Introduction

During the 22nd Period of Sessions of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC22), the debate documents for regional positions were presented under Agenda 6 Codex Labor pertinent for the Region. Among them, the status of draft standards, amendments and new work proposals.

The debate was carried out in accordance with the Procedure for Adopting Regional Positions in the Coordinating Committees, established at the 36th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. In accordance with the Procedural Manual (Section I, Basic Texts and Definitions, Rules of Procedure of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Article IV Coordinators, paragraph 3 c) and the mandates of the Codex Coordinating Committees (Section V, Structure and sessions, Terms of Reference of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees, paragraph g)). This procedure is applied to support issues related to the region since this allows for a greater understanding of the issues and strengthens the active participation of the members with respect to them.

Likewise, there is a procedure agreed upon at the 18th Meeting of the CCLAC to guide the Member Countries regarding regional positions on issues relevant to the region.

It is worth mentioning that taking into consideration the conclusions of the 22nd Period of Sessions of the CCLAC, the positions adopted are presented below, according to their respective committee:

**Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods – (CCCF)**

*Approval of Maximum Levels of cadmium in cocoa powder (100% of total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis): at CCCF15 it was agreed to advance the ML of 2.0 mg/kg to Step 5/8 for adoption by CAC45*

CCLAC22 supported the adoption of the regional position, as agreed at CCCF15, to advance the ML of 2.0 mg/kg cadmium for cocoa powder from 100% total cocoa solids to Step 5/8 and its adoption by CAC45.

CCLAC22 endorsed the agreements reached in the technical committee (CCCF15) and recommended not to reopen the technical discussion at CAC45.

**Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues – (CCPR)**

*Guidelines for the recognition of active substances or authorized uses of active substances of low public health concern that are considered exempt from the establishment of maximum residue limits or that do not give rise to residues.*

CCLAC22 supported the advancement to Step 8 of the Guidelines for the recognition of active substances or authorized uses of active substances of low public health concern that are considered exempt from the establishment of maximum residue limits or that do not give rise to residues.
Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods – (CCRVDF)

Draft standard for zilpaterol hydrochloride held at step 4

CCLAC22:

- agreed that all Codex decisions must be based on science and risk assessment principles; - agreed that it was clear that there were no scientific reasons contrary to the recommendation made by JECFA, nor any other legitimate factors that should be considered at the global level. In this regard, factors outside the Codex mandate should not influence risk management or achievement of consensus;

- supported the adoption of the proposed MRLs by CAC45 at Step 5/8 noting that the proposed MRLs for Zilpaterol Hydrochloride had a scientific basis that supported their use and reiterating their role as reference standards in the WTO SPS Agreement.

This regional position is presented in CRD06.