

9 June 2023

## **CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDES RESIDUES**

**(Fifty-fourth Session)  
Beijing, China  
26 June – 01 July 2023**

**European Union comments on**

### **AGENDA ITEM 3**

**Matters Referred to CCPR by CAC and/or Other Subsidiary Bodies**

**(CX/PR 23/54/2)**

*Mixed Competence  
European Union Vote*

The European Union (EU) would like to submit a number of remarks and considerations with regard to the matters referred to CCPR by CAC and/or other subsidiary bodies for information.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **Paragraph 3**

CAC 45 noted discontinuation of discussion on the review of the IESTI equations. The EU deplores this and would like to inform that in the EU a scientific opinion of the European Food Safety Authority is expected to be published at the end of 2023. Further risk management considerations will be based on its outcome. The EU will continue to keep CCPR informed of all developments.

#### **Paragraph 6**

The EU supports the recommendation which will be further discussed under Agenda Item 8 of CCPR54.

#### **Paragraph 7**

The EU takes note of the recommendation of the CAC regarding the procedures for parallel review of new compounds, but wishes to recall that such projects have not been very successful in the past.

### **Paragraph 8**

The EU supports the recommendation to address environmental inhibitors on a case-by-case basis within the current mandate of CCPR. This is in line with EU legislation where at least phosphonic acid and its salts (including copper salt) falls within the framework of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 and Regulation (EC) No 396/2009

### **Paragraphs 16 -20**

The EU is very much in favour of investigating potential mechanism to address cross-cutting, overarching and emerging issues in Codex, even if such subjects do not always yet fall naturally within the terms of reference (TOR) of existing Committees. It notes that some flexibility is proposed for dealing with such issues in the existing Committees. The EU considers that such flexibility should then also apply in other cases, such as the consideration of environmental issues of global concern when establishing CXLs (see EU comments on agenda item 4a).

### **Paragraph 21**

The EU fully supports the establishment of a subcommittee to develop, in collaboration with the Codex secretariat, a report including a proposed blueprint for the future of Codex. This gives the opportunity to reflect on the main principles of Codex and adapt it to future new challenges.

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

### **Paragraph 29**

The EU notes that CCFA53 agreed to remove ortho-phenylphenols (i.e., ortho-phenylphenol (ins 231) and sodium ortho-phenylphenol (ins 232)) from the General Standard for Food Additives as they were not in use as food additives. In the EU, these compounds are still used in plant protection products and MRLs are set in Regulation (EC) No 396/2009. In CCPR, for the substance (number 30) still some CXL are set, but the toxicological evaluation is outdated. The substance is scheduled for re-evaluation by JMPR in 2024 as a reserve substance, noting that only five substances are scheduled and three have a reserve status.

### **Paragraph 30**

The EU strongly supports the request from CCLAC22, that an updated version of CX 4-1989 “Classification of Food and Feed” was available online and that this work be prioritised by the Codex secretariat. After several years of amending the classification system, the EU considers important that now, that the work comes to an end, a consolidated version is prepared and made available on the Codex website.

**Paragraph 38**

Ethylene oxide is a pesticide according to European definition but not approved in the EU and never evaluated by JMPR. A joint JMPR/JECFA evaluation might be useful and the EU proposes to support this work by providing its findings and experiences to both Joint Meetings.

**Paragraph 40**

The EU fully supports the recommendations.