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Done at Washington, DC on: May 28, 2003.

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United States Manager for Codex.

Attachment 1: Sanitary and Phytosanitary Activities of Codex, Codex Alimentarius Commission and Executive Committee

The Codex Alimentarius Commission will hold its Twenty-sixth Session June 30–July 7, 2003, in Rome, Italy. At that time it will consider the standards, codes of practice, and related matters brought to its attention by the general subject committees, commodity committees, *ad hoc* Task Forces and member delegations. It will also consider options or strategies regarding the recent Joint FAO/WHO Evaluation of the Codex Alimentarius and Other FAO and WHO Work on Food Standards. At this Session, the Commission will elect a Chair, three Vice Chairs, and Regional Members of the Executive Committee as well as appoint Regional Coordinators.

Prior to the Commission meeting, the Executive Committee will meet at its Fifty-second Session on June 26–27, 2003. It is composed of the chairperson, vice-chairpersons and seven members elected from the Commission, one from each of the following geographic regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East, North America, and South-West Pacific. It will consider matters arising from reports of Codex Committees including review of standards at step 5, requests for new work, and other items brought to its attention. It will also hear a report on, and make recommendations concerning, the Trust Fund for the Participation of Developing Countries and Countries in Transition in the Work of the Codex Alimentarius.

Responsible Agency: USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

The Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods determines priorities for the consideration of residues of veterinary drugs in foods and recommends Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for veterinary drugs. A veterinary drug is defined as any

substance applied or administered to a food producing animal, such as meat or dairy animals, poultry, fish or bees, for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic purposes or for modification of physiological functions or behavior.

A Codex Maximum Limit for Veterinary Drugs (MRLVD) is the maximum concentration of residue resulting from the use of a veterinary drug (expressed in mg/kg or ug/kg on a fresh weight basis) that is adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission to be permitted or recognized as acceptable in or on a food. An MRLVD is based on the Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) and indicates the amount of residue in food that is considered to be without appreciable toxicological hazard. An MRLVD also takes into account other relevant public health risks as well as food technological aspects.

When establishing an MRLVD, consideration is also given to residues that occur in food of plant origin and/or the environment. Furthermore, the MRLVD may be reduced to be consistent with good practices in the use of veterinary drugs and to the extent that practical analytical methods are available.

*Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI): An estimate by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) of the amount of a veterinary drug, expressed on a body weight basis, that can be ingested daily over a lifetime without appreciable health risk (standard man = 60 kg).

The following matters, contained in ALINORM 03/31 and ALINORM 03/31A, will be considered by the Codex Alimentarius Commission at its 26th Session:

To be considered at Step 8:

- Abemectin
- Carazolol
- Chlortetracycline/oxytetracycline/tetracycline

- Clenbuterol
- Cyfluthrin
- Deltamethrin
- Eprinomectrin
- Phoxim
- Porcine somatotropin

To be considered at Step 5/8:

- Cyhalothrin
- Dihydrostreptomycin/Streptomycin
- Ivermectin
- Lincomycin

To be considered for final adoption at Step 5 Accelerated Procedure:

- Draft amendments to the Glossary of Terms and Definitions

To be considered at Step 5:

- Cefuroxime
- Other Work of the Committee:
- Proposed Draft Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance

- Proposed Draft Revised Guidelines for the Establishment of a Regulatory Program for Control of Veterinary Drug Residues in Foods.

- Risk Analysis Principles and Methodologies, including Risk Assessment Policies in the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

- Proposed Draft Appendix on the Prevention and Control of Veterinary Drug Residues in Milk and Milk Products

- Priority List of Veterinary Drugs Requiring Evaluation or Reevaluation
- Methods of Analysis and Sampling Issues

- Performance-based Criteria
- Identification of Routine Methods of Analysis

Responsible Agency: HHS/FDA; USDA/FSIS.

U.S. Participation: Yes.

Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants

The Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (CCFAC) (a) establishes or endorses permitted maximum or guideline levels for individual food additives, contaminants, and naturally occurring toxicants in food and animal feed; (b) prepares priority lists of food additives and contaminants for toxicological evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA); (c) recommends specifications of identity and purity for food additives for adoption by the Commission; (d) considers methods of analysis for food additives and contaminants; and (e) considers and elaborates standards and codes for related subjects such as labeling of food additives when sold as such and food irradiation. The following matters are under consideration by the Commission at its 26th Session in July 2003. The relevant documents are ALINORM 03/12 and ALINORM 03/12A.

Risk Analysis

To be considered at Step 5:

- Proposed Draft Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants

Food Additives

To be considered at Step 8:

- Codex General Standard for Food Additives: Draft Food Additive Provisions in Table 1 and Table 2
- General Standard for Food Additives: Draft Revisions to the Annex to Table 3
- Draft Revised Codex General Standard for Irradiated Foods