

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
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HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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ALINORM 01/38A

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Twenty-fourth Session
Geneva, Switzerland, 2-7 July 2001

**REPORT OF THE 2nd SESSION OF THE *AD HOC* INTERGOVERNMENTAL
CODEX TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING**

Copenhagen, Denmark
19-21 March 2001

Note: This document incorporates Codex Circular Letter CL 2001/08-AF.

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CX 4/90.2

CL 2001/08-AF

April 2001

TO: Codex Contact Points
Interested International Organizations

FROM: Secretary of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, FAO, 00100 Rome, Italy

SUBJECT: DISTRIBUTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL CODEX TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING (ALINORM 01/38A)

The report of the Second Session of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding will be considered by the 24th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Geneva, 2-7 July 2001)

PART A: MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE TWENTY FOURTH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

This report of the Second Session of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding will be considered by the 24th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission as the intermediate progress report from the Task Force in fulfilling its terms of reference as stated in the Procedural Manual.

PART B: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON LISTS ESTABLISHED TO CONTROL THE USE OF PROHIBITED AND UNDESIRABLE SUBSTANCES IN ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS OR OTHER APPROACHES

The Second Session of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding considered the comments submitted in response to the CL 2000/21-AF and its questionnaire on existing references to either positive lists of permitted substances to be used in the preparation of animal feedingstuffs, or negative lists of prohibited substances as well as lists of "undesirable substances" subject to maximum limits or tolerances in national legislation

The Task Force agreed to obtain additional information on controls of permitted, prohibited and undesirable substances for compilation and consideration at its next Session (Alinorm 01/38A; paras. 30-36).

Governments and international organizations are therefore invited to submit their comments or information on lists established to control the use of prohibited and undesirable substances in animal feedingstuffs or other approaches and should do so in writing in conformity with the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (see *Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Eleventh Edition, pages 21-23*) preferably by email to Mr. Mogens Nagel Larsen, Director of the Danish Plant Directorate; Skovbrynet, 20; DK-2800 Lyngby; Denmark; fax: +45.4526 3610; e-mail: taskforce@pdir.dk with copy to the Secretary of the Codex Alimentarius Commission; FAO; Viale delle Terme di Caracalla; 00100 Rome; Italy; fax: +39 06 5705 4593; e-mail: codex@fao.org; **not later than 15 October 2001.**

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The Second Session of the ad hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding reached the following conclusions:

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

The Codex Task Force:

Agreed to discuss the information paper compiling a list of internationally available standards and validated methods for the examination of feedingstuffs under the appropriate section of the revised Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding (para. 28-29 and 66);

Examined the information paper on lists established by different governments to control the use of prohibited and undesirable substances in animal feedingstuffs or other approaches and agreed that it would be further examined when considering the revised proposed draft code of good practice on animal feeding (paras. 30-36);

Agreed to request additional information on controls of permitted, prohibited and undesirable substances for compilation and consideration at the next Session (para. 35);

Agreed that a Drafting Group led by the United Kingdom, and assisted by Australia, Chile, Germany, Japan, the United States of America, Consumers International (CI), the Confédération mondiale de l'industrie de la santé animale (COMISA) and the International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) to prepare a redraft of the Code (with the exception of Section 6) based on the Task Force's discussions and agreements and written comments submitted at the second Session (para. 67);

Agreed that a Drafting Group led by Australia and assisted by Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, the Netherlands, Sudan, Thailand, Uganda, the Asociación Latinoamericana de Avicultura (ALA), Consumers International (CI), the Confédération mondiale de l'industrie de la santé animale (COMISA), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and the International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) would fully develop Section 6 of the Code on On-Farm Producing, Sale and Uses of Feedingstuffs for circulation, comment and further consideration at the next Session of the Task Force (para. 65);

Requested the Codex Secretariat to prepare comprehensive information on ongoing and completed work in other Codex Committees concerning the establishment of maximum levels and residue limits for feedingstuffs and foods in order to prioritize work towards the establishment of limits by these Committees for such substances in feedingstuffs if necessary (para. 15).

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**REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE *AD HOC* INTERGOVERNMENTAL
CODEX TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING**

Copenhagen, 19 - 21 March 2001

INTRODUCTION

1. The *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding held its Second Session in Copenhagen, Denmark from 19 to 21 March 2001, at the kind invitation of the Government of Denmark. The Session was chaired by Mr Mogens Nagel Larsen, Director of the Danish Plant Directorate. The Session was attended by 146 participants from 41 Member countries and 5 international intergovernmental and 17 non governmental organizations. A complete list of participants is attached as Appendix I to this report.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. The Task Force was welcomed to Copenhagen by Mr Poul Ottosen, the Permanent Secretary of the Danish Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries. In his opening remarks to the Session, the Permanent Secretary noted the importance of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding as the appropriate international forum to set principles on good animal feeding in the wider long term perspective of a global food safety system. He emphasized the essential role of industry in providing consumers with wholesome and nutritious food products. The Permanent Secretary noted that adequate labelling requirements could help to ensure the traceability of feedingstuffs as a means to control cases of food hazard outbreaks throughout the food chain. The Permanent Secretary expressed his best wishes to the Task Force for a successful meeting, including the consideration of the Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (AGENDA ITEM 1)¹

3. The Task Force adopted the Provisional Agenda as the Agenda for the Session.

**MATTERS REFERRED TO THE TASK FORCE FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS
COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES
(AGENDA ITEM 2)²**

4. The Committee noted matters arising from the 47th Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission concerning the Commission's Medium Term Plan 2003-2007³, progress made in implementing the general decisions of the Commission in risk analysis⁴ and work related to antimicrobial resistance to bacteria in food. The Committee was also informed of matters arising from the Codex Committees on Food Hygiene, Food Additives and Contaminants, Pesticide Residues, Food Labelling, General Principles, Methods of Analysis and Sampling and the Codex *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Biotechnology.

5. The Codex Secretariat reaffirmed that the principal mandate of the Codex Alimentarius Commission was protecting the health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade and in this regard, noted the decision taken by the 1st Session of the Codex *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Animal Feeding (TFAF) that the primary purpose of the Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding was the protection of consumers' health, in particular as related to food safety issues.⁵ The TFAF also recalled that its work was based in part on the FAO Expert Consultation on Animal Feeding and Food Safety, which dealt specifically with the interface between animal feeding and food safety.

¹ CX/AF 01/1

² CX/AF 01/2

³ ALINORM 01/3, paras. 36-41.

⁴ ALINORM 01/3, para. 42.

⁵ ALINORM 01/38, para. 28.

6. The TFAF also noted that in elaborating the Codex Code of Practice on Animal Feeding, it was required under its terms of reference “to take full account of, and collaborate with, as appropriate, work carried out by relevant Codex Committees, and other relevant international bodies, including FAO, WHO, OIE and IPPC” and in this regard, the Codex Secretariat provided comprehensive information of the work undertaken by other related Codex bodies, as requested by the 1st Session of the TFAF⁶, as follows:

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS

7. The TFAF noted that among other tasks, the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (CCFAC) was responsible for the establishment or endorsement of permitted or maximum guideline levels for food additives, for contaminants (including environmental contaminants) and for naturally occurring toxicants in foodstuffs and animal feeds. The CCFAC was also responsible for preparing priority lists of food additives and contaminants for toxicological evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA).

8. In the area of mycotoxins in food and feed, the CCFAC had already finalized a maximum level for aflatoxins in peanuts intended for further processing, a maximum level for aflatoxin M₁ in milk and was in the process of elaborating a maximum level for ochratoxin A in wheat, barley, rye and related products. In the interest of controlling contamination of foods and feedingstuffs at source, the CCFAC had also finalized a code of practice on the reduction of aflatoxin B₁ in raw materials and feedingstuffs in milk producing animals and was also in the process of elaborating a code of practice for the prevention of mycotoxin contamination in cereals, including annexes on ochratoxin A, zearalenone, fumonisins and tricothecenes.

9. In the area of industrial and environmental contaminants in foods, the CCFAC had finalized or was in the process of elaborating maximum levels for lead in various foodstuffs (including cereal grains, pulses, legumes, vegetables, legume vegetables, fruit, meat, fat, offal, milk and milk fat) and maximum levels for cadmium (cereals, pulses, legumes, wheat grain and rice, soybeans and peanuts). The CCFAC had also finalized a code of practice for source directed measures to reduce contamination of foods with chemicals and was in the process of elaborating a code of practice for source directed measures to reduce dioxin and dioxin like PCB contamination of foods. In this regard, the CCFAC was also considering the elaboration of potential maximum levels for dioxins and dioxin like PCBs in foods and feedingstuffs, pending a toxicological evaluation to be performed by the 57th Meeting of the JECFA in June 2001 based on data submitted on these substances in foods, feedingstuffs and breast milk. This included the consideration of, in collaboration with the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling, methods of analysis for dioxins and dioxin like PCBs in foods and feedingstuffs.

10. The CCFAC was also in the process of elaborating a general standard for contaminants and toxins in foods, which was a general standard applicable to maximum levels for contaminants in all foods, regardless of whether or not the foods were standardized by Codex. In this regard, the next 34th Session of the CCFAC would be examining a list of all maximum and guideline levels in foods under current consideration by the Committee, as well as current maximum and guideline levels contained in Codex commodity standards, with an indication of their step status.

CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

11. The TFAF was informed that the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues was responsible for the establishment of maximum residue limits for pesticide residues in certain animal feedingstuffs moving in international trade where this was justified for reasons of protection of human health and to consider other matters in relation to the safety of food and feed containing pesticide residues and to establish maximum limits for environmental and industrial contaminants showing chemical or other similarities to pesticides.

⁶ ALINORM 01/38, para. 41.

CODEX COMMITTEE ON RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS

12. The TFAF noted that the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) was responsible for the establishment of maximum levels for residues of veterinary drugs in foods, including drugs used for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic purposes or for modification of physiological functions or behavior. The CCRVDF had also finalized guidelines on the establishment of a regulatory programme to control veterinary drugs in foods as well as a recommended international code of practice for control of the use of veterinary drugs.

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE

13. The Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) was responsible for the elaboration of provisions on food hygiene applicable to all foods, and had established principles for the establishment and application of microbiological criteria for foods and principles and guidelines for the conduct of microbiological risk assessment.

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING

14. The TFAF noted that the Codex Committee on Food Labelling had finalized guidelines for the production, processing, labelling and marketing of organically produced foods, including aspects related to livestock production.

15. In view of the aforementioned information, the Codex Secretariat agreed to provide an update on related activities of other Codex committees at the next session of the TFAF, including a presentation of the step status of various levels for contaminants established or under consideration by the CCFAC. The Codex Secretariat also indicated that although the establishment of maximum levels for contaminants, pesticides, veterinary drugs and microbiological limits were clearly outside the mandate of the TFAF, it was within the purview of the TFAF to recommend future work on specific issues identified in the context of animal feeding as it relates to food safety through the Codex Alimentarius Commission for potential distribution as new work to the relevant Codex body.

MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

16. The Task Force noted matters of interest from the OIE, the FAO and the WHO on animal health and food safety issues relating to animal feeds, as follows:

Office International des épizooties (OIE)

17. An information paper⁷ prepared by the Codex Secretariat was presented by the representative of the OIE on the Joint WHO/FAO/OIE Technical Consultation on BSE, Public Health and Trade, to be held at OIE Headquarters in Paris, France from 11-14 June 2001.

18. The Representative of the OIE noted that the Consultation would work towards clear and workable recommendations for countries, particularly developing countries, to:

- protect their human populations from vCJD;
- protect their livestock populations from BSE; and
- prevent global spread of BSE and vCJD through appropriate (inter)national and regional actions.

19. The planned Consultation would review, discuss and synthesize current knowledge on pathogenesis, epidemiology, distribution, likely source of the epidemics, prevention and control of BSE/vCJD. The principal goal would be to provide better information to countries that are trying to decide what to do within their own borders to avoid risk to their human and animal populations. A secondary goal would be to provide a forum for the review of some of the most compelling problems in BSE control internationally. Specialists from various disciplines, national authorities, international organizations and institutions, NGOs and other stakeholders involved would be invited to participate.

⁷ CX/AF INF/01/1

20. The Representative of the OIE informed the Task Force of previous works undertaken by WHO in providing recommendations for the protection of public health in relation to human and animal Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs)⁸ and of the work of the OIE on the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), including the existence of a chapter on BSE in its International Animal Health Code. This Chapter provides specific recommendations on assessment of risk with reference to the risk factors in animal feeding.

21. The Representative of the OIE informed the TFAF that additional information on the Technical Consultation could be obtained from the websites of WHO, FAO and OIE.

World Health Organization of the United Nations (WHO)

22. The Representative of the WHO informed the TFAF that two other main activities related to animal feeding were carried out by the WHO in addition to the Joint WHO/FAO/OIE Technical Consultation on BSE, Public Health and Trade, as presented by the Representative of the OIE.

23. The second activity would be a follow-up⁹ to the WHO Consultation on Methods and Principles for the Monitoring of Antimicrobial Usage in Food Animal Production for the Protection of Human Health, to be held from 10-13 September 2001 in Oslo, Norway. Surveillance of antimicrobial consumption in food animals was identified as a indispensable requisite for the identification of risk factors for the emergence of antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic bacteria and the evaluation of public health intervention for their containment. However, there was still insufficient information available on antimicrobial consumption, which would be a focus of the meeting. Objectives were to develop models for national and international strategies for surveillance of antimicrobial usage in food animals and to make recommendations to support governments, national authorities, the pharmaceutical industry, international organizations and other stakeholders in their endeavours to establish national antimicrobial usage surveillance programmes. Existing data on the consumption of non-human antimicrobial usage, national experiences and approaches in the setting up of antimicrobial usage surveillance systems will also be reviewed.

24. The Task Force was reminded of the WHO Global Principles for the Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance in Animals intended for Foods. This was developed during a Consultation which was held from 5-9 June 2000, in Geneva, with the participation of the FAO and the OIE. It focused on the public and human health aspects of antimicrobial use in animals intended for food while recognizing the on-going need for antimicrobial treatment of diseased animals. In addition, the Representative of the OIE informed the Task Force that while the OIE was not involved in the surveillance of antimicrobial usage in animal feed, it had an ad-hoc Group on antimicrobial resistance which would continue to collaborate with the FAO and the WHO.

25. The third main activity was a WHO Consultation on Pre-harvest Food Safety, with the participation of the OIE and the FAO, which would be held in Berlin, Germany from 26-28 March 2001. It will focus on activities and measures related to farm-animal production, which contribute to the protection of human health. This will include meat in particular as well as other products not subject to additional food processing steps. The Consultation is part of WHO's activities to develop sustainable and integrated food safety systems for the reduction of public health risks along the entire food chain, from primary producer to the consumer. Various organizations and institutions, which have both interest and activities in the area of pre-harvest food safety, will participate.

⁸ WHO Consultation on Public Health Issues Related to Human and Animal TSE, 2-3 April 1996, Geneva.

⁹ As recommended by the WHO Consultation on the Medical Impact of the Use of Antimicrobials in Food Animals, Berlin, October 1997.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

26. The Representative of the FAO stressed the collaboration between FAO, WHO and OIE in organizing consultations referred to by WHO and OIE. The Representative of the FAO referred the meeting to the FAO's website¹⁰ for comprehensive technical information on animal feed safety.

27. The Representative from the FAO reported that the development of Codes of Practice and Good Manufacturing Practices for livestock production and the feed industry were included in its programme of work and budget for 2002 and 2003. It was FAO's role to cover aspects of livestock production and the environment, as well as animal health, in collaboration with the OIE, which were outside the mandate of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

INFORMATION PAPER COMPILING LIST OF INTERNATIONALLY AVAILABLE STANDARDS AND VALIDATED METHODS FOR THE EXAMINATION OF FEEDINGSTUFFS (AGENDA ITEM 3)¹¹

28. The Chairman noted that subsequent to the request of the Task Force at its first Session¹², Codex Circular Letter CL 2000/30-AF had been issued to request information on internationally available standard and validated methods for the examination of feedingstuffs for regulatory purposes. Replies had been summarized in CX/AF 01/3. In addition, the Chairman noted that the Secretariat compiled a list of references of methods of analysis and sampling for animal feedingstuffs.

29. The Task Force agreed with the recommendation of the Chairman to discuss this issue under the appropriate section of the draft Code (see para. 66).

INFORMATION PAPER ON LISTS ESTABLISHED BY DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS TO CONTROL THE USE OF PROHIBITED AND UNDESIRABLE SUBSTANCES IN ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS OR OTHER APPROACHES (AGENDA ITEM 4)¹³

30. As agreed at the 1st Session of the Task Force¹⁴, an open-ended meeting was held at the Danish Plant Directorate to consider comments submitted in response to a questionnaire attached to Circular Letter CL 2000/21-AF. The open-ended meeting discussed the application of the draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding in the context of prohibited and undesirable substances in animal feedingstuffs. The meeting was chaired by Mr Bill Knock of the United Kingdom, who presented the report of the open-ended meeting (see CRD 1).

31. In order to respond to concerns noted at the 1st Session of the Task Force on the lack of clear definitions and subsequent difficulties in elaborating lists of substances that might be either considered as prohibited or undesirable, the Task Force discussed the terminology drafted by the open-ended meeting.

32. The Task Force noted that many replying countries wished to establish either positive or negative lists of feed materials and feed additives at the international level. The open-ended meeting acknowledged the difficulties in maintaining updated lists, especially in the context of the limited duration of the Task Force.

33. The Task Force was informed of the results of the open-ended meeting (see CRD 1) that a "positive list" was a listing of all materials defined in a given category and that a "negative list" was a listing of materials, to be defined, which are prohibited for use in animal feedingstuffs. The Task Force agreed that

¹⁰ <http://www.fao.org/ag/aga/agap/frg/feedsafety/feedsafety.htm>

¹¹ Comments submitted in response to CL 2000/30-AF from Australia; Belgium; Czech Republic; Norway, Slovak Republic; Switzerland; USA; European Community; IUMS/ICFMH; COMISA (CX/AF 01/3); Japan (CRD 7) ; GAFTA, NMKL (CRD 2), and a list compiled from AOAC, ISO, European Communities legislation, US FDA sources (CRD 2)

¹² ALINORM 01/38, para. 56

¹³ Comments submitted in response to CL 2000/21-AF from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Republic of Korea, Namibia, Norway, Poland, Slovak Republic, South Africa, Switzerland, Uruguay, USA, EC (CX/AF 01/4) Colombia, Japan, Peru (CRD 5) Argentina, Thailand (CRD 9) and the Report of the Open-Ended Meeting (CRD 1).

¹⁴ ALINORM 01/38, para. 49.

this issue would be further examined by the Drafting Group considering the revision of the Code (see para. 67).

34. With regard to “undesirable substances”, the Task Force noted that the Codex definition¹⁵ of contaminants implied the fact that contaminants could be naturally occurring toxicants. The Task Force discussed, modified and agreed upon the definition proposed by the open-ended meeting for inclusion in the Definition Section of the Code of Practice for Good Animal Feeding (see paras. 50-51).

35. In view of the above discussion, the Task Force agreed to obtain additional information by Circular Letter on controls of permitted, prohibited and undesirable substances for compilation and consideration at its next Session.

36. The Task Force thanked the open-ended meeting for its work and valuable contributions to the meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED-DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE ON GOOD ANIMAL FEEDING (AGENDA ITEM 5)¹⁶

37. The first Session of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding agreed that the Danish and Codex Secretariats would develop a revised text of the proposed draft Code for circulation and comment at Step 3. It was further agreed that the revised text and the compiled comments would form the basis of discussion at its next Session.¹⁷

38. The Task Force based its discussion on the revised text contained in CL 2000/30-AF and the comments submitted. The Task Force discussed the revised text section by section, and agreed to the following changes:

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

39. In view of the Commission’s primary mandate related to the protection of the health of consumers, the Task Force clarified that the Code was aimed at minimizing risks to the health of consumers through the establishment of a feed safety system for food producing animals which covered the whole food chain. In view of this decision, the Committee agreed to change references to “human health” to “consumers’ health” throughout the text.

40. The Task Force also agreed that notwithstanding the fact that the Commission was not directly responsible for issues related to animal health and the environment, appropriate measures related to these issues were necessary in an feeding system in order to ensure consumers’ health and therefore, the text was modified accordingly. It was also clarified that the Code applied in addition to the Codex General Principles of Food Hygiene within the context of the special aspects of animal feeding.

SECTION 2 – PURPOSE AND SCOPE

41. The Task Force agreed to delete references to specific materials used in the production of feedingstuffs (animal, plant, marine) as these provisions were adequately covered within the definition of feed ingredients. The Task Force further clarified this Section to indicate that environmental contamination was considered in the context of animal feeding due to possible adverse affects to consumers’ health through the consumption of foods of animal origin. The Task Force also agreed to add an additional and final paragraph to the Section as suggested by Canada in CX/AF 01/5.

¹⁵ Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual, 11th edition, FAO/WHO, Rome, 2000.

¹⁶ Comments submitted in response to CL 2000/30-AF from Australia, Belgium; Brazil; Canada; Czech Republic; Egypt; New Zealand; Slovak Republic; Switzerland; USA; European Community; COCERAL; COMISA; GAFTA; IUMS (CX/AF 01/5 and CRD 6); Norway, European Community; COCERAL (CX/AF 01/5 Addendum 1 and CRD 6); Colombia; Consumers International; Iceland; Japan; ALA; Peru (CRD 4); COCERAL Code (CRD 3); proposed draft of section 7 (CRD 8); Terms of reference for a drafting group on section 6 (CX/AF 01/5 Addendum 2); IDF.

¹⁷ ALINORM 01/38, para. 70.

SECTION 3 – DEFINITIONS

Raw Materials and Feed Materials

42. In view of the potential misinterpretation of the term “materials”, and in consideration that definitions for terms within the Code should be limited to what was necessary, the Task Force deleted the terms and definitions for “raw materials” and “feed materials”. It was further decided that basic materials used in the production of feed would be covered in the definitions for “feed” and “feed ingredients”.

Feed (Feedingstuffs)

43. After a detailed discussion, the Task Force decided that “Feed (Feedingstuffs)” was “any single or multiple material whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended to be fed directly to food producing animals”.

Feed Ingredient

44. The Committee agreed to encompass, from several previous definitions, a new definition for “(Feed) Ingredient”. The definition was also clarified to indicate that feed ingredients might not always have nutritional value in the animals’ diet, for example, the use of feed additives such as binders. The Task Force also agreed to incorporate into the definition of feed ingredients that they are of plant, animal or aquatic origin and organic or inorganic substances.

45. As a result of these discussions, the Task Force agreed that “Feed Ingredients” were “A component part or constituent of any combination or mixture making up a feed whether or not it has nutritional value in the animal’s diet, including feed additives. Ingredients are of plant, animal or aquatic origin and organic or inorganic substances”.

46. The delegations of Germany, Greece and the Netherlands expressed their reservation to the revised definition for the term feed ingredient, as these delegations were of the opinion that the definition could allow for the adulteration of feedingstuffs with non-nutritive substances.

Feed Additive

47. The Task Force noted that the proposed definition for “feed additive” was generally based on the Codex definition for “food additive”, i.e., that it was intentionally added as an ingredient in feed, was not normally used as feed by itself, did not necessarily have nutritive value, and affected the characteristics of the feed. However, as the Task Force could not agree on the coverage of additives in the improvement of animal performance or production, the text related to this concept remained in square brackets, so that opposing views could be fully discussed at the next meeting.

48. The Task Force agreed that “feed additives” were defined as “Any intentionally added ingredient not normally consumed as feed by itself, whether or not it has nutritive value, which affects the characteristics of feed or animal products [or is intended to improve animal performance]”.

Medicated Feedingstuffs

49. In consideration of completed work undertaken by other Codex bodies, the Task Force agreed that “medicated feedingstuffs” should be defined as “Any feed which contains veterinary drugs as defined in the Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual”¹⁸.

Undesirable Substances

50. The Task Force discussed the merits of the square bracketed phrase “with the exception of pathogenic agents” in the definition for “undesirable substances” and, as it was agreed that pathogenic agents were in fact undesirable in feed and needed special attention, deleted the phrase in its entirety. The second set of bracketed text related to negative effects on livestock production was also removed.

¹⁸ Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual, 11th Edition, page 47.

51. The Task Force agreed that the term “undesirable substance” was defined as “contaminants and other substances which are present in and/or on the product intended for animal feeding and which constitute a risk to the health of the consumer, including food safety related animal health issues”.

Waste

52. The Task Force agreed to exclude the definition for “waste” at this point, with the understanding that the term of waste will be fully explained when used in the text.

SECTION 4 – GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND REQUIREMENTS

53. The Task Force clarified that feed ingredients should be “maintained”, as opposed to “preserved”, and inserted a sentence that “Where at all possible, HACCP Principles should be followed”. In view of the fact that the requirements for the production of feeds or feed ingredients by industry were different from requirements for on-farm producers and users of feedingstuffs, the Task Force agreed to consider this issue further at a future meeting (see para 65).

54. The Task Force also clarified that “There is a need for collaboration between all parties involved in feed production and in the production of food of animal origin, manufacturing and use of feed to establish the linkage between any identified or potential hazard and the level of risk”.

Section 4.1 – Raw Materials, Minerals, Vitamins and Feed Additives

55. In consideration of the comprehensive definition already established for “Feed Ingredients” (see paras 44-46), the Task Force changed the Title of the Section to “Feed Ingredients” and made subsequential changes to the first sentence of the text by deleting the reference to “Raw materials of animal, plant and/or marine origin”. The first sentence was also clarified to indicate that feed ingredients should be obtained from “safe”, as opposed to “reputable”, sources and “should meet defined standards”. The condition that “Manufacturers should provide instructions for correct use” was also added to the Section.

Section 4.2. – Labelling

56. The Task Force agreed to simplify and combine the paragraphs concerning general labelling requirements by indicating that “Labelling, or the accompanying documents, should contain information about the species or category of animals and the purpose for which the feed is intended; a full list of ingredients, including additives; trade name, the name and address of the producer or intermediates; registration number if available; nutrition profile, direction and precautions for use; lot identification, manufacturing date and use before or expiry date”.

57. In view of discussions underway in the Codex Committee on Food Labelling related to the labelling of foods obtained through biotechnology and related ongoing work in the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Task Force on Biotechnology, the Task Force decided to place the modified sentence that “Genetically modified organisms and derived products should be labelled” in square brackets so that the issue might be revisited at its next meeting.

Section 4.3 – Traceability and Record Keeping

58. The Committee noted ongoing work in the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) and other Codex committees related to traceability, including the fact that the Codex Alimentarius Commission was scheduled to discuss the issue with a view towards providing guidance on the matter and therefore, the Task Force decided to discuss this Section further at its next Session.

59. However, the Committee modified the first sentence of the Section to read that “Traceability of feed and feed ingredients, including additives, should be ensured by proper labelling and record keeping at all stages of production and distribution”. The Task Force also agreed to further define the more important records to maintain by adding a sentence to indicate that “The key records to be kept are daily production logs, inventory records, labels and invoices”, with the understanding that daily production logs and other key records will be further discussed by the Drafting Group (see para. 67).

60. In view of texts adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission concerning “Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Control Emergency Situations” and “Guidelines for the Exchange of Information Between Countries on Rejections of Imported Food”, the Task Force agreed that a possible separate and new Section related to Special Conditions Applicable to Emergency Situations would be developed for consideration at its next meeting. As a consequence of this decision, the second paragraph of Section 4.3 was deleted.

Section 4.5.4 – Undesirable Substances

61. As recommended by the open-ended meeting (see para. 30-36), the Task Force invited a small drafting group of countries to set up a list of groups of chemicals and contaminants that would be considered as undesirable substances in animal feedingstuffs and to identify future work to be undertaken by the Task Force or other Codex Committees in this area. The findings of the drafting group (see CRD 10), chaired by Canada and including Austria, Australia (rapporteur), Namibia, Peru and Thailand, were reported to the Task Force.

62. The Committee noted the suggestion of the Codex Secretariat that broad categories of undesirable substances might be categorized by groupings used by other Codex committees such as “Industrial and Environmental Contaminants”, “Mycotoxins”, “Pesticides” and “Pathogenic Agents”. Other delegations suggested the addition of other broad categories related to “Plant Toxicants”, “Persistent Organic Pollutants” and “Radioactive Materials”. The Codex Secretariat informed the Task Force that due to resource and other constraints, it was normal procedure for other Codex committees to prioritize their work for consideration by expert groups such as the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) on the basis of specific substances. In this regard, it was noted that the responsibility for identifying undesirable substances in feedingstuffs that were a threat to the health of consumers rested with the Task Force.

63. The Delegate of the United Kingdom also informed the Task Force on discussions in the open-ended meeting concerning the extent to which the Task Force should address issues such as animal health or the environment. He emphasized the importance of taking into account not only contaminants in feeds that carry over to the food but also those that could adversely affect the health status of animals and subsequently, the quality of the food.

64. On the basis of the drafting group report, the Codex Secretariat agreed to provide the Task Force with information on ongoing and completed work in other Codex Committees concerning the establishment of maximum levels and residue limits by these Committees for feedingstuffs and foods in other Codex committees (also see Agenda Item 2, paras. 4-15). The Task Force agreed that this information would assist their endeavours in prioritizing work towards the establishment of limits for such substances in feedingstuffs if necessary. The Task Force noted that governments had the opportunity to discuss and prioritize substances for consideration by other Codex Committees through established Codex procedures and that individual countries were encouraged to perform their own risk assessments in this regard.

SECTION 6 – ON-FARM PRODUCTION AND USE OF FEEDINGSTUFFS

65. In view of the importance in differentiating between industrial and on-farm production, sale and use of feed ingredients and feeds, the Committee agreed that a drafting group¹⁹ led by Australia and assisted by Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, the Netherlands, Sudan, Thailand, Uganda, the Asociación

¹⁹ Terms of references for a Drafting group for on farm production, sale and use of feedingstuffs:

Manufacturing of feed at farm level:

The Code for farm produced feed should follow the same principles as for industrial produced feed, including possible provisions for HACCP.

Good Animal Feeding Practice:

The Code should include standards for good feeding practice by farmers to secure proper use of feedingstuffs.

Good Agricultural Practice

Raw material and forage crops should meet Good Agricultural Practice. Records should be available on use of seed, fertilizer, pesticides, pest control storage etc. The code should also cover the proper use of feed-blocks, salt licking blocks, mineral and vitamin supplements and to the use of other supplements

Latinoamericana de Avicultura (ALA), Consumers International (CI), the Confédération mondiale de l'industrie de la santé animale (COMISA), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and the International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) would fully develop this Section of the Code for circulation, comment and further consideration at the next Session of the Task Force.

SECTION 7 – METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

66. The Committee noted that information provided by the Codex Secretariat in CRD 8¹⁶ would be useful to the Drafting Group on the Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding (see para. 67) in developing Section 7 of the Code.

Status of the Proposed Draft Revised Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding

67. The Task Force agreed to a revised version of the major parts of the Code as discussed above. Furthermore, the Task Force agreed that a drafting group led by the United Kingdom, and assisted by Australia, Chile, Germany, Japan, the United States of America, Consumers International (CI), the Confédération mondiale de l'industrie de la santé animale (COMISA) and the International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) would prepare a redraft of the Code (with the exception of Section 6) based on the above discussions and agreements and written comments submitted at the current meeting for circulation, further comment and consideration at the next Session of the Task Force.

OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE WORK (AGENDA ITEM 6)

68. There was no other business or further work identified.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION (AGENDA ITEM 7)

69. The Task Force was informed that its next Session was tentatively scheduled to be held in Copenhagen, from 18-20 March 2002 subject to confirmation.

ANNEX I

SUMMARY STATUS OF WORK

Subject	Step	Action by	Reference in ALINORM 01/38A
<p><i>Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding; (except Section 6 – <i>On-farm Production and Use of Feedingstuffs</i>) • Section 6 of the Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding – <i>On-farm Production and Use of Feedingstuffs</i> 	2/3	<p><u>Drafting Groups led by :</u></p> <p>United Kingdom Comments 3rd TFAF</p> <p>Australia Comments 3rd TFAF</p>	<p>Para. 67</p> <p>Para. 65</p>
Request for additional information on controls of permitted, prohibited and undesirable substances		<p>Comments</p> <p>3rd TFAF</p>	Para. 35

APPENDIX I

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