

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD**Codex Committee on Food Hygiene Meeting, 2007**

1. This note summarises the main outcomes of the 39th session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH), which was held in New Delhi, India 30 October - 4 November 2007. The session was attended by 192 delegates representing 74 member countries, one member organisation and 13 international organisations. 16 EU Member States attended along with the European Commission, and Portuguese Presidency. The report of the 39th session is available at: http://www.codexalimentarius.net/download/report/686/al31_13e.pdf

2. The Committee had a very productive session, completing work on three texts and taking on several new pieces of work. In summary the Committee:

- Agreed to advance three documents to the Codex Alimentarius Commission for adoption.
 - Proposed draft Code of Hygienic Practice for Powdered Formulae for Infants and Young Children apart from Annex II. The question of whether Annex II should contain a criterion for *Enterobacter sakazakii* in follow-on formula would be considered next year following further scientific advice from FAO/WHO and discussion by the working group immediately prior to the 40th session.
 - Proposed draft Guidelines for the Validation of Food Safety Control Measures.
 - Proposed draft Annex II on the Guidance on Microbiological Risk Management Metrics to the Principles and Guidelines for the Conduct of Microbiological Risk Management.

3. The draft Microbiological Criteria for *Listeria monocytogenes* in Ready-to-Eat Foods was briefly discussed and the Committee agreed that further work was required under the original mandate (i.e. to develop microbiological criteria only). A physical Working Group led by Germany will consider the large number of comments received and carry the work forward in 2008.

4. The Committee agreed to revise the scope of the Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* spp. In Broiler (Young Bird) Chicken Meat to include all chicken meat of the species *Gallus gallus* and not just young bird meat. There will be a Circular Letter call for scientific data to cover the extended scope, and the information received will be considered by the working group led by Sweden and New Zealand.

5. The Committee did not reach a consensus regarding removal of current international trade restrictions on milk subjected to treatment using lactoperoxidase. The Committee noted that next year Cuba intend to submit a

proposal for new work to revise the 1991 guidelines for the use of lactoperoxidase.

6. The committee agreed to take forward new work on:

- Development of a commodity specific annex on leafy green vegetables, including leafy green herbs, to add to the Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables. The USA will chair an electronic Working Group to begin this work.
- Development of a Code of Hygienic Practice for *Vibrio* species in Seafood. Japan will chair a physical Working Group in English to develop this.

7. On new work concerning Foodborne Viruses it had not been possible to submit a proposal within the deadline specified because the Dutch sponsors had been awaiting the outcome of an FAO/WHO Consultation. It was agreed to consider the issue at next year's session.

8. The Committee would be developing its own risk analysis principles document as requested by the CAC in the context of the Strategic Plan. India will lead an electronic Working Group to develop this

9. A number of other issues were reported for information, including the launch of a web based *E. sakazakii* risk assessment tool in relation to powdered infant formula (www.mramodels.org).

Secretariat
November 2007