

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 4(a)

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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

54<sup>th</sup> Session

Beijing, P.R. China

26 June - 1 July 2023

### MATTERS ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO

(Prepared by FAO and WHO)

#### Matters arising from FAO

##### One Health and Pesticide Risk Reduction

1. In One Health framework, FAO promotes integrated pest management (IPM), biopesticides, agroecology and other green production practices to reduce reliance on chemical pesticide use and to reduce pesticide residues and risks to human health and the environment. Through the Global Action on Fall Armyworm (FAW) Control, FAO has been able to mobilize technical and financial resource to formulate prevention and preparedness guidelines, pilot monitoring and early warning tools, validate and scale up IPM interventions in countries across Asia, Africa, and the Near East.
2. AMR/AMU, an integral part of One Health, is also being addressed in plant production and protection. Awareness raising activities on antimicrobial use and resistance in crops, including on curbing imprudent antimicrobials usage are conducted. Technical networks in AMU and AMR in plant agriculture are being strengthened and consolidated through collaboration with key partners.
3. FAO continues to support Member states to strengthen sound pesticide management and risk reduction through the lifecycle management approach. It covers all regulatory and technical aspects of pesticide management from production to waste management, ensuring that farmers use pesticides properly and adopt Good Agricultural Practices to minimize risks to human health, environment, and food safety. Addressing highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs) and mainstreaming biodiversity are priorities. In addition, FAO supports Members on capacity building of residue standards setting and monitoring, promoting food safety and facilitating international trade of produce through trainings and projects.
4. New Tools, including new models of FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit, the e-learning course on HHPs (<https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=936>), Manual on Microbial Pesticide for FAO/WHO specification were launched in 2022. The Guidelines on Developing a Reporting System for Health and Environmental Incidents, including residue and food safety, resulting from exposure to pesticides is under revision. In FAO locust control program, the Locust Pesticide Management System is applied to reduce risks of pesticides before, during and after control campaigns. This digital tool comprises integrated databases on: registered pesticide products, pesticide stocks and related resources, and environment, health and safety standards for desert locust control.

## Matters arising from WHO

### Databases available on individual food consumption and chemical hazards in food

5. CIFOCOs (FAO/WHO Chronic Individual Food Consumption Data summary statistics) contains in 2023 the summary statistics of 68 datasets containing at least two days of consumptions and is regularly updated. These data on food consumption (CIFOCOs) and food contamination (GEMS/Food) are available on the same platform and offer the possibility to use a harmonized food classification/description system (FoodEx2). More details are available at: [WHO | Food Safety Collaborative Platform](#)
6. The GEMS/Food database continues to offer Members the possibility to submit monitoring data on chemicals hazards, including pesticides residues in food and help understand global occurrence and dietary exposures to residues. Member states and member organization are encouraged to submit their data and may, if needed request support from the GEMS/Food For further information please refer to: [GEMS/Food - Home \(who.int\)](#)
7. The 6th International Conference on Total Diet Studies was organized in October 2022 by WHO and the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) following a hybrid modality. The conference promoted experience and expertise sharing about dietary exposure assessment methodologies and was preceded by a hands-on online tutorial.

### Early warning alert and response to food safety emergencies

8. The Secretariat of the joint FAO/WHO International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) continues to develop and strengthen the Network and develop capacity for preparedness and response to food safety incidents.
9. During 2022, the INFOSAN Secretariat was involved in 195 international food safety incidents involving 156 Member States from all regions. Over this period, 21 international food safety events linked to chemical hazards were communicated through INFOSAN. Ethylene oxide, lead and methyl alcohol were the chemical hazards most frequently involved in INFOSAN events. The INFOSAN Secretariat maintained close engagement with INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points in concerned Member States by providing rapid information, thereby allowing a prompt response to such incidents.
10. Further information can be found at: <https://www.who.int/groups/fao-who-international-food-safety-authorities-network-infosan/about>