

**Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods
20th Session**

San Juan, Puerto Rico, 7-11 May 2012

**European Union comments on the
Proposed Draft Guidelines on Performance Characteristics for Multi-
residues Methods**

Agenda item 8b, CX/RVDF 12/20/10

**Mixed competence
European Union vote**

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank the United Kingdom and Canada for leading the electronic working group that has prepared a comprehensive document on performance characteristics for multi-residue analytical methods.

The EUMS welcome preparation of a clear set of guidelines, bringing harmonization into the different processes for validation of analytical methods. The document in its current form provides valuable guidance performance criteria for multi-residue analytical methods. From the evidence available to the drafting group it is clear that the performance characteristics for multi-residue methods are essentially the same as for single analyte methods. The document as prepared does exactly what it says in the title and does not stray into validation. This next step will be the logical progression of the document at CCRVDF. Validation of analytical methods is critical but this stage necessarily follows on from setting the performance characteristics. The real challenge facing the drafting group now, with the agreement of the CCRVDF, is to take this forward and develop validation guidance for such analytical methods.