



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS  
Twenty-first Session**

***Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States of America, 26 – 30 August 2013***

**MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO/WHO AND FROM THE JOINT FAO/WHO EXPERT COMMITTEE ON  
FOOD ADDITIVES (JECFA)**

1. This document provides information on FAO and WHO activities in the area of provision of scientific advice to Codex and Member countries, as well as other activities which are of potential interest for CCRVDF.

**I. Provision of Scientific Advice from FAO and WHO**

**1. *The 78<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)***

2. The 78<sup>th</sup> meeting of JECFA will be held 5-14 November 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland and the call for data has been published in January 2013. The meeting will evaluate the safety of residues of eight veterinary drugs in foods of which four are substances to be newly evaluated (emamectin benzoate, gentian violet, lasalocid and zilpaterol hydrochloride) and four are to be re-evaluated (apramycin, derquantel, monepantel and bovine somatotropin). No data were submitted by the sponsors for apramycin, emamectin or phenylpyrazole..

3. JECFA at its 78<sup>th</sup> meeting will also implement a pilot test for validation and evaluation of impact of the new proposed approaches for dietary exposure assessment for veterinary drug residues in food.

4. As requested by the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee, JECFA will discuss the extrapolation of MRLs of veterinary drugs to additional species and tissues, including responding to nine questions from the Committee. Comments will also be provided on the draft Risk Assessment Policy for the Establishment of MRLs or other Limits for Honey.

**2. *Global Initiative for Food-Related Scientific Advice (GIFSA)***

5. GIFSA is a mechanism established by FAO and WHO to facilitate the provision of extra budgetary resources for scientific advice activities. Resources provided through GIFSA are allocated to activities in an independent and transparent manner, taking into consideration the criteria for prioritization of activities already agreed by Codex, FAO and WHO and the specific needs of FAO and WHO member countries. Contributions, which are accepted from governments, organizations and foundations in accordance with WHO and FAO rules continue to be received. FAO and WHO would like to express their appreciation to all donors for their contributions.

6. For additional information and advice on the procedure for making a donation/contribution please contact Ms Dominique Di Biase, Policy Assistance and Resources Mobilization Division ([Dominique.DiBiase@fao.org](mailto:Dominique.DiBiase@fao.org); Tel: + 39 06 57055391) at FAO and Angelika Tritscher ([tritschera@who.int](mailto:tritschera@who.int)) at WHO.

**II. Other related initiatives underway in FAO and WHO**

**1. *FAO and WHO activities on antimicrobial resistance (AMR)***

7. The fourth meeting of WHO-AGISAR was held in Aix-en-Provence, France on 24-25 June 2012. During the fourth meeting, WHO-AGISAR has finalized WHO-Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR) guidance documents on integrated surveillance of Antimicrobial resistance to be published at: [http://www.who.int/foodborne\\_disease/resistance/agisar/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/foodborne_disease/resistance/agisar/en/index.html).

8. The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (WHO-AGISAR ) will be held 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2013 in Bogota, Colombia, The objective of the meeting will be to review progress on WHO activities on AMR containment and to develop a new edition of the WHO list of Critically Important Antimicrobials for Human Medicine.

[http://www.who.int/foodborne\\_disease/resistance/cia/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/foodborne_disease/resistance/cia/en/index.html)

9. WHO-AGISAR pilot projects on integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance are conducted in Latin America,(Colombia, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Panama) in Africa (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Senegal) and in Asia (Cambodia, Vietnam, India) and in Europe (Kosovo).

10. FAO and WHO continue to work on a series of activities aimed both at providing scientific advice and developing adequate capacities among the veterinary and food safety community to address the issues related to non-human antimicrobial use at different steps of the food-chain, the emergence of resistant pathogens and associated human public health concerns.

11. The third technical ad hoc meeting of FAO, OIE and WHO Contact points on collaborative activities related to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) was held on 22 - 23 August 2012 at FAO Headquarters in Rome as a follow up to the second meeting that was held on 5 August 2011 at the WHO Headquarters in Geneva. AMR focal points from the three organizations are exploring how to work together more closely on capacity building activities. FAO, OIE and WHO are making efforts to participate in each other's activities as a first step with an option to improve joint activities on laboratory, epidemiology and AMR capacity building in countries.

12. WHO convened, with the participation of FAO the 'Technical Consultation on Strategies for global surveillance of antimicrobial resistance (AMR)' on 18 - 19 December 2012, and work continues on the elaboration of a strategy.

13. FAO and WHO are committed to work with key international partners, member governments, and food chain operators to combat AMR. Given the relative ease with which AMR can spread within countries and from one country to another in an increasingly globalized world, there is clearly a need for proactive actions to assist developing countries in strengthening systems to address AMR risks.

## **2. Risk Management tool for the control of Campylobacter and Salmonella in chicken meat**

14. Following the request of the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCFH, FAO and WHO launched in 2012 a web-based risk management tool to support risk based approaches for the control of specific pathogens in chicken meat, and the Spanish version is available at: <http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/food-safety-quality/publications-tools/en/>. In response to country requests, materials are being developed to support training on the application of the tool, the data requirements and interpretation of the outputs to better facilitate its use at national level.

## **3. FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Parasites**

15. In response to a request from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the CCFH (December 2010) to identify parasite/commodity groups of greatest concern from a food hygiene perspective, FAO and WHO convened an expert meeting on 3-7 September 2012 to develop ranking of foodborne parasites. During the meeting, an initial list of 95 potential foodborne parasites was developed based on relevant data and 24 parasites were identified for ranking through a stepwise documented process. The experts further identified specific vehicles of transmission for each of 24 parasites and ranked these combinations using a multicriteria-based approach. The preliminary report is available online.

## **4. The Global Environment Monitoring System/Food programme (GEMS/Food)**

16. The GEMS/Food cluster diets are based on FAO food supply data and correspond to average per capita consumption. The WHO commissioned an update of the clustering based on a more accurate statistical technique as well as on the latest available FAO data (from 2002 to 2007). The new analysis has resulted in 17 cluster diets which are available on the WHO website to be used when appropriate for dietary exposure assessment. <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/chem/gems/en/index1.html>

## **5. FAO/WHO work on risk assessment methodology**

17. FAO and WHO held a Workshop on the Safety Assessment of Pesticide Residues in Beijing, P.R. China, on 5 May 2013 and provided an overview on how risk assessment of pesticides is performed by the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) to estimate Maximum Residue Levels with a view to their establishment as Maximum Residue Limits by CCPR within the framework of the Risk Analysis Principles applied by CCPR; in particular the establishment of the Codex Schedules and Priority Lists of

Pesticides for the evaluation and re-evaluation of new / existing chemicals by JMPR leading to the revision, retention or withdrawal of Codex MRLs/Pesticides. The Workshop was aimed at informing Codex members about the procedures in place for the safety assessment of pesticides and the establishment of Codex MRLs/Pesticides, shortcomings and concerns in view of the ongoing discussion on the revision of the Risk Analysis Principles applied by CCPR.

#### **6. *The WHO Global Foodborne Infections Network (GFN)***

18. WHO provided international and national training courses on the surveillance and detection of foodborne and other infectious enteric diseases through the Global Foodborne Infections Network (GFN). GFN has been conducting variety of training activities all over the world, including Salmonella surveillance project in China and training on AMR planned to be held in November in Korea.

19. GFN is working towards a new approach of needs-based assessment to focus capacity development activities through training, mentoring and targeted communications. Post-training implementation projects, ranging from integrated surveillance activities to national burden of illness studies, are currently ongoing. Integrated laboratory-based surveillance is promoted and intersectoral collaboration between human health, veterinary and food-related disciplines is fostered around the world. Currently FAO and WHO are working to increase collaboration between both organizations through GFN by identifying common goals and means to achieve them in a complementary way. For more information, please visit: [www.who.int/gfn](http://www.who.int/gfn).

#### **7. *FOSCOLLAB – Global Platform for Food Safety Data and Information***

20. WHO launched in February 2013 FOSCOLLAB - a new data and information platform to guide risk assessment and decision-making in food safety. By integrating multiple sources of reliable data, FOSCOLLAB allows rapid access to food safety information, by integrating data and information from animal/agriculture, food and human health areas. FOSCOLLAB thereby helps to overcome the challenges of accessing key sources in a timely manner and allows for better risk assessment and decision-making by food safety professionals and authorities. <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/foscollab/en/index.html>