) considered a discussion paper on the extraneous maximum residue limits for persistent organic pollutants (POPs) falling within the Stockholm Convention and the terms of reference of CCPR not only for commodities for which Codex EMRLs were established but also for other foods. As regards current Codex MRLs for lindane, the Committee noted that this compound had been re-evaluated by JMPR in 2002 (for toxicology) and in 2003 (for residues) and that, in compliance with the 15 year rule for periodic review, it should be eligible for re-evaluation in 2017/18. The Committee discussed the possible replacement of the existing Lindane MRLs with EMRLs and agreed to consider the status of these Codex MRLs at the its next session.<sup>2</sup> The Annex to this document lists the current Codex MRLs for Lindane (extract from the Codex Database for MRLs/Pesticides).

#### Conclusion

4. In view of the above considerations, the Committee is invited to determine the best way to proceed with the existing Codex MRLs for Lindane namely:

- (a) to withdraw the existing Codex MRLs for Lindane in view of the insertion of Lindane in Annex A (Elimination) of the Stockholm Convention;
- (b) to replace the current Codex MRLs for Lindane with EMRLs;
- (c) to keep the Codex MRLs for Lindane as such waiting for the JMPR re-evaluation in 2017/18;
- (d) Any other suitable solution the Committee may agree upon.

<sup>1</sup> <http://chm.pops.int/Convention/>

<sup>2</sup> ALINORM 10/33/24, paras. 125 – 133.

**ANNEX**  
**English only**

**48 Lindane**

Main Uses: Insecticide

JMPR: 65T, 66, 67R, 68R, 69R, 70, 73, 74R, 75R, 77, 78R, 79R, 89, 97T, 02T', 03R'

ADI: 0.005 mg/kg body weight (2002)

Acute RfD: 0.06 mg/kg body weight (2002)

Residue: For compliance with MRLs and for estimation of dietary intake for plant and animal commodities: indane. The residue is fat-soluble.

Note: Previous TADI 0.001 mg/kg bw (1997-2001).

The Committee discussed the possible replacement of the existing Lindane CXLs with EMRLs and the Committee agreed to consider the status of these Codex CXLs for Lindane at the next Session of the Committee. (42-133)

Commodity		MRL (mg/kg)	Source	Note CXL	Step	JMPR	CCPR	Prior CCPR	CAC	Note CCPR
Code	Name									
GC	0640 Barley	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
MO	0105 Edible offal (mammalian)	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
PE	0112 Eggs	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
GC	0645 Maize	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
MM	0095 Meat (from mammals other than marine mammals)	0.1 (fat)			CXL	03	36		2004	
ML	0106 Milks	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
GC	0647 Oats	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
PM	0110 Poultry meat	0.05 (fat)			CXL	03	36		2004	
PO	0111 Poultry, Edible offal of	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
GC	0650 Rye	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
GC	0651 Sorghum	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
AS	0081 Straw and fodder (dry) of cereal grains	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
VO	1275 Sweet corn (kernels)	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	
GC	0654 Wheat	0.01 (*)			CXL	03	36		2004	