



## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### AD-HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL CODEX TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING

#### Sixth Session

Berne, Switzerland, 20-24 February 2012

### MATTERS REFERRED TO THE TASK FORCE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

#### MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 33<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION <sup>1</sup>

1. The 33<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Commission considered the report of the electronic Working Group, established at its 32<sup>nd</sup> session to i) review existing Codex risk analysis principles as to their applicability to animal feed; (ii) review Codex texts on emergency situation and exchange of information on rejected food as to their applicability to animal feed (CAC/GL 25-1997 and CAC/GL 19-1995); and (iii) propose suitable mechanisms for addressing the remaining three items proposed by the electronic working group to the present session of the Commission, namely: development of guidelines for governments on the application of risk assessment methodologies to the various types of hazards related to contaminants/residues in feed ingredients; development of a prioritized list of hazards in feed and feed ingredients for governments; and establishment of criteria for the global identification and notification of emergency situations affecting the feed.

2. The Commission made the following decisions:

#### **Review existing Codex texts as to their applicability to animal feed**

3. The 33<sup>rd</sup> CAC agreed to refer the proposals, prepared by the electronic Working Group for the review of existing Codex risk analysis principles as to their applicability to animal feed; to the relevant committees, i.e. CCGP, CCFA, CCCF, CCPR, CCRVDF and CCFICS for review. The Commission further agreed to request the CCGP to ensure consistency of the risk analysis texts after they have been reviewed by the relevant committees.

4. The outcomes of the Committees' discussion on the proposed revisions of existing Codex texts is presented in Annex 1 to this document.

#### **Criteria for the global identification and notification of emergency situations affecting the feed**

5. The Commission agreed that work on criteria for the global identification and notification of emergency situations affecting animal feed be referred to FAO and WHO.

#### **Development of guidelines for governments on the application of risk assessment methodologies to the various types of hazards related to contaminants/residues in feed ingredients and of a prioritized list of hazards in feed and feed ingredients for governments**

6. The Commission agreed to establish a Codex *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding with the Terms of Reference set out in Appendix VIII of its report. It agreed to designate the Government of Switzerland to be responsible for appointing the Chairperson of the Task Force in compliance with Rule XI.10 of its Rules of Procedure.

7. A copy of the Terms of Reference of the TFAF is presented in Annex 2 to this document.

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<sup>1</sup> ALINORM 10/33/REP, paras 95-112 and Appendix VIII

**Annex 1****OUTCOMES OF COMMITTEES' DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED REVISIONS OF EXISTING CODEX TEXTS AS TO THEIR APPLICABILITY TO ANIMAL FEED****Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF)**

8. The 5<sup>th</sup> CCCF agreed to establish an electronic Working Group to examine whether it was necessary to further specify the applicability to feed in the *Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods* as well as the *Code of Practice for Source Directed Measures to Reduce Contamination of Food with Chemicals* (ref. REP11/CF, paras 8-9).

**Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)**

9. The 43<sup>rd</sup> CCFA agreed that the proposed amendments to the *Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods* to address animal feed were not relevant to its work, that the present format of its risk analysis principles was adequate (ref. REP11/FA, paras 9-14).

**Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)**

10. The 43<sup>rd</sup> CCPR agreed that the revision of the Risk Analysis Principles applied by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues in relation to their consistency with the Working Principles for Risk Analysis and their applicability to animal feed should be considered in the framework of the ongoing revision of the Risk Analysis Principles (ref. REP11/PR para 8).

**Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS)**

11. The 19<sup>th</sup> CCFICS agreed that more reflection was necessary on how the *Principles and Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Safety Emergency Situations* (CAC/GL 19-1995) and the *Guidelines for the Exchange of Information between Countries on Rejections of Imported Food* (CAC/GL 25-1997) should consider feed in relation to food safety and agreed that this work would be covered by the discussion paper on the need for further Codex guidance on food safety emergency situations to be prepared by the United States of America (ref. REP12/FICS, para. 7).

**Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)**

12. The 43<sup>rd</sup> CCFH agreed to insert a footnote in the Scope section of the *Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Assessment* (CAC/GL 30-1999) to indicate that the risk assessment principles also applied to feed and feed ingredients for food-producing animals where it could impact on food safety rather than to refer to feed throughout the document, as proposed in Annex I of CX/FH 11/43/2-Add.1 (ref. REP12/FH, para. 13).

**Annex 2****(ALINORM 10/33/REP, Appendix VIII)****TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE *AD HOC* CODEX INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE  
ON ANIMAL FEEDING****Objectives**

With the aim of ensuring the safety of foods of animal origin, the Task Force should develop science based guidelines or standards specific to the following terms of reference.

**Terms of Reference**

- (a) The development of guidelines, intended for governments on how to apply the existing Codex risk assessment methodologies to the various types of hazards related to contaminants/residues in feed ingredients, including feed additives used in feedingstuffs for food producing animals. The guideline should include specific science-based risk assessment criteria to apply to feed contaminants/residues. These criteria should be consistent with existing Codex methodologies.

The guidelines should also consider the need to address the establishment of rates of transfer and accumulation from feed to edible tissues in animal-derived products according to the characteristics of the hazard.

The guidelines should be drawn up in such a way as to enable countries to prioritise and assess risks based upon local conditions, use, exposure of animals and the impact, if any, on human health.

- (b) Develop a prioritised list of hazards in feed ingredients and feed additives for governmental use. The list should contain hazards of international relevance that are reasonably likely to occur, and are thus likely to warrant future attention.

In doing so, due consideration should be given to the prioritised list of hazards as recommended by the FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Animal Feed Impact on Food Safety. Clear criteria should be used to prioritise the list of hazards and take account of the potential transfer of contaminants/residues in feed to edible animal products (e.g. meat, fish meat, milk, and eggs).

**Time frame**

Starting in 2011, two sessions with an option of a third session, if required, to complete the work on the above terms of reference.