



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

AD HOC CODEX INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Sixth Session

Busan, Republic of Korea, 10-14 December 2018

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. The Task Force is invited to note the information below on recent discussion and decision of CAC and other subsidiary committee on Codex work on antimicrobial resistance.

A. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 41st SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION¹

2. The Commission:
 - (i) noted that through the work of the TFAMR Codex contributed to global efforts to counter present and future threats to the health of consumers posed by the emergence and amplification of antimicrobial resistance;
 - (ii) reiterated the overwhelming support, as expressed at CAC40, for the project documents on a revised code of practice and guidelines for integrated surveillance; and
 - (iii) supported the Chairperson of TFAMR in making further timely progress towards these objectives.

B. MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER CODEX SUBSIDIARY BODIES

CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES (CCPR50)²

3. The Representative of FAO reported on the outcome of the FAO survey on the use of antibiotics in crops conducted after CCPR49. Overall, the survey indicated that antibiotics and antimicrobials that specifically inhibit or kill bacteria are approved for use to treat plant diseases in at least 20 countries. The regulations and oversight of antibiotic use are strong and residues present on foods of plant origin are minimal. In contrast, the amounts and types of antimicrobials used, the crops treated and the potential for antimicrobial resistance (AMR) are unknown. In order to develop science-based recommendations to mitigate the negative public health impacts of AMR, the use of antimicrobials in plant production resulting in occupational exposure, food, and environmental contamination need to be assessed. FAO will continue to work on this area together with WHO and OIE.
4. CCPR noted that the work priorities of FAO and WHO related to the work of the Committee should include:
 - The impact of the use of antimicrobial compounds in plant protection (food and feed).
 - Close cooperation between scientific bodies (in particular JMPR and JECFA).
 - Capacity building to enhance participation of Codex members in the work of JMPR and CCPR.

¹ REP18/CAC, para 13

² REP18/PR, paras 12-13