



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES
Twenty-seventh Session
Paris, France, 2 – 6 April 2012

STATUS OF THE REVIEWS OF RISK ANALYSIS PRINCIPLES

1. Background¹

CCGP26 agreed that risk analysis policies developed by Codex committees were generally consistent with the *Working Principles for Risk Analysis*, which complied with the mandate given to the Committee under Activity 2.1. The Committee agreed to forward the review presented in CL 2010/1-GP to the committees concerned for their consideration and review of their risk analysis policies, which would initiate Activity 2.2 of the Strategic Plan. The Committee is invited to take into consideration the information provided by the different Committees.

2. Information provided by CCNFSDU, CCFH, CCFA, CCCF, CCPR and CCRVDF

CCNFSDU²

The CCNFSDU recalled that CCGP26 had reviewed the *Nutritional Risk Analysis Principles* and had concluded that the Principles generally followed the structure of the *Working Principles for Risk Analysis*. The CCGP had noted that the *Nutritional Risk Analysis Principles* did not include specific provisions regarding risk communication and that the order of some sections might be reviewed and the Committee might further develop the Principles if needed.

The CCNFSDU agreed that it was not necessary to revise the Principles as they had been adopted by the Commission in 2009 and it was too early to revise them for the time being.

CCFH

CCFH42³ agreed to review its risk analysis principles and procedures with a view to its simplification in line with Activity 2.2 of the Strategic Plan (2008-2013) and taking into account the recommendations in CL 2010/1-GP.

CCFH43⁴ agreed to forward the revised *Risk Analysis Principles and Procedures Applied by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene* to the 35th Session of the Commission for adoption, through the Codex Committee on General Principles together with the Annex on the process by which the CCFH undertakes its work (see Agenda Item 2)..

¹ ALINORM 10/33/33, paras 47 - 55

² REP11/NFSDU, para 11 -12

³ REP11/FH, para 6

⁴ REP12/FH, paras 119 to 129 and Appendices V and VI

CCFA⁵*Separation of the Risk Analysis Principles for CCFA and CCCF*

The CCFA agreed that separate risk analysis principles for the CCFA and the CCCF were useful to allow the texts to develop independently in accordance with the needs of each committee. Therefore, the Committee requested that the Codex Secretariat prepare draft Risk analysis principles applied by the CCFA, based on the current text by deleting any reference to CCCF for consideration at the next Session.

Applicability of Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCFA and the CCCF to Animal Feeding

The CCFA agreed that the proposed amendments to the *Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCFA and the CCCF* to address animal feed were not relevant to its work

Review of the risk analysis policies of Codex committees (CL 2010/1-GP)

The CCFA agreed that the present format of its risk analysis principles was adequate, and that there was no merit in reformatting or reviewing the principles at present. The Committee thus considered Activity 2.2 as completed.

CCCF⁶

The CCCF recalled that the CCGP had agreed that the risk analysis policies developed by Codex committees were generally consistent with the Working Principles for Risk Analysis and had agreed that no action was necessary on the revision of the Principles.

However, in view of the decision of CCFA to advocate separate Risk Analysis Principles on Food Additives and on Food Contaminants and the request from the Commission on the need to revise the Principles as to their applicability to animal feed, the CCCF agreed to establish an electronic Working Group to:

- prepare separate Risk Analysis Principles for contaminants and natural toxins in food and feed;
- examine whether it was necessary to further specify the applicability to feed in the Principles; and
- consider any other revisions that might be necessary to update the terminology in the Principles for consistency with the current risk assessment terminology.

CCPR⁷

The CCPR agreed that the revision of the Risk Analysis Principles applied by the CCPR in relation to their consistency with the Working Principles for Risk Analysis and their applicability to animal feed should be considered in the framework of the ongoing revision of the Risk Analysis Principles.

The Committee agreed to establish an electronic working group to develop proposals for the revision of the periodic review as a priority and, if feasible, to review the entire text of the Risk Analysis Principles, for consideration by the next session. It was also agreed that, if necessary, a physical meeting of the electronic working group would be held prior to the next session in order to facilitate discussion in the plenary.

CCRVDF⁸*Applicability of Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF to Animal Feeding*

The Committee recalled that the Commission, while considering future work on animal feeding had requested the relevant committees to review their policies and principles for risk analysis as to their applicability to animal feeding and, in particular, had asked the Committee to review the amendments to the *Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF*.

⁵ REP11/FA, para 14 - 15

⁶ REP11/CF, paras 7 - 9

⁷ REP11/PR, paras 8 and 137

⁸ REP11/RVDF, paras 9 – 12, paras 141 - 145

Opinions for and against a revision were expressed and the Committee recognized that it would not be possible to finalise the revised text at the current session and agreed to circulate the proposed amendments to the *Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF*, for comments and consideration at the next session.

Review of the risk analysis policies of Codex committees (CL 2010/1-GP)

In view of the decisions taken in relation to the discussion on the requests of CCGP26 and CCEXEC64, on the revision of policies for the establishment of MRLs and on policy and procedures for veterinary drugs with no ADI and/or MRL, the CCRVDF agreed to integrate all these decisions in the revision of the *Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF* and the *Risk Assessment Policy in the setting of Maximum Limits for Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods*. To carry out this work and pursuing activity 2.2 of the Strategic Framework, the Committee agreed to establish an electronic working group with the task of:

- (i) Revising and updating, as appropriate, the current *Risk analysis principles applied by the CCRVDF* and the risk assessment policy for setting MRLVDs.
- (ii) Special emphasis shall be given to:
 - Revising Section 3-2 'Evaluation of risk management options' in order to provide JECFA with specific directions, together with their rationale, on how to generate and submit for consideration by the Committee a range of acceptable values for each MRL to be established; and
 - Developing risk management and risk communication recommendations for veterinary drugs for which no ADI and/or MRL has been recommended by JECFA either due to specific human health concerns or a lack of information.

In considering that activity 2.2 of the Strategic Framework should be completed by 2013 and the frequency of the CCRVDF sessions, the Committee encouraged the electronic working group to start working on the document as soon as possible so that it could be finalised and circulated well in advance of the next session of the Committee. In order to facilitate its discussion and progress on the document, the Committee further agreed to establish a physical working group which would meet immediately before its next session, to consider the working document and the comments submitted.