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Agenda Item 8 (a)

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

Twentieth Session

San Juan, Puerto Rico, 7-11 May 2012

PROPOSED DRAFT SAMPLING PLANS FOR RESIDUE CONTROL FOR AQUATIC ANIMAL PRODUCTS AND DERIVED EDIBLE PRODUCTS OF AQUATIC ORIGIN (TABLE C, ANNEX B OF CAC/GL 71-2009)

Comments at Step 3 of Norway

NORWAY

We appreciate this opportunity to comment upon the proposed sampling plans.

Specific comments

Annex I, table C:

We support the minimum quantity required for laboratory sample of 500g, as this will be sufficient to perform an analysis of the actual substances.

Footnote 1: Should be amended as follows: The sufficient number of units should be determined based on the type of fish, erustacean or, shellfish or other aquatic organisms, the homogeneity (consistency) of production, and the method of analysis. Sufficient number of units should take into consideration sampling within and between lots.

Reason: Definitions should be uniform in Codex. Shellfish is defined in the Code of Practice of Fish and Fishery Products (CAC/RCP 52-2003) as; "Those species of aquatic molluscs and crustaceans that are commonly used for food". Thus the mentioning of crustacean in this context is unnecessary. We suggest adding "other aquatic organisms" to not exclude animals that do not fall under the definitions of fish and shellfish, i.e. the "echinodermats".

Footnote 2: Should be amended as follows: Unit means a single fish, shellfish or other aquatic organisms, fish portion, package of fish, or can of fish or a package or can of such items making up a consignment.

Reason: To make it more specific and also harmonized with footnote 1.

The first column ("Commodity") in the table, third and fifth row, should be amended as follows:

Fish and shellfish - packaged and unpackaged Packed and unpacked products

and Canned fish and shellfish products Canned products

Reason: To make it harmonized and consistent.