



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS

27th Session
21-25 October 2024

Omaha, Nebraska, United States of America

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Specific matters

Maximum residue limits adopted at Steps 8 and 5/8¹

1. CAC46 (2023) adopted the following MRLs/texts:
 - MRLs for zilpaterol hydrochloride in cattle liver, kidney, and muscle at Step 8;
 - MRLs for ivermectin (sheep, pigs, and goats – fat, kidney, liver, and muscle) at Step 5/8;
 - MRLs for nicarbazin (chicken) at Step 5/8; and
 - MRLs extrapolated to ruminants and finfish at Step 5/8, i.e.:

All other ruminants

- Amoxicillin (muscle, fat, liver, kidney, milk)
- Benzylpenicillin (muscle, liver, kidney, milk)
- Tetracyclines (muscle, liver, kidney, milk)
- Cyhalothrin (muscle, fat, liver, kidney, milk)
- Cypermethrin (muscle, fat, liver, kidney)
- Deltamethrin (muscle, fat, liver, kidney)
- Moxidectin (muscle, fat, liver, kidney)
- Spectinomycin (muscle, fat, liver, kidney, milk)
- Levamisole (muscle, fat, liver, kidney)
- Tilmicosin (muscle, fat, liver, kidney)

All other finfish

- Deltamethrin (muscle)
- Flumequine (muscle)

Approval of new work for the elaboration of new standards and related texts²

2. CAC46 approved the priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) as listed in REP23/RVDF26, Appendix IV (Parts I and V).

Revocation of maximum residue limits³

3. CAC46 revoked the MRLs for nicarbazin (chicken) in view of the adoption of the new MRLs.

Discontinuation of work⁴

4. CAC46 discontinued work on the previous MRLs for ivermectin (sheep, pigs, and goats – fat, kidney, liver, and muscle) in view of adopting the new MRLs.

¹ REP23/CAC, para 36 & App II

² REP23/CAC, para 44 & App V

³ REP23/CAC, para 45 & App IV

⁴ REP23/CAC, para 46 & App VI

Other issues⁵Application of the extrapolation procedure by CCRVDF

5. CAC46 acknowledged CCRVDF's successful application of the extrapolation procedure, which, while beneficial to all members, is particularly beneficial to low—and middle-income countries (LMICs).

General mattersApplication of the Statements of Principle Concerning the Role of Science in the Codex Decision-Making Process and the extent to which other factors are taken into account (SoP)⁶

6. CAC46 reiterated that the draft guidance remained serviceable and available as practical guidance for Chairpersons of Codex Commission and its subsidiary bodies and Members when there is agreement on science but differing views on other factors/considerations. CAC46 also agreed on the need to gain more experience applying the draft guidance and revisit the draft guidance in light of the experience gained.

Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031⁷

7. CCEXEC85 (2023) discussed the first draft of the elements to be included in the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 and agreed to send a Circular Letter (CL) to Codex Members and Observers requesting comments on the first draft of the vision; mission; core values; drivers for change; the role of Codex; and a high-level description on Codex ways of working of the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031. CCEXEC85 further agreed that the Codex Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons hold informal consultations with Members and Observers to encourage interaction, discussion, and reflection and to support Members and Observers in responding to the CL.
8. CAC46 endorsed the conclusions of CCEXEC85 regarding matters pertaining to the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031.
9. CCEXEC86 (2024) agreed:

- i) on the following three strategic goals and one functional goal:

Strategic goals

- Respond to Members' needs for protecting the health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade in an evolving global environment by developing science-based standards;
- Strengthen relationships with relevant international organisations, promoting an integrated approach to address global challenges; and
- Maximize the impact of Codex by increasing the visibility and use of standards.

Functional goal

- Enhance work management systems and practices that support the efficient and effective achievement of all strategic plan goals.

- ii) to request the Codex Secretariat to issue a Circular Letter in September 2024 requesting comments on the agreed draft strategic goals and outcomes from all Codex Members and Observers.

New food sources and production systems (NFPS)⁸

10. CAC46 highlighted the importance of addressing the challenges posed by NFPS and Codex's important role in this. It was noted that the current working mechanisms were adequate to address any new work on NFPS that members may propose. It encouraged Members to submit discussion papers or new work proposals to active Codex committees or the Executive Committee through the Codex Secretariat.

⁵ REP23/CAC, para 47

⁶ REP23/CAC, para 194 (ii, vi, vii)

⁷ REP23/EXEC2, paras 40-47, 54 (i(a), ii);
REP23/CAC, para 16;

REP24/EXEC1, para 79 (i,iv)

⁸ REP23/CAC, para 206 (i, ii, iii)

*Future of Codex*⁹

11. CCEXEC85 agreed that rather than develop a blueprint for the future of Codex, it was more appropriate to use the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031 to guide the future direction of Codex and to consider, in parallel, a working model for future Codex work; and that the document describing the key elements of a model for future Codex work (CX/EXEC 23/85/3, Appendix II) remained a living document that should be periodically reviewed in light of experiences and learnings.
12. CAC46 endorsed the conclusions of CCEXEC85 regarding matters pertaining to the blueprint for the future of Codex.
13. CCEXEC86 retained CX/EXEC 24/86/3 as a reference document on a model for future Codex work. It noted that periodic updates on the evolution of working mechanisms and identification of any challenges encountered that may require further consideration by CCEXEC, CAC, or the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP) should be provided through a working document prepared by the Codex Secretariat.
14. CCEXEC86 encouraged more Members to take leadership roles in committee working groups to ensure their sustainability and inclusiveness while recognizing the challenges these Members may face. The Codex Secretariat and experienced working group chairs were encouraged to engage other Members to provide guidance and support proactively. Codex committees were reminded of the importance of good work management and prioritization to avoid the establishment of too many Electronic Working Groups (EWGs) and the related burden on all concerned and ensure that agenda items can be adequately discussed within the available plenary session time.
15. CCEXEC86 noted that the meeting schedule for 2026 and onwards would need to be adjusted accordingly, as CAC would be convened in July from 2026 onwards.

⁹ REP23/EXEC2, para 38;
REP23/CAC, para 16;
REP24/EXEC1, paras 61 (i, iii, iv, v), 62 (vi)

MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)***Revision of the General Guidelines on Sampling (CXG 50-2004)*¹⁰

16. CCMAS42 (2023) agreed to inform relevant Codex committees of the revised *General Guidelines on Sampling (CXG 50-2004)* and request these committees to review their sampling plans in light of the revised Guidelines and to remind Committees that sampling plans should be developed as needed in compliance with the *General Guidelines on Sampling* and not by a reference to CXG 50.
17. CAC46 adopted the revised *General Guidelines on Sampling (CXG 50-2004)* at Step 8.¹¹

Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP)*Codex Procedural Manual (PM): Proposed Update to the Guide to the Procedure for the Amendment and Revision of Codex Standards and Related Texts*¹²

18. CCGP33 (2023) agreed to inform other Codex committees of the ongoing work to update Section 2, Procedures for the elaboration of Codex standards and related texts, Part 7 of the PM to better align with current practices in Codex and international publishing standards.

Codex Committee on Food Inspection and Export Certification Systems (CCFICS)¹³*Principles for Traceability/Product tracing as a tool within a food inspection and certification system (CXG 60-2006)*

19. CCFICS26 (2023) agreed to inform other Codex committees about the proposed review and update of the *Principles for Traceability/Product Tracing as a tool within a food inspection and certification system (CXG 60-2006)*.

Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF)**Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)**

20. FAO organized a webinar on environmental inhibitors on 9 May 2024 from 14.30 to 15.30 CET. Other events related to this matter relevant to Codex and CCRVDF will be available on the CCRVDF27 webpage.¹⁴ Please check Agenda Item 3 for further information on this subject.

*Environmental inhibitors*¹⁵

21. CCCF17 (2024) noted that FAO published a report, "Food safety implications from the use of environmental inhibitors in agrifood", which provided an in-depth analysis of the food safety implications of using environmental inhibitors in agrifood systems. While environmental inhibitors could minimize the harmful effects of agrifood systems on the environment, an inadvertent presence of its residues in food commodities could raise health concerns and disrupt trade if standards or appropriate measures were not established. Also, the possible food safety issues associated with these substances could be challenging to assess and manage due to the lack of internationally harmonized regulatory approaches, an agreed definition for environmental inhibitors, and insufficient food safety information for some compounds.
22. CCPR55 (2024) also noted that FAO published the above-mentioned report, which provided an in-depth analysis of the food safety implications of using environmental inhibitors in agrifood systems.¹⁶ A side event on this topic was also organized in conjunction with this Session. Information on the side event can be found on the CCPR55 website.

¹⁰ REP23/MAS42, para 81

¹¹ REP23/CAC46, para 92

¹² REP23/GP33, para 69

¹³ REP23/FICS26, para 117 (a-c)

¹⁴ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDF&session=27>

¹⁵ REP24/CF17, para 14

¹⁶ REP24/PR55, para 11;

<https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=55>

Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues
Coordination of work between CCPR and CCRVDF

Joint CCPR/CCRVDF Working Group¹⁷

23. CCRVDF26 (2023) and CCPR54 (2023) requested JECFA and JMPR to continue working towards harmonizing their risk assessment methodologies, including ways to establish single, harmonized acceptable daily intake values and MRLs for dual-use compounds. This might include exploring the feasibility of (i) a joint evaluation of dual-use compounds, (ii) a Joint JMPR/JECFA EWG, and (iii) data sharing between the two expert committees (i.e. JECFA/JMPR asking sponsors to consent to data sharing upon submission of the data packages), with the understanding of the limitations for the JECFA Secretariat to negotiate data sharing.
24. CCRVDF26 and CCPR54 continued to support the Joint EWG to identify and prioritize issues affecting both committees, recommend ways to address the issues, and inform CAC accordingly. The Joint EWG was additionally tasked to:
- develop, with member countries providing information, a list of compounds with dual use as a pesticide and veterinary drug for which no or only one Codex MRL has been established;
 - identify dual-use compounds that have different Codex MRLs for a similar edible commodity of animal origin and recommend, on a case-by-case basis, a single, harmonized MRL(s) for the compound(s) and affected commodity(ies); and
 - consider, regarding work on harmonizing edible offal, the matter related to harmonized food descriptors to be used by JECFA/JMPR.
25. CAC46:
- noted the progress of work of the Joint CCPR/CCRVDF Electronic Working Group (EWG) on dual-use compounds;
 - commended the continuing excellent collaboration between CCPR and CCRVDF as stated by CCEXEC85¹⁸; and
 - endorsed the revised terms of reference for the Joint EWG, including adding Brazil and New Zealand as co-chairs of the Joint EWG.
26. CCPR55 (2024) indicated their continued support for the work of the Joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG and endorsed scheduling a joint virtual meeting of the EWG. CCPR and CCRVDF delegations were encouraged to coordinate positions and actively participate in the work of the Joint EWG, including the upcoming virtual meeting.

FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committee for the Near East (CCNE)¹⁹

Data on veterinary drugs used in camelids

27. CCNE11 (2023) invited Members to provide data on veterinary drugs used in camelids to the EWG on the extrapolation of maximum residue limits of veterinary drugs to one or more species to facilitate work on developing relevant MRLs.

¹⁷ REP23/RVDF26, paras 123 (i, ii, iii), 124 (v, vi), 130 (i, ii);
 REP23/CAC46, para 106 (i, ii, iii);
 REP23/PR54, paras 216, 217 (i, ii), 218;
 REP24/PR55, para 280 (i, ii, iv)

¹⁸ REP23/EXEC85, para 23

¹⁹ REP23/NE11, para 71 (v)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENDORSEMENT BY CCRVDF

28. CCRVDF is invited to:
- (i) note the matters for the information referred by CAC, CCEXEC, and other Codex subsidiary bodies;
 - (ii) encourage Codex Members to:
 - a. actively engage in opportunities to contribute to the discussions in CCEXEC and CAC (e.g. sharing experience on the application of the draft guidance on SoP and providing inputs on the development of Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031);
 - b. submit discussion papers or new work proposals on NFPS relevant to veterinary drugs using existing mechanisms available in CCRVDF;
 - c. consider taking leadership roles in committee working groups and, for more experienced working group chairs, proactively engage other Members to provide guidance and support;
 - d. liaise with their CCPR counterparts to coordinate positions and actively participate in the work and upcoming virtual meeting of the Joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG;
 - (iii) consider the invitation of CCNE11 to provide data under the relevant agenda item; and
 - (iv) note that the matters of coordination of work between CCPR and CCRVDF will be considered under Agenda Item 9.