

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2026/15-RVDF

December 2025

TO: Codex Contact Points
Contact Points of international organizations having observer status with Codex

FROM: Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission,
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

SUBJECT: Request for comments/information on the priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA

DEADLINE: 28 February 2026

BACKGROUND

Decisions of CCRVDF about the Priority List

Additional information on compounds evaluated by JECFA and JMPR

1. The 23rd Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF23, 2016) agreed¹ to add information on the registration of the compound as a pesticide and, where applicable, information on the evaluation of the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) to the form requesting information on compounds for evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), attached to the Circular Letter (CL) soliciting proposals for inclusion in the Priority List.

Database on countries' needs for MRLs for veterinary drugs in foods

2. CCRVDF25 (2021) further agreed² to recommend that the database on countries' needs for MRLs for veterinary drugs in foods be made available as a reference document at every session of CCRVDF and should be available to the Codex Secretariat to accompany the distribution of the circular letter (CL) requesting comments on the priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation by JECFA. CCRVDF therefore encouraged:
 - (i) Codex member countries and observer organizations to submit relevant data/information to allow the evaluation of those compound/commodity combinations identified as high priority needs and as feasible starting points for the establishment of relevant maximum residue limits (MRLs); and
 - (ii) Codex member countries and observer organizations to submit relevant data/information to evaluate other compound/commodity combinations identified in the database on countries' needs for MRLs for veterinary drugs.
3. The United States of America (USA) and Costa Rica, as responsible for the maintenance of the database, have updated the database to reflect the new extrapolated MRLs for milk from all other ruminants adopted in 2024 based on the decisions made by CCRVDF27 (2024)³ and the 47th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC47, 2024)⁴ as follows:

New work on the Priority List

4. CCRVDF27 (2024) agreed⁵ to forward the Priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA to CAC47 for approval. The Commission approved⁶ the Priority List as submitted by CCRVDF26. The priority list included compounds for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA, including parallel review, MRLs extrapolation, and action levels, in accordance with the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF*.

1 REP17/RVDF23, para. 27

2 REP21/RVDF25, paras. 126-128

3 REP24/RVDF27, paras. 52(i-ii), and Appendices III (Part I), IV

4 REP24/CAC47, para. 125(i-iii), and Appendix II

5 REP24/RVDF27, para. 140(i), Appendix VII (Parts I, IV, V, and VI)

6 REP24/CAC47, para. 169(i), Appendix V

REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS OF COMPOUNDS FOR INCLUSION IN THE PRIORITY LIST FOR JECFA EVALUATION OR RE-EVALUATION**Part I. Veterinary drugs for JECFA evaluation or re-evaluation**

5. Paragraph 134, "Establishment of Priority List" of the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF* (CAC Procedural Manual), states that for a proposed veterinary drug to appear on the priority list of veterinary drugs for the establishment of an MRL, the proposed veterinary drug shall meet some or all of the following criteria:
- (a) A Member has proposed the compound for evaluation (a template for information recommended for consideration in the priority list by CCRVDF has been completed and will be available to the Committee).
 - (b) A Member has established good veterinary practices (GVP) regarding the compound.
 - (c) The compound can potentially cause public health and/or international trade problems.
 - (d) The compound is available as a commercial product.
 - (e) There is a commitment that a dossier will be made available.
6. CCRVDF27 agreed to prioritize amoxicillin in chicken tissues, amoxicillin in chicken eggs, ethion in cattle tissues, and fumagillin dicyclohexylamine (DCH) in fish (fillet) and honey for JECFA evaluation. The data package for each nomination was expected to be available for submission to JECFA between December 2024 and December 2026.⁷
7. Issues related to MRLs for fumagillin DCH in fish (fillet) and honey will be considered under Agenda item 6, and comments, including data and information, will be requested under CL 2026/10-RVDF. It is acknowledged that discussion of fumagillin DCH for these commodities under Agenda item 6 (MRLs at Step 7) may impact discussions on Agenda item 10 (priorities).
8. Codex members and observers who wish to nominate compounds for JECFA evaluation or re-evaluation, including compounds listed in the database on countries' needs for MRLs for veterinary drugs in foods or veterinary drugs used as environmental inhibitors, should do so in accordance with the *Risk Analysis Principles applied by CCRVDF, Annex A - Template for information recommended for consideration in the priority list by the CCRVDF*. The template is reproduced in Appendix I.
9. In addition to seeking new nominations, Codex members and observers are invited to confirm the timing of data availability for the previous nominations as listed in paragraph 6, i.e., amoxicillin in chicken tissues, amoxicillin in chicken eggs, and ethion in cattle tissues, except for fumagillin DCH per paragraph 7.
10. Submission of data/information using the template in Appendix I will facilitate consideration by the Physical Working Group (PWG) on Priorities and the plenary session of CCRVDF.

Part II: Veterinary drugs for which data availability should be confirmed at the next CCRVDF**Part III: Veterinary drugs for which additional data/information is necessary to complete the JECFA evaluation**

11. CCRVDF27 removed all compounds included in Parts II and III of the priority lists. Therefore, no additional comments on data or information are requested from Codex members and observers regarding the matters raised in these parts.⁸

Part IV. New veterinary drugs for JECFA evaluation under the "parallel review"

12. CCRVDF27 (2024) agreed to delete selamectin from Part IV of the priority list, as the Committee was informed that national approval and GVP were not expected to become available.⁹ The whole discussion of this compound is available in the reports of CCRVDF24 (2018)¹⁰, CCRVDF25 (2021)¹¹, and CCRVDF26 (2023)¹².
13. CCRVDF27 agreed to prioritize umifoxolaner for JECFA evaluation under the "parallel review" for the acceptable daily intake (ADI) and MRLs for cattle muscle, fat, liver, and kidney, while the compound was still under review by a national authority for registration. The nominator noted that the review of the risk assessment for the food safety dossier was ongoing and that approval was expected before the JECFA meeting.¹³

⁷ REP 24/RVDF27, para. 127, Appendix VII (Part I)

⁸ REP24/RVDF27, paras. 128-130

⁹ REP24/RVDF27, para. 131

¹⁰ REP18/RVDF24, paras. 98-103

¹¹ REP21/RVDF25, paras. 117-122, 129, 149, Appendix VI, Part IV

¹² REP23/RVDF26, paras. 139-140, Appendix IV, Part IV

¹³ REP24/RVDF27, paras. 131-132, Appendix VII, Part I

14. CCRVDF27 also agreed to prioritize **bromoform** (environmental inhibitor) for ADI and MRLs for ruminant tissues and milk for JECFA evaluation under the “parallel review”. The nominator noted that the review of the risk assessment for the food safety dossier is ongoing and that approval was expected before the next JECFA meeting.
15. Codex members and observers who may wish to nominate new compounds, including veterinary drugs used as environmental inhibitors, for JECFA evaluation under the “parallel review” should do so in accordance with the *Principles and approach to the parallel review of a new veterinary drug by JECFA and regulatory agencies*, as agreed upon by CCRVDF25 (2021)¹⁴.
16. Submission of data/information using the template in Appendix I will facilitate consideration by the PWG on Priorities and the plenary session of CCRVDF.

Part V. Extrapolation

17. CCRVDF27 agreed to prioritize albendazole, ivermectin, and oxytetracycline for extrapolating MRLs to camelid tissues and milk. They will be considered under Agenda Item 7.1.¹⁵
18. Codex members and observers who may wish to nominate compounds for extrapolation of MRLs, including compounds listed in the database on countries’ needs for MRLs for veterinary drugs in foods, should do so in accordance with the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF, Annex C, Approach for the extrapolation of MRLs of veterinary drugs to one or more species*. The nomination should include the name of the compound, the proposed extrapolation, the identity of the member country making the nomination, and an indication that the extrapolation principles could be met.

Part VI. Action Levels

19. CCRVDF27 agreed to prioritize nicarbazin and lasalocid in chicken eggs for establishing Action Levels (ALs). They will be considered under Agenda item 8.2.¹⁶
20. Codex members and observers who may wish to nominate compounds for establishing Action Levels should do so in accordance with the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF, Annex D, Criteria and procedures for the establishment of action levels for residues of veterinary drugs in food of animal origin resulting from unavoidable and unintentional veterinary drug carry-over in non-target animal feed*. The nomination should include the name of the compound, the relevant commodities, the identity of the member country making the nomination, and an indication that the approach used to establish action levels is met.

General comments: Template for submission of nominations

21. The template for nominations of compounds for inclusion in the priority list for evaluation by JECFA (Annex A to the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF*) was developed for situations where the data and information required may not be fully applicable to other situations that have developed along the years in CCRVDF such as MRL extrapolation, action levels or the evaluation of new compounds by JECFA in the framework of global reviews of veterinary drugs where the assessment and registration process is still ongoing (parallel reviews).
22. A template specific to different situations may assist in customizing the data/information required for CCRVDF's consideration and decision when recommending compounds for the establishment of MRLs or ALs by JECFA or CCRVDF to CAC for approval as new work. The data and information required for specific situations will be presented consistently by interested parties for CCRVDF's consideration and decision-making.
23. Codex members and observers are invited to provide their views on:
 - (i) the appropriateness and need to develop specific templates to submit nominations of compounds for MRL extrapolation and action levels, as well as for new compounds for JECFA evaluation under the “parallel review”, as they may not fully fit into the data and information requirements provided in Annex A to the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF* or;
 - (ii) whether the current template can instead be adjusted for multi-purpose nominations, for instance, by including different sections, notes, etc. or;
 - (iii) there is no need to develop or revise the template provided in Annex A to the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF*.

¹⁴ REP21/RVDF25, para 122, Appendix V

¹⁵ REP24/RVDF27, para. 133, Appendix VII (Part V)

¹⁶ REP24/RVDF27, para. 135, Appendix VII (Part VI)

24. For points (i) and (ii), Codex members and observer are invited to provide key data/information that should be included in the template in line with the guidance provided in Annexes C and D of the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF* or the internal approach agreed to by CCRVDF25 for evaluation of compounds under “parallel review” as described in REP21/RVDF25, Appendix V.

Background documents for consultation

25. Codex members and observers are invited to check the following documents to inform their replies to this Circular Letter.

- The Priority List as agreed at CCRVDF27 (REP24/RVDF27, para. 140(i), Appendix VII (Parts I, IV, V, and VI))
- The Principles and approach to the parallel review of a new veterinary drug by JECFA and regulatory agencies applied by CCRVDF as agreed at CCRVDF25 (REP21/RVDF25, para 122, Appendix V)

CCRVDF reports and working documents are available online at:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/related-meetings/en/?committee=CCRVDF>

- The *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF*
The Procedural Manual is available online at:
<https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/publications/en/>
- Database on countries’ needs for MRLs for veterinary drugs in foods
The Excel sheet is available online at:
https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/codexalimentarius/doc/CCRVDF27DBcountryneedsMRLsVetDrugs_e_CCRVDF28_2026.xlsx
- Relevant JECFA documents, such as reports, toxicological/residue monographs, as available on the FAO and WHO websites
FAO: <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/jecfa/en/>
WHO: [https://www.who.int/groups/joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-\(jecfa\)](https://www.who.int/groups/joint-fao-who-expert-committee-on-food-additives-(jecfa))

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

26. Codex member countries and observer organizations are invited to comment on the matters raised in Parts I, IV, V, and VI, as requested in paragraphs 8, 9, 15, 18, 20, 23, and 24, based on the information provided in the CL and documents listed in paragraph 25.

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

27. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
28. Contact Points of Codex members and observers may log in to the OCS and access the document open for comments by selecting “Enter” on the “My reviews” page.
29. Contact Points of Codex members and observers’ organizations are requested to provide proposed changes and relevant comments/justifications on a specific paragraph (under the categories: editorial, substantive, technical, and translation) and/or at the document level (general comments or summary comments). Additional guidance on OCS comment categories and types is available in the OCS [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).
30. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, are available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>.
31. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.

APPENDIX I

**TEMPLATE FOR INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR PRIORITIZATION BY CCRVDF
(To be completed by Codex members in relation to Parts I and IV of the Priority List)**

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

1. Member(s) submitting the request for inclusion
2. Veterinary drug names
3. Trade names
4. Chemical names and CAS registry number
5. Names and addresses of basic producers

PURPOSE, SCOPE, AND RATIONALE

6. Identification of the food safety issue (residue hazard)
7. Assessment against the criteria for inclusion on the priority list

RISK PROFILE ELEMENTS

8. Justification for use
9. Veterinary use pattern, including information on approved uses if available (*this should include product labels or other evidence of official use authorization*)
10. Commodities for which Codex MRLs are required

RISK ASSESSMENT NEEDS AND QUESTIONS FOR THE RISK ASSESSORS

11. Specific request to risk assessors

AVAILABLE INFORMATION¹

12. Countries where the veterinary drugs are registered
13. National/Regional MRLs or any other applicable tolerances
14. List of data (pharmacology, toxicology, metabolism, residue depletion, analytical methods) available (*this should include a list of the data available with the full study titles and whether the compound is also registered as a pesticide and, as appropriate, has been evaluated or scheduled for evaluation or re-evaluation by JMPR*)

TIMETABLE

15. Date when data could be submitted to JECFA.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

16. Please provide additional information as appropriate by:
 - Including links under this section and/or
 - Sending attachments to the following addresses: CCRVDF-USSEC@usda.gov with a copy to codex@fao.org.

Note 1: Codex members interested in proposing MRLs for compounds listed in the database on countries' needs for MRLs for veterinary drugs can download the list of compounds/tissues from: https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/codexalimentarius/doc/CCRVDF27DBcountryneedsMRLsVetDrugs_e_CC_RVDF28_2026.xlsx

Note 2: Points 12 and 13 may not be applicable for new compounds prioritized for JECFA evaluation under the "parallel review"

Note 3: The template does not apply to the nomination of compounds for MRL extrapolation or Action Levels. Data/information submitted for these requests should be provided in accordance with the *Risk analysis principles applied by CCRVDF*, as set out in Annexes C and D (see paragraphs 18 and 20 of CL 2026/15-RVDF).

¹ When preparing a preliminary risk profile, Member(s) should consider the updated data requirement to enable evaluation of a veterinary drug to establish an ADI and MRLs published by JECFA.