

# 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](mailto:codex@fao.org) - [www.codexalimentarius.org](http://www.codexalimentarius.org)

Agenda Item 4(a)

CX/PR 18/50/3  
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## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

50<sup>th</sup> Session

Haikou, P.R. China, 9-14 April 2018

#### MATTERS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM FAO AND WHO IN ADDITION TO THE 2017 JMPR ACTIVITIES

(Prepared by FAO and WHO)

##### Improvement of chronic dietary exposure assessment

1. The <sup>1</sup>JECFA and JMPR<sup>2</sup> Secretariats established an expert working group to elaborate and to propose realistic model (s) to assess the dietary exposure to compounds used both as pesticides and veterinary drugs. The results from international models currently in use were compared with national estimates from 13 Countries. The working group concluded that:
  - a. JECFA and JMPR are encouraged to always consider dual-use exposure.
  - b. In the immediate future, residue concentrations obtained from veterinary use and pesticide use in the same animal commodity should be added together to provide the residue data input for the dietary exposure assessment.
  - c. JECFA and JMPR are encouraged to harmonize their residue definitions to facilitate exposure assessment of dual-use compounds (and subsequently facilitate harmonization of enforcement strategies).
  - d. In order to appropriately link the exposure assessment with the hazard assessment, JECFA and JMPR should clearly identify sensitive populations and relevant exposure duration from the toxicological profile for each compound under consideration.
  - e. JMPR should consider the use of individual food consumption data when it is indicated by the toxicological end-points.
  - f. FAO<sup>3</sup> and WHO<sup>4</sup> should continue to collect individual food consumption data to provide a more complete coverage of a broader range of countries and population groups.
  - g. Wherever possible, FAO and WHO should collect data based on the EFSA<sup>5</sup> Food classification and description system for exposure assessment, revision 2 (FoodEx2 classification). The FoodEx2 classification is more detailed than the Codex classifications, and the mapping with the latter has been done.
  - h. A conversion table should be developed to approximately translate the foods of animal and plant origin for which food consumption statistics have been collected in CIFOCoss<sup>6</sup> into Raw Agricultural Commodities.

<sup>1</sup> Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

<sup>2</sup> Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPR)

<sup>3</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

<sup>4</sup> World Health Organization (WHO)

<sup>5</sup> European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

<sup>6</sup> FAO/WHO Chronic Individual Food Consumption Data summary statistics (CIFOCoss)

**Acute probabilistic dietary exposure assessment for pesticide**

2. FAO/WHO Scientific Advice collected pesticide monitoring plans and individual food consumption data in order to perform a probabilistic assessment of the acute exposure for 47 pesticides having an acute reference dose. Data were submitted by Brazil, Canada, European Union and the United States of America. A scientific Committee was established to ensure the quality and the transparency of the assessment to be done by an independent consultant. Results should be available in 2019 to support the ongoing review of the IESTI<sup>7</sup> equation.

**Global Food Consumption Databases and ongoing activities to support countries to generate and to use data for risk analysis purposes**

3. Reliable information on food consumption, collected at individual level, is needed to estimate dietary exposure to chemicals and biological agents in the general population and in vulnerable population groups. To address the issue of insufficient access to such data, FAO and WHO have continued the work on the two following tools (initiated in 2014), to develop global food consumption databases.
  - CIFOCOss (FAO/WHO Chronic Individual Food Consumption Data summary statistics) has been further implemented with data from additional countries and available summary statistics are published at <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/databases/en/>
  - FAO/WHO GIFT<sup>8</sup> is the name given to the comprehensive database collating individual quantitative food consumption data for the production of food-based indicators in the field of nutrition, dietary exposure and environmental impact. The dissemination platform was developed based on four datasets. The food categorization system is FoodEx2; it was developed by EFSA and was implemented for use at global level. FAO/WHO GIFT also provides an up-to-date inventory of individual quantitative food consumption surveys conducted and ongoing in low- and middle-income countries, with detailed information on identified studies. The platform is available at <http://www.fao.org/gift-individual-food-consumption/en/>
4. As part of the ongoing efforts to build national capacity and to populate these databases, a study to improve and harmonize food consumption data in ASEAN countries will be conducted over 2 years starting in May 2016. The project, funded by the EU through the Codex Trust Fund, and technically supported by FAO and WHO, consists of: i) conducting individual food consumption survey in Lao PDR and ii) harmonizing existing data from individual food consumption data in other ASEAN countries in a consistent format. This harmonization activity will consist of:
  - Training national teams to perform preliminary categorizing based on the classification of foods using the global categorization system (FoodEx2) developed by EFSA;
  - The preparation of data in the format needed (variable types, standard codifications, etc.); and
  - The ultimate aim is to improve the assessment of nutrient intake and dietary exposure to chemical and biological agents in food (supporting national and international Codex standard-setting).

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<sup>7</sup> International Estimate of Short-Term Intake (IESTI)

<sup>8</sup> FAO/WHO Global Individual Food consumption data Tool (FAO/WHO GIFT)