

**Food Safety Commission Activity
(Meetings/events excerption for March 2010)**

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1. Food Safety Commission

Meeting dates; March 4th (322nd), 11th (323rd), 18th (324th), and 25th (325th)

(1) Reception of risk assessment mandates

- Data presentation and explanation by risk managers

Food additives (1 item)	Piperidine
Veterinary medicines (3 items)	[Medicines] Apramycin, cephalonium, flumequine
Pesticides (9 items)	Mandipropamid, pirimicarb, fluroxypyr, phosmet, diflufenican, pyrazosulfuron ethyl, propyzamide, benzyladenine (benzylaminopurine), bentazone
Veterinary medicine and feed additives (2 items)	Sedecamycin, morantel

(2) Acceptation of draft assessments and conclusions from Expert Committees

- The following items were to be advanced for public consultation

Pesticide (2 items)	Picolinafen, dithianon
Food additives (2 items)	1-Pentene-3-ol, 3-methyl-2-butenol
Feeds, fertilizers, etc. (2 items)	Fosfomycin, re-evaluation of fosfomycin sodium for injection in cattle (Fosmicin S for animals, i.v.)
Veterinary medicines (3 item, all for re-evaluation)	Avian Infectious Bursal Disease Vaccine Live (Bursa · BDA), Swine Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae & Swine Erysipelas Vaccine Inactivated ("KYOTO BIKEN" PIGWIN-EA), Mycoplasma Hypopneumoniae Vaccine Inactivated (RespiFend MH)
WG for food-related choking incidents (1 item)	Draft 'Risk assessment for food-related choking incidents' report.

(3) Adoption of assessments, notification of ADI for risk managers

**Food Safety Commission Activity
(Meetings/events excerption for March 2010)**

- Food additives (2 item)

Item	Summary
Butylamine, phenethylamine	FSC conclusion; 'When used for the purpose of flavouring food, the agent would not present a safety concern'.

- Pesticides (5 items)

Item	ADI
Metominostrobin	0.016 mg/kg BW/day
Cyazofamid	0.17 mg/kg BW/day
Pyridalyl	0.028 mg/kg BW/day
Oxyfluorfene	0.024 mg/kg BW/day
Ethoprophos	0.00025 mg/kg BW/day

- Genetically modified foods (3 items)

Item	Summary
Insect-resistant and herbicide-tolerant genetically modified maize MON89034 x 1507 x NK603	According to the assessment guideline, the item was determined not for necessitating additional safety assessment.
High oleic acid soy beans (DP-305423-1)	FSC conclusion; 'According to the assessment guideline, the item was evaluated to be not affecting on human health.'
High oleic acid soy beans (DP-305423-1) for feed	According to the assessment guideline, the item was determined not for necessitating additional safety assessment.

- Veterinary medicine (2 item)

Item	ADI
Mebendazole	0.0025 mg/kg BW/day

**Food Safety Commission Activity
(Meetings/events excerpt for March 2010)**

Levamisole	0.006 mg/kg BW/day
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- Feed, fertilizer, ect. and Microorganisms/viruses Expert Committees Joint WG (1 item)

Item	Summary
Risk assessment of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria against fluoroquinolone antibiotics used in cattle and pigs	FSC conclusion; 'The potential of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria cannot be denied for being selected by the use of antimicrobials, spread among humans through beef and pork commodities, and to affect on human health in a case where a human has developed an infection caused by antimicrobial-resistant bacteria due to the reduced or no treatment benefits by antimicrobial administration. Presently, the risk was estimated to be medium. The current consensus among Expert Committee is that there is not necessarily enough data and information present regarding antimicrobial-resistant bacteria, and likewise, there is not solidly established or internationally acknowledged method for risk assessment. Further data and information should be gathered for antimicrobial-resistant bacteria, including follow-up of activities and assessments by other international organizations.' This conclusion was adopted and forwarded to the responsible risk manager.

(4) Selection of items for self-task assessment

- Trans-fatty acid and aluminum were newly selected for self-task assessment. Accordingly, the following actions will be taken;

Item	Actions
Aluminum	Data collection for assessment
Trans-fatty acid	Proceed to risk assessment by the Expert Committee for novel foods.

(5) Items to be exempted from risk assessment

Food Safety Commission Activity (Meetings/events excerpt for March 2010)

- The Commission stated it is unnecessary to revise Commission's previous assessment report for addition of stabilizers (D-sorbitol and propylene glycol) to the following items to make them in liquid form;

Alkaline protease, xylanase, beta-glucanase

[The decision made based on article 11 section 1 of Food Safety Basic Law]

2. Food Safety Commission Working Groups

- WG meeting for food-related choking incidents
(7th meeting/March 10th, Wednesday)

Finalization and submission of the assessment draft in food-related choking incidents to FSC meeting.

3. Expert Committee meetings

- Expert Committee for Food additives
(83rd meeting, March 30th Tuesday)

Item	Summary
Piperidine	Drafts were partly amended and forwarded for final adoption at FSC meeting.

- Expert Committee for Pesticides
(61st Executive Board of the Pesticides Expert Committee, March 16th Tuesday)

Item	Summary
Acephate, acifluorfen, lactofen	Drafts were partly amended and forwarded for final adoption at FSC meeting.
Pymetrozine	Concluding of public consultation; amended draft and FSC replies for public inquiries were forwarded to FSC meeting.
Pyriminobac-methyl	Concluding of public consultation; FSC

**Food Safety Commission Activity
(Meetings/events excerpt for March 2010)**

	replies to public comments/inquiries were forwarded to FSC meeting.
Fenthion	Concluding of public consultation; FSC replies to public comments/inquiries were forwarded to FSC meeting.
Other activity up-date	- Drafting of guidance for AfRD - Assessment of pesticides for temporary standards due to the introduction of positive list system.

- Expert Committee for Chemicals/Contaminants

<Lead assessment>

(10th WG meeting, March 10th Monday)

*The following points were discussed at the meeting;

- A few selected members from the Expert Committee have discussed and reported their opinions on the conversion formula of blood lead level to oral intake. Their suggestion included concerns over the uncertainty of lead intake estimates based on only currently available information. They indicated that there were not enough data to set TDI for lead intake at this time.
- WG concluded that the blood threshold level of lead without adverse effects for the high-risk group (fetus, young children, pregnant women, breast-feeding mothers, and potentially pregnant women) to be 4 µg/dL, while for the rest of adults it was set to be 10 µg/dL.
- The conclusion was going to be released as an interim report. Further discussion should take place when more information/data becomes available to set TDI in the future. Eventually, the report should be made into a full risk assessment report.

- Expert Committee for Microorganisms and Viruses

(11th meeting, March 5th Friday)

<Three priority items for self-task risk assessment>.

- The meeting members agreed on partial revision of drafted risk profile up-date for *Salmonella enteritidis* in/on eggs, EHEC contamination in meat (especially beef), and norovirus in foods.

**Food Safety Commission Activity
(Meetings/events excerpt for March 2010)**

- Based on the profile up-date, the current perspective of risk assessments on those three items was amended and reported to the FSC meeting.

- Expert Committee for Prions
(64th meeting, March 31st Wednesday)

Item	Summary
BSE risk assessment on beef and beef offal imported to Japan	Assessment drafts on New Zealand and Norway were discussed.

- Expert Committee for Natural toxins and Mycotoxins
(16th meeting, March 15th Monday)

Item	Summary
Risk assessment of deoxynivalenol and nivalenol	Draft was partly amended and forwarded to FSC meeting.

- Expert Committee for Genetically Modified Foods
(80th meeting, March 10th Wednesday) *Closed session

Item	Summary
- Heat-resistant alpha-amylase-producing maize (line 3272)	Draft was discussed and forwarded to FSC meeting.
- Insect-resistant and herbicide-tolerant maize MON89034 x 1507 X NK603 - L-threonine produced by genetically modified strain THR-No.1	Draft was partly corrected and forwarded to FSC meeting.

- Expert Committee for Feed, Fertilizers, etc.
(36th meeting, March 12th Friday)

Item	Summary
- Alanine - Arginine - Glycine - Methionine - Leucine	Drafts were partly amended and forwarded to FSC meeting.