

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2023/36-PR

April 2023

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 on the recommendations arising from the Joint CCPR/CCRVDV Electronic Working Group

DEADLINE: 5 June 2023

BACKGROUND

1. For background information, please refer to document CX/PR 23/54/10¹.
2. Codex members and observers are encouraged to submit comments in reply to this CL² to facilitate the consideration of the recommendations at the upcoming CCPR.
3. The recommendations put forward by the Electronic Working Group between the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods are aimed at improving cooperation of work between CCPR/CCRVDV and between the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) and the Joint FAO/WHO Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) on matters of common interest to CCPR/CCRVDV and JMPR/JECFA to facilitate the harmonization and implementation of MRLs for residues of compounds used as both pesticides and veterinary drugs.
4. For ease of reference, the recommendations are also provided in the Annex to this CL.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

5. Codex members and observers are invited to submit general and specific comments on the recommendations as described in paragraph 26 (Recommendations 1, 2 and 3), paragraph 27 (revised Recommendations 4 and 5) and paragraph 28 (additional task for the Joint EWG) of CX/PR 23/54/10 which are uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>, as per the guidance in paragraphs 6-10, based on the questions below:
 - (i) Whether the recommendations are agreeable as proposed by the Joint EWG and revised by CCRVDV26.
 - (ii) Whether the recommendations can be improved for completeness (please provide technical/substantive revisions only) based on the background information provided in paragraphs 8-25 of CX/PR 23/54/10. If so, please provide revised recommendation(s) in track change mode.
 - (iii) Whether there is room for additional recommendations based on the issues discussed in the Joint EWG as described in paragraphs 8-25 of CX/PR 23/54/10 and the discussions that took place at CCRVDV26 as reported in paragraphs 103-124 of REP23/RVDV26. If so, please provide additional recommendation(s).
 - (iv) Where there is agreement to task the Joint EWG with an additional task on harmonization of food descriptors to be used by JECFA and JMPR based on the discussions held at CCRVDV26 and the background information provided in paragraph 29 of CX/PR 23/54/10.

GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

6. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
7. Contact Points of Codex members and observers may login to the OCS and access the document open for comments by selecting "Enter" in the "My reviews" page, available after login to the system.

¹ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCRVDV&session=26>

² <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>
<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/related-circular-letters/en/?committee=CCRVDV>

8. 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 the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)³.
9. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can also be found on the Codex website⁴.
10. For questions on the OCS, please contact Codex-OCS@fao.org.

³ http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/codexalimentarius/doc/OCS/Codex_OCS_FAQs_2017-11-06.pdf

⁴ <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>

ANNEX**Recommendations to CCPR and CCRVDF**

26. The following recommendations to CCPR and CCRVDF were derived from the comments submitted to the EWG.
1. The EWG recommends that CCPR and CCRVDF ask JECFA and JMPR to continue working towards harmonizing their risk assessment methodologies, including ways to establish single, harmonized acceptable daily intake values and MRLs for dual-use compounds. This might include exploring the feasibility of a joint evaluation of dual-use compounds and the formation of Joint JMPR/JECFA EWG.
 2. The EWG recommends that CCPR and CCRVDF ask JECFA and JMPR to consider ways in which data can be shared between the two expert committees. This might include JECFA/JMPR asking sponsors to consent to data sharing upon submission of the data packages.
 3. The EWG recommends that CCPR and CCRVDF continue to support the current joint EWG to identify and prioritize issues affecting both committees and recommend ways to address the issues and to inform CAC accordingly.

Conclusions from the 26th Session of CCRVDF (CCRVDF26; 2023)

27. The 26th Session of CCRVDF agreed to:
4. Revised Recommendation 4: develop a list of compounds with dual use as a pesticide and veterinary drug for which no or only one Codex MRL has been established and that member countries will provide the information to populate this list
 5. Revised Recommendation 5: identify dual-use compounds that have different Codex MRLs for a similar edible commodity of animal origin and recommend on a case-by-case basis, a single, harmonized MRL(s) for the compound(s) and affected commodity(ies). The EWG might recommend that CCRVDF/CCPR consider selecting the higher MRL value.
28. Task the joint CCPR/CCRVDF EWG to consider the matter related to harmonized food descriptors to be used by JECFA and JMPR.