

Coalition for an Enhanced Codex

Supporting Codex Alimentarius to enhance food safety and food security

Coalition members acknowledge the important role that Codex plays in international standard setting and supports enhancing Codex procedures and facilitating trade. Our ultimate objective is to ensure the continued production and trade of safe, high quality and diverse food in an economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable way. While no easy solution to address capacity constraints exists, high-level commitment to increase the capacity and efficiency of the JMPR from the leadership of FAO, WHO and the Codex Alimentarius Commission is a fundamental requirement.

A fully functioning, adequately financed, global Codex MRL system would significantly facilitate trade and make it easier for growers (especially in emerging markets) and exporters to produce compliant crops and to avoid market access risks.

6 recommendations to enhance Codex MRL setting

The Codex Coalition encourages FAO and WHO to consider the below six recommendations, which could, together, result in a significant increase of the Codex ability to meet the current and future demand for Codex Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs).

1 Increase availability of experts

Expand the provision of experts and expert time by national governments, as well as



re-assess whether the required qualifications are unduly limiting the number of eligible scientists.

2 Secure budgetary resources

Secure consistent, predictable and adequate funding for scientific advice from FAO, WHO, and national governments.



3 Reduce the delay between registration of a compound and establishment of a Codex MRL

Consider existing reviews completed or MRLs set by competent national authorities, instead of conducting de novo data evaluations to avoid rework and delay.



4 Increase use of Crop Grouping and Representative Commodities

Maximize the establishment of crop group MRLs based on a review of representative and all other supporting commodity data.



5 Strengthen implementation of JMPR and CCPR procedures and more efficient communication

Utilize the electronic tools to allow for discussion of identified issues before the actual face-to-face JMPR meeting and to increase the number of active ingredients or additional uses reviewed at each meeting.



6 Elevate the trade perspective at Codex

To increase the number of Codex MRLs annually in order to avoid trade disruption and promote global misalignment, we encourage CCPR to consider greater efficiencies in its processes to reduce trade risks and put more MRLs in place.



Coalition membership encompasses the global agriculture and food value chain, with significant representation from developing countries. Members represent farmers, agri-commodity traders, the food and drink manufacturing sector, crop input suppliers, and animal health products.

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Members

Canada Grains Council



European Coffee Federation



GLOBAL DAIRY PLATFORM



HealthforAnimals



International Citrus Growers

International Food and Beverage Alliance (IFBA)



World Spices Organisation