Overview of the Codex MRL Setting Process for Pesticides

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**PROCESS**

1. National registration of AI or New Use
2. CCPR members and observers nominate AIs for New Compound or New Use/Other evaluation
3. AIs are added to the Codex Schedules and Priority Lists of Pesticides for Evaluation by JMPR ("placed in the queue")
   - THEY WILL WAIT IN THE QUEUE UNTIL ALL REQUIRED DATA IS AVAILABLE
4. JMPR Experts conduct evaluation for Extraordinary Session(s)
5. JMPR held — Pesticides & Toxicology Committees review and discuss Experts’ evaluations and submit recommendations to CCPR
6. CCPR recommendations for CXL approvals published in CCPR report and appendices
7. CAC approval of CCPR recommendations; CXLs officially established by publication of CAC report
8. Published in the Codex Pesticides Residues database

**CONCERNS**

- Label requirement delays start of Codex process
- No provision exists to check nomination data quality
- Limited number of JMPR sessions and JMPR Experts limits the number of evaluations per cycle
- Submitters have no opportunity for a pre-submission discussion with JMPR Secretariat and/or Experts
- National assessments and MRLs, and trials that deviate too far from the label GAP are not considered
- Crop groups have been inconsistently applied by Experts
- JMPR does not make use of the latest technologies for efficient submission and evaluation of dossiers
- No explanation given when MRLs are not recommended or crop group is not applied
- Delay in adding new CXLs to Codex MRL online database

**IMPACTS**

- Missing MRLs because some data is not accepted as it does not meet requirements
- Missing MRLs because crop groups are not fully applied
- Setting of CXLs delayed for a full year or more due to data gaps, including some that could have been addressed

**ABBREVIATION KEY**

- AI: Active Ingredient
- CAC: Codex Alimentarius Commission
- Codex: Codex Alimentarius
- CCPR: Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues
- CXL: Codex Maximum Residue Limit
- GAP: Good Agricultural Practices
- FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- JMPR: Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues
- MRL: Maximum Residue Limit
- WHO: World Health Organization