

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 10 (a)

CX/PR 03/13  
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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

Thirty-fifth Session

Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 31 March - 5 April 2003

### CRITERIA FOR PRIORITIZATION PROCESS<sup>1</sup>

*Prepared by Australia and the Codex Secretariat*

#### BACKGROUND

While considering the Establishment of Codex Priority List of Pesticides, the Committee agreed that the criteria for prioritisation process should be developed further and ultimately published in the *Procedural Manual*. The Delegation of Australia agreed to work with the Codex Secretariat to develop an appropriate text for consideration by the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Priorities and the next session of the Committee (ALINORM 03/24, para.170).

#### PROCEDURE FOR PROPOSING PESTICIDES FOR CODEX PRIORITY LISTS

Member countries are required to nominate chemicals for the Priority List using the following procedure:

##### 1. CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION OF COMPOUNDS ON THE PRIORITY LIST

Before a pesticide can be considered for the Priority List it:

- (a) must be available for use as a commercial product; and
- (b) must not have been already accepted for consideration.

To meet the criteria for inclusion in the priority list the use of the pesticide must: give rise to residues in or on a food or feed commodity moving in international trade, the presence of which is (or may be) a matter of public health concern and thus create (or have the potential to create) problems in international trade.

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<sup>1</sup> Criteria considered by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Priorities when establishing a Priority List of Pesticides for Evaluation or Re-evaluation by JMPR

## **2. CRITERIA FOR SELECTING FOOD COMMODITIES FOR WHICH CODEX MRLS OR EMRLS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED**

The commodity for which the establishment of a Codex MRL or EMRL is sought should:

- (a) form a component in international trade;
- (b) represent a significant proportion of the diet; and
- (c) contain pesticide residues as evidenced in monitoring programmes.

## **3. PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED FOR COMMODITY/PESTICIDE COMBINATIONS WHICH MEET THE SELECTION CRITERIA**

Governments are recommended to:

- (a) check if the pesticide is already in the Codex system.

**NOTE:** Pesticide/commodity combinations which are already included in the Codex system or under consideration are found in a working document prepared for and used as a basis of discussion at each Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues. Consult the document of the latest session to see whether or not a given pesticide has already been considered.

If "YES", - proceed to section (b) below,

If "NO", - proceed as follows:

Prepare a proposal for evaluation by completing section on Pesticide Information for CCPR below.

### **IN THIS PROCESS:**

- (i) consult with the manufacturer(s) about the existence of sufficient toxicological and residue data and confirm that the manufacturer(s) would be willing to submit data to the JMPR, and in what year, and;
  - (ii) submit the information to the Committee with a copy to the Secretary, Codex Alimentarius Commission using the form of Section "Pesticide Information for CCPR".
- (b) where the pesticide has already been evaluated by the JMPR and MRLs, EMRLs or GLs have been established two situations may arise:
- (i) interest exists in proposing MRLs for a new commodity. Consult the working document prepared for and used as a basis of discussion at each Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues to be sure that MRLs have not already been established or considered for the commodity/pesticide combination. Where interest exists in developing data for a new commodity, Governments are urged to discuss with Industry the possibility of collaborative programmes, e.g., manufacturers may be willing to analyze samples from supervised residue trials conducted in accordance with FAO Guidelines on Pesticide Residue Trials to Provide Data for the Registration of Pesticides and for the Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits. Proposals for new commodity/pesticide combinations and new residue data may be submitted directly to the FAO Joint Secretary of the JMPR.
  - (ii) in those cases where additional toxicological data has become available, Governments may wish to propose a pesticide for re-evaluation and to do so according to Section Pesticide Information for CCPR below. Where a serious public health concern exists in relation to a particular pesticide, Governments should notify the WHO Joint Secretary of the JMPR promptly and provide appropriate data.

For new chemicals the information to satisfy the criterion of whether the proposed new chemical is a “safer” or “reduced risk” chemical should be provided using Item 6 “Justification for Use” of Section on Pesticide Information for CCPR below.

The nominating country is required to provide:

- the names of the chemical(s) the proposed chemical is likely to replace;
- a summary of acute and chronic dietary exposure calculations encompassing the range of diets considered by CCPR; and
- other relevant information to support the proposed new chemical as a replacement chemical.

## **CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION OF NEW CHEMICALS**

When prioritising new chemicals for evaluation by the JMPR, the Committee will consider the following criteria:

1. If the chemical has a reduced acute and/or chronic toxicity risk to humans compared with other chemicals in its classification (insecticide, fungicide, herbicide),
2. The date nominated,
3. The date that data will be submitted, and
4. Allocating new chemicals to be evaluated on a 50:50 basis with periodic re-evaluation chemicals to be evaluated.

## **PRIORITISING CHEMICALS FOR PERIODIC RE-EVALUATION**

When prioritising chemicals for periodic re-evaluation by the JMPR: the Committee will consider the following criteria:

1. Chemicals that have not been reviewed toxicologically for more than 15 years and/or not having a significant review of maximum residue limits for 15 years [The 15 years instead of 10 years is new suggestion from the Chair JMPR].
2. The year the chemical is listed in the list for Candidate Chemicals for Periodic Re-evaluation –Not Yet Scheduled.
3. The date that data will be submitted.
4. If the intake and/or toxicity profile indicate a high level of public health concern.
5. Whether the CCPR has been advised by a national government that the chemical has been responsible for trade disruption.
6. If there is a closely related chemical that is a candidate for periodic re-evaluation that can be evaluated concurrently
7. Allocating periodic re-evaluation chemicals to be evaluated on a 50:50 basis with new chemicals to be evaluated.

When prioritising proposed residue evaluations by the JMPR for food commodities, the Working Group on Priorities will consider the following criteria:

1. The date the request was received;
2. The date the data can be submitted; and
3. Whether the data is submitted under the 4-year rule for evaluations of extra data.

**PESTICIDE INFORMATION FOR CCPR**

for evaluation \_\_\_\_\_

for reevaluation \_\_\_\_\_

1. NAME:
2. STRUCTURAL FORMULA:
3. CHEMICAL NAME:
4. TRADE NAME:
5. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF BASIC PRODUCERS:
6. JUSTIFICATION FOR USE:
7. USES:            MAJOR  
                         MINOR
8. COMMODITIES MOVING IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND LEVELS OF RESIDUES:
9. COUNTRIES WHERE PESTICIDE IS REGISTERED<sup>2</sup>:
10. NATIONAL MAXIMUM RESIDUE LIMITS:
11. COMMODITIES FOR WHICH THE NEED FOR ESTABLISHING CODEX MRLS IS RECOGNIZED:
12. MAJOR INTERNATIONAL USE PATTERN:
13. LIST OF DATA (TOXICOLOGY, METABOLISM, RESIDUE) AVAILABLE:
14. DATE DATA COULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE JMPR:
15. PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION SUBMITTED BY (COUNTRY):

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<sup>2</sup> Countries should provide detailed information on the registration status at the time of proposing a compound for inclusion in priority lists and again when the compound is scheduled for JMPR review.