AGENDA ITEM 5 a)

Report on items of general consideration by the 2012 JMPR

(Section 2 of the 2012 JMPR Report)

Mixed Competence.
European Union Vote.

2.1. Further consideration on "compounds no longer supported by the original sponsor"

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) have commented on points relevant to this topic under CCPR 45 agenda item 10 on the revision of the risk analysis principles, and consider it appropriate to discuss them in that context.

2.2. Update of the GEMS/Food Cluster Diets

The availability of accurate and detailed food consumption information is fundamental within the food safety risk assessment process and for planning, implementing and evaluating nutrition and public health policies.

The EUMS would therefore recommend launching a request to provide food consumption data relevant for the estimation of long-term intake of pesticide residues, similar to the exercise that was carried out for acute dietary risk assessment and is described in section 2.8 of the 2012 JMPR report. Such updated information may also contribute to the work on minor uses, as currently data for many crops is only available on a higher aggregation level (see document CX/PR 13/45/11).

The EUMS would furthermore like to inform the CCPR on relevant work carried out by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The activities towards a pan-European food consumption data collection were initiated in 2005, when an opinion of the EFSA Scientific...
Committee suggested the establishment of a harmonised food consumption database in the EU. In 2007, EFSA created the “Expert group on food consumption data” (EGFCD), which is the main contact between EFSA and the Member States in the efforts to harmonise the collection and collation of food consumption data. In 2010 the “EFSA Comprehensive European food consumption database” was established. The data gathered in the Comprehensive database, originated from 32 national food consumption surveys and representing 66,492 individuals of 22 EU Member States, are the best currently available in the EU and are currently used in risk assessments conducted by EFSA. The Comprehensive database is regularly updated with the inclusion of new food consumption data. However, it still includes survey methodological differences making these data unsuitable for obtaining comparable exposure estimates across countries or pooling data to a common European dataset for risk assessment or monitoring purposes.

A long term objective of EFSA is the acquisition of harmonised pan-European Food Consumption data within the framework of the EU Menu process “What’s on the Menu in Europe?” (EU Menu). As a starting point, and in collaboration with Member States, EFSA developed a “Guidance on the general principles for the collection of national food consumption data in the view of a pan-European dietary survey” covering, as one of the issues, the importance of using harmonised data collection tools and procedures. Two supportive methodological pilots were launched with this aim, one focused on children and the other on adults. Since 2011 EFSA is yearly launching a call for proposals aimed at supporting national dietary surveys in compliance with the EFSA Guidance on General principles for the collection of national food consumption data in the view of a pan-European dietary survey.

2.7. Assessment of compounds with very low toxicity

The EUMS have noted JMPR’s decision not to recommend an ADI for amectotradin and its reasoning for this conclusion, which may become JMPR’s general practice for substances with low toxicity. However, the EUMS recommend that an ADI always be derived from the toxicological evaluation of a pesticide. If necessary, the ADI should reflect the highest dose tested.

2.8. Update of the automated spreadsheet applications for the calculation of short-term dietary intake: new large portion data

The EUMS refer to the information provided in its comments on item 2.2 of this document, on the activities of EFSA regarding the collection of food consumption data.
2.9. Further considerations for the use of the proportionality approach

The EUMS have commented on points relevant to this topic under CCPR 45 agenda item 6(b) on the use of the concept of proportionality, and consider it appropriate to discuss them in that context.