



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

55th Session

Chengdu, Sichuan province, P.R. China

3-8 June 2024

MATTERS REFERRED TO CCPR BY CAC AND/OR OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

(Prepared by the Codex Secretariat)

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Specific matters

Standards and related texts adopted at Steps 8 and 5/8 of the Procedure including consequential amendments¹

1. CAC46 (2023) adopted the following:

- Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) at Step 5/8;
- Consequential amendments to the existing MRLs (CXLs) for peppers groups/subgroups to cover okra, martynia and roselle;
- Revision to the *Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds*; Revised Class B Primary commodities of animal origin and Class E Processed foods of animal origin, at Step 5/8, which completed the revision of the Classification; and
- Consequential amendments to the *Principles and Guidance on the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of MRLs for Pesticides to Commodity Groups* (CXG 84-2012) and *Classification of Food and Feed* (CXA 4-1989).

Approval of new work²

2. CAC46 approved new work on the:

- Priority List of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR; and
- Development of guidance for monitoring the stability of purity of reference materials and related stock solutions of pesticides during prolonged storage.

Discontinuation of work³

3. CAC46 endorsed discontinuation of work on MRLs for different combinations of pesticides/commodity(ies) in the Step Procedure as proposed by CCPR54 (2023).

Revocation⁴

4. CAC46 endorsed revocation of standards and related texts as follows:

- Adopted MRLs (CXLs) for different combinations of pesticide/commodity(ies) as proposed by CCPR54; and
- *Guidelines on Portion of Commodities to which MRLs Apply and which is Analysed* (CXG 41-1993).

Other issues⁵

5. CAC46:

¹ REP23/CAC46, paras 95, 97, 98, 102, Appendix II and VII

² REP23/CAC46 para 103, Appendix V

³ REP23/CAC46, para 105, Appendix VI

⁴ REP23/CAC46, para 104 Appendix IV

⁵ REP23/CAC46, paras 106, 110, 111-113

Coordination of work between the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF)

- 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 CCEXEC85⁶; and
- endorsed the revised terms of reference for the joint EWG, including the addition of Brazil and New Zealand as co-Chairs of the Joint EWG.

Timely availability of monographs

- encouraged FAO and WHO to explore ways to expedite the process of publishing monographs to ensure their timely availability.

General matters

Application 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)⁷

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

Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031⁸

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 (2023) endorsed the conclusions of CCEXEC85 regarding matters pertaining to the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031.

New food sources and production systems (NFPS)⁹

9. CAC46 (2023) highlighted the importance of addressing challenges posed by NFPS and the important role Codex can play in this; noted that the current working mechanisms were adequate to address any new work on NFPS that Members may propose; encouraged Members to submit discussion papers or new work proposals, either to active Codex committees or to the Executive Committee through the Codex Secretariat.

Future of Codex¹⁰

10. CCEXEC85 (2023) 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.
11. CAC46 endorsed the conclusions of CCEXEC85 regarding matters pertaining to the blueprint on the future of Codex.

New standards or review of standards and guidelines¹¹

12. CCEXEC83 agreed to request that Codex committees, when prioritizing and undertaking work on new standards or the review of standards and guidelines relating to composition of foods, have due regard to ongoing global efforts to achieve health and nutrition related goals through reducing non-communicable diseases (NCD) risk factors such as sodium intake.

⁶ REP23/EXEC85 para 23

⁷ REP21/EXEC81, para 99 (i); REP22/EXEC83, paras 81-84; REP22/CAC45, para 22 (iv, v); REP23/CAC46, para 194 (ii, vi, vii)

⁸ REP21/EXEC81, para 90; REP23/EXEC84, para 115; REP23/EXEC85, paras 40-47, 54 (i(a), ii); REP23/CAC46, para 16

⁹ REP21/EXEC81, paras 105, 106, 110 (i, ii); REP22/CAC45, para 31 (ii, v, vi); REP23/CAC46, para 206 (i, ii, iii)

¹⁰ REP21/EXEC81, para 85; REP22/EXEC83, paras 101-122; REP22/CAC45, para 41; REP23/EXEC85, para 38; REP23/CAC46, para 16

¹¹ REP22/EXEC83, para 154 (v)

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)¹²

13. 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.
14. The revised *General Guidelines on Sampling* (CXG 50-2004) was adopted by CAC46 (2023) at Step 8.¹³

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 Texts¹⁴

15. 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 Contaminants in Food (CCCF)Evaluation of ethylene oxide (EtO) and 2-chloroethanol (2-CE)¹⁵

16. Following the recommendation on EtO and 2-CE by CCPR54, CCCF17 (2024) recommended adding EtO and 2-CE to the priority list of contaminants for evaluation by JECFA. The call for data for EtO and 2-CE would be issued once JECFA has determined when this evaluation could be carried out, taking also into account other work priorities, resources, as well as confirmation of data availability at CCCF18.

Environmental inhibitors¹⁵

17. 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 on the food safety implications from the use of 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 as well as 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.
18. It was noted that FAO has scheduled a webinar on environmental inhibitors on 9 May at 14.30 -15.30 CET. Information will be available on the CCPR55 webpage¹⁶.
19. Other events in connection to this matter of relevance to the work of Codex and CCPR will also be available on the CCPR55 webpage.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENDORSEMENT BY CCPR

20. CCPR is invited to:
 - (i) note the matters for information referred by CAC and CCEXEC;
 - (ii) encourage Codex Members to:
 - (a) actively engage in opportunities to contribute to the discussions in CCEXEC and CAC (e.g. sharing experience on 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 using existing mechanisms available in Codex/CCPR; and
 - (iii) note that the matter related to coordination of work between CCPR and CCRVDF would be considered under Agenda item 12.

¹² REP23/MAS42 para 81

¹³ REP23/CAC46 para 92

¹⁴ REP23/GP33 para 69

¹⁵ REP24/CF17

¹⁶ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&session=55>