



CCRVDF

Dear CCRVDF Delegates,

The 26th Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) will take place February 13-17, 2023, in the United States. This session will be the first opportunity for CCRVDF to gather in person once again since 2018. I will also serve as Chairperson of the Committee for the first time.

Before my selection as Chairperson, I had the honor of working in the CCRVDF for 15 years representing the United States, most recently serving as the Head of Delegation. My experience in the Committee has provided me with a foundation of the issues before CCRVDF, of our mission, and of the Codex Alimentarius. My responsibility as Chairperson will differ from my prior role as a Delegate. In this new role, I will seek to ensure that all Members are heard as we work toward consensus to develop and advance science-based standards.

I acknowledge and appreciate the leadership of my predecessor, Dr. Kevin Greenlees. Dr. Greenlees successfully led the CCRVDF through several challenging sessions, including a fully virtual meeting of the Committee in 2021. Under his leadership, this Committee has successfully worked together to advance needed maximum residue limits (MRLs) for many veterinary drugs while tackling issues to encourage elaboration of additional standards for veterinary drug residues.

We are between sessions, but the work of CCRVDF continues. As we prepare for the next session, ongoing Electronic Working Groups (EWGs) established by CCRVDF25 and by CAC44 include:

- The EWG on Extrapolation (led by the European Union and Costa Rica) to consider proposed extrapolated MRLs, consider extrapolation of MRLs for ivermectin in goat and sheep's milk, and develop a suitable approach for extrapolation of MRLs for edible offal tissues;
- The EWG on Unavoidable Carryover (led by Australia and Canada) to develop a discussion paper on criteria for the establishment of action levels for unintended or unavoidable carryover from feed to food of animal origin;
- The EWG on Edible Offal (led by Kenya and New Zealand) to work in parallel with the CCPR EWG on Classification on issues pertaining to harmonization of edible offal; and
- A Joint CCRVDF/CCPR EWG (led by the United States) to develop recommendations to improve coordination between CCRVDF and CCPR on issues which impact both Committees.

I encourage all delegations to participate in the EWGs in preparation for CCRVDF26. The reports and discussion papers from these EWGs will form the basis of many discussions at CCRVDF26.

The success of CCRVDF is a direct result of the commitment and efforts of its Members. I look forward to working with you all at the next session of CCRVDF as we strive to provide much needed recommended standards to protect consumer health and ensure fair trade practices.

Sincerely,

Brandi L. Robinson
Chairperson CCRVDF

