6/2/2003

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY COMMENTS ON

CX/RVDF 03/09

Agenda Item 10 : Discussion Paper on Residue Issues for the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

The European Community would like to thank the United States of America for the preparation of this discussion paper. It addresses issues discussed at the 13th session of the CCRVDF on the basis a discussion paper related to concerns previously raised in the CCRVDF as to delays in the progress of the work by the Committee in the establishment of maximum residue limits. Particular reference was made to the needs of the developing countries for the development of standards for compounds used in those countries.

The issues of the progress of the work of the Codex Alimentarius and the Codex process as a whole has recently been subject to a complete evaluation and the recommendations made in the evaluation report also include possible solutions to address the needs of developing countries.

In the discussion paper it is stated that the proposals should not overlap the discussion on the future policy on risk management methodologies including risk assessment policies (agenda item 9, document CX/RVDF 03/8). However, proposals are put forward on the main issues relating to the prioritization of substances, submission of dossiers, the quality of the data in the dossiers and the timeliness and consistency of assessment by JECFA. According to the European Community, the discussion on these topics should be referred to the discussion on CX/RVDF 03/8.

Pending decisions by the CAC on new working methods for the committees and intensified involvement of developing countries in the process of development of standards, the CCRVDF should focus on the risk management methodologies including risk assessment policies to be employed as well as the revision of the guidelines for the establishment of a regulatory programme for control of veterinary drug residues in foods (CX/RDVF 03/7).