

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 5

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

AD HOC CODEX INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Eighth Session

Virtual

Revision of the Code of practice to minimize and contain foodborne AMR

Prepared by the by Chair and co-chairs of the EWG (United States of America , Chile, China, Kenya and the United Kingdom) based on the comments received in reply to CL 2021/65-AMR

Recognizing that the current text of the Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (COP) contains many important advancements in AMR risk management that have been agreed by extensive discussion, careful drafting, and compromise, a single issue (therapeutic use) remains for discussion as reflected in the bracketed text.

The EWG Co-Chairs take the opportunity to kindly remind the Task Force that this issue has been discussed extensively in several rounds of the EWG and the recent virtual meeting in June 2021. Delegates may find that reviewing the relevant reports can avoid repeating points already discussed. The current version of the Principle 13 appears to have the greatest amount of consensus in TFAMR07 and throughout the EWG. Further revision should be aimed at modifications that gain additional consensus.

Considering the different proposals offered and comments at Step 6, the EWG Co-Chairs have identified four options for further consideration by the Task Force.

The EWG Co-Chairs suggest discussing Principle 13 prior to discussing the definition for therapeutic use and considering revision to the bracketed text in Para 54.

Section 4. General Principles, Principle 13

Option A: Retain Principle 13 as written

- [Medically important antimicrobial agents should only be used for therapeutic purposes (treatment, control/metaphylaxis or prevention/prophylaxis of disease).]

Option B: Combine Principles 8 & 13

- [Medically important antimicrobial agents should only be used for therapeutic purposes (treatment, control/metaphylaxis or prevention/prophylaxis of disease) and be prescribed, administered, or applied only by, or under the direction of, veterinarians, plant/crop health professionals, or other suitably trained persons authorized in accordance with national legislation.]

Option C: Revise Principle 13

- [Medically important antimicrobial agents should only be used for ~~therapeutic purposes (treatment, control/metaphylaxis~~ disease treatment or control/metaphylaxis and/or prevention/prophylaxis ~~of disease purposes and only under the conditions laid down in principles 7-10, and 14 and 15).~~]

Option D: Revise Principle 13

- [Medically important antimicrobial agents should only be used for veterinary medical/phytosanitary use ~~therapeutic purposes~~ (treatment, control/metaphylaxis or prevention/prophylaxis of disease).]