

**Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods
(19th Session)
Burlington, USA, 30 August-3 September 2010**

**European Union comments on the
Discussion Paper on Veterinary Drugs in Honey Production**

Agenda item 10, CX/RVDF 10/19/10

**Mixed competence
European Union vote**

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank the United Kingdom for leading the work on veterinary drugs in honey production.

The EUMS can largely agree with the recommendations of the electronic working group. More specifically:

- Some of the commonly used drugs listed in Table 1 already have an ADI established by JECFA or JMPR or they are widely considered as generally safe (e.g. thymol, flumethrin, amitraz, oxalic acid). This should allow JECFA to recommend MRLs for these drugs, provided that a figure can be agreed for the daily consumption of honey.
- Further data on honey consumption may not be easily available. The EUMS agree with the eWG that the limited available data support the JECFA proposal of 50 g per person per day for the daily consumption of honey. However, while the impact of increasing the consumption figure for honey to 50 g per person per day is expected to be small, it should be highlighted that no specific assessment has been performed to verify this.
- The EUMS support further work to develop Codex guidelines on good veterinary practice in honey production using as basis the national guidelines which the eWG has collected. Harmonised guidance would contribute to the safety of honey products and fair practices in trade.