

6 October 2004

**European Community Position on  
Codex Circular Letter CL 2003/40-RVDF: Proposed Draft Code of Practice to  
Minimise and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance  
(Agenda Item 7)**

**15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods**

The European Community thanks the delegation of the United States for its work on this comprehensive Draft Code.

The European Community participated in the meetings of the CCRVDF Drafting Group to prepare a "Draft Code of Practice to Minimise and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance" based, in particular, on OIE guidelines on the prudent use of antimicrobials.

The European Community fully supports the provisions of the draft document set out in Codex Circular Letter CL 2003/40 RVDF.

In addition, given the need for harmonised international provisions in this field, the European Community recognises the importance to avoid any significant divergence between the provisions being developed by the CCRVDF and other international organisations, in particular, the OIE.