European Community Comments for the

CODEX COMMITTEE ON RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS

Washington, D.C., 28 - 31 March 2000

CX/RVDF 00/2

Agenda item 3: Matters Referred from the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Other Codex Committees

Other legitimate factors

The Codex Committee on General Principles, while considering the role of other legitimate factors in relation to risk analysis, had sought information from other committees on the relevant factors taken into account in their work. The Committee agreed that other factors should be defined according to the principles of transparency, objectivity, and proportionality and that their application should be clearly documented in the decision process.

The European Community believes that some of the following factors, which have also been suggested by other Committees, are already integrated in the normal risk analysis procedure for residues of veterinary drugs in food:

- Good Veterinary Practice (GVP) including aspects of animal health and animal welfare
- Good Agricultural Practice (GAP)
- Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)
- availability of expertise
- availability of sampling and testing methods economic and technical feasibility, practical aspects of measures, control and compliance
- minimising exposure (as much as possible considering the application of the drug)

Factors may have been given different weight when prioritising substances, when developing guidelines, or when developing an MRL.

This list may not be exhaustive, but provides some suggestions of the other legitimate factors that have been taken into consideration by CCRVDF.