

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Items 3, 4(b), 5(a), 6.1, 6.3, 7, 8.1, 8.2, 10, 11

PR56/CRD43

September 2025

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

56th Session

Santiago, Chile

8-13 September 2025

Comments submitted by Ghana

Agenda Item 3

CX/PR 25/56/2

Ghana's Position: Ghana appreciates the Codex Secretariat for preparing the matters for information referred to CCPR by CAC and other subsidiary bodies. Ghana acknowledges the different general and specific issues which are significant for Codex and support the request for member countries to take leadership roles in committee working groups. Ghana is therefore prepared to assume leadership roles in future committee working groups and looks forward to collaborating with members in the African region to provide input to the Codex Strategic Plan (2026 – 2031) monitoring framework.

Ghana also appreciates the Codex Secretariat for undertaking the assessment in response to CL 2024/27-GP on language inconsistencies and outdated content in the Procedural Manual.

Ghana supports changes to Section 4.8 since the amendments will not impact the fundamental provisions in the Risk Analysis Principles applied by CCPR.

Agenda Item 4(b)

CX/PR 25/56/4

Background: This agenda item outlines the contributions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR), as facilitated by the Joint FAO/IAEA Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture. This Centre continues to render services to member countries of both organizations through mechanisms such as technical cooperation projects (TCPs), coordinated research projects, extra-budgetary projects and laboratory-led applied research and technology adaptation, to promote food safety, consumer protection and facilitate trade. These include:

Networking: The Joint FAO/IAEA Centre continues to support and promote regional food safety networks as one of the means to enhance capacity building. These include the Latin American and Caribbean Analytical Network (RALACA), the African Food Safety Network (AFoSaN) and a food safety network in Asia. These networks provide a platform for sharing knowledge and experiences and carrying out a wide range of activities, analytical methods, proficiency testing, interlaboratory comparisons and benchmarking.

African Food Safety Workshop: A biennial event organised to enhance knowledge, information exchange; build regional expertise and contribute to addressing pertinent regional and global food safety and trade issues while identifying future work. Themes include Food safety awareness; systems and partnership development, Resource mobilisation; Standards in Africa, Accreditation, Pesticide residues testing and monitoring; as well as Research and Capacity Building Opportunities.

Supporting analytical laboratories: The Joint FAO/IAEA Centre continues to meet requests from member countries for analytical methods, standard operating procedures and technical guidance. The methods developed or adapted and validated in the FSCL and collaborating institutions are made available to member countries through various mechanisms, including training workshops, publications in the scientific literature and public outreach events, as well as the platform, 'Food Contaminant and Residue Information System'. There is also a database containing analytical methods and associated material to support the control of contaminants and residues in foods.

The Food Safety and Control Laboratory (FSCL) of the Joint FAO/IAEA Centre in Seibersdorf, Austria, collaborates with development partners to enhance food safety practices through R&D, capacity building and technology transfer.

Currently a multiresidue method has been developed using SFC-MS to analyse matrixes with high content of starch, lipids, and natural interfering compounds, which can lead to substantial matrix effects when using conventional liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (LC-MS) methods.

Supporting data-generation for maximum residue limits (MRLs) including minor species/use: The regional project for Africa 'Enhancing Human and Analytical Capacities for Food Safety Standards' aimed at addressing a critical gap in Africa's food safety system - the need to establish or contribute to the setting of national, regional and international (Codex) standards and guidelines - is making good progress. 33 countries are involved. Work is ongoing on supervised field trials for targeted pesticides in okra and chilli pepper in view of relevant CCPR55 deliberations. In addition, a regional training course on Good Laboratory Practice for Conduct of Supervised Field Trials was conducted in Ghana.

Ghana Position: Ghana expresses gratitude to the FAO and IAEA for their extensive capacity-building efforts, particularly in enhancing laboratory infrastructure and competencies across the continent and globally. Ghana thanks the IAEA for the participation in a regional training course on Good Laboratory Practice for Conduct of Supervised Field Trials which was conducted in Ghana from 5th -16th May 2025 as part of the regional project for Africa 'Enhancing Human and Analytical Capacities for Food Safety Standards'. Ghana thanks the IAEA for supporting the project for data generation for maximum residue limits (MRLs) on Okra and chilli pepper.

Ghana encourages the continuation and expansion of capacity building programs in Ghana to further strengthen capabilities in food safety management and data generation for Codex work.

Rationale: These initiatives are crucial for Ghana, enabling accurate monitoring and regulation of pesticide residues and related food safety hazards, thus safeguarding public health and facilitating compliance with international food safety standards.

Agenda Item 5(a)

Section 2 of the 2024 JMPR Report

Ghana's Position: Ghana appreciates JMPR for the commendable work accomplished on the development of dietary exposure methodology for pesticide residues in foods. Ghana affirms that the GECDE methodology has been adequately validated to confirm its suitability for use by the JMPR in estimating chronic and less-than-lifetime dietary exposure to pesticide residues. Therefore, adoption of the GECDE methodology is supported by Ghana, with the expectation that this approach will provide greater clarity on uncertainty and enhance transparency in exposure assessment. However, the GECDE methodology should further be examined, particularly regarding its impact on the current CXLs.

Rationale: The adoption of GECDE methodology will ensure the protection of consumers with a wide range of consumption patterns within different populations.

Agenda Item 6.1

CX/PR 25/56/5

Ghana's Position: Ghana supports the proposed MRLs but appeals to sponsors to submit toxicological data for permethrin to enable JMPR establish ADI or ARfD for this pesticide that is due for periodic re-evaluation.

Rationale: Ghana recognizes the outcomes of the JMPR 2024 evaluations, which confirmed that there were no exceedances of the Acceptable Daily Intakes (ADIs) or the Acute Reference Doses (ARfDs) with the proposed Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs). This finding underscores the protective nature of the established MRLs with respect to public health and will ultimately promote international trade.

Agenda Item 6.3

CX/PR 25/56/7

Ghana's Position: Ghana agrees with the recommendation of Codex's current arrangement to provisionally extend the CXLs for the pepper's subgroup (VO 0051) to okra, martynia, and roselle, dependent on data generation commitment for submission to JMPR to conduct the evaluation. Ghana supports CCPR to request for data from members and observers for evaluation by JMPR.

Ghana thanks the Minor Use Foundation for supporting Ghana and other selected African countries in conducting field trials for generating data on chilli pepper and okra that will be submitted to JMPR for evaluation.

Rationale: Okra is a popular vegetable in Ghana, where it is also produced and consumed. Once the CXLs are established, they will help with approvals for registration and use as well as monitoring pesticide residues in food control systems and therefore help to ensure food safety and facilitate regional and international trade.

Agenda Item 7**CX/PR 25/56/8**

Ghana's Position: Ghana thanks the EWG chaired by India and co-chaired by Canada, Iran and Singapore and all the member countries who participated in the advancement of this work. Ghana supports the progression of work on the Guidelines for monitoring the stability and purity of reference materials and related stock solutions of pesticides during prolonged storage through the Codex step procedure.

Rationale: The guidelines will help laboratories overcome the challenges faced while monitoring the stability of reference materials and related stock solutions of pesticides during prolonged storage. It will also contribute to reliability, cost reduction and efficiency of pesticide residue monitoring in food control systems and therefore help to ensure food safety and facilitate regional and international trade.

Agenda Item 8.1**CX/PR 25/56/9**

Ghana's Position: Ghana thanks the Electronic Working Group, chaired by Chile its Co-chairs Ecuador, India, and Kenya. Ghana supports the recommendation by the EWG to revoke the CXLs of selected molecules as listed in i) to iii).

Rationale: Periodic evaluation of pesticides requires data submission for use by JMPR to conduct scientific evaluations of pesticide residues in food. JMPR then provides advice on the acceptable levels of pesticide residues in food moving in international trade.

Agenda Item 8.2**CX/PR 25/56/10**

Ghana's Position: Ghana thanks the EWG chaired by Chile and co-chaired by Australia, India, and Kenya and all the member countries who participated in the advancement of this work and the on-going modifications and improvements of the format and content of the database.

Ghana calls for a much more refined and efficient means that facilitates improvements in the data collection and analysis in the national registration of pesticides and for that reason support the continuation of the NRD-related works.

Rationale: A national registration database for pesticides is crucial as a source of information on registered pesticides, facilitating informed decision-making by regulatory agencies, researchers, and other stakeholders for Public Health Protection, International Cooperation, Transparency and Accountability.

Agenda Item 10**CX/PR 25/56/12**

Ghana's Position: Ghana thanks the United States and the other EWG co-chairs for leading this work. Ghana supports the approach recommended in the EWG report.

Rational: Ghana is of the opinion that this will facilitate CCPR in reviewing feedback from JMPR and subsequently devising a long-term approach for establishing priorities and crafting an implementation roadmap.

Agenda Item 11**CX/PR 25/56/13**

Ghana's Position: Ghana appreciates the chair and co-chair for the EWG and all the member countries who participated in the advancement of this work. Ghana supports the initiatives of the Joint CCRVDF-CCPR Working Group and agrees with the proposal to convene a Virtual Joint Physical Working Group that will discuss the current terms of reference (ToRs).

Rationale: The proposed mechanisms of holding the joint virtual session of the Joint EWG that precedes a virtual Joint Session of CCPR and CCRVDF will go a long way in expediting the joint harmonization of the identified food descriptors and the harmonization of MRLs for dual use compounds.