

## **CADMIUM — IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF DIFFERENT MAXIMUM LIMITS**

*First draft prepared by*

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### **1. EXPLANATION**

The dietary intake of cadmium was evaluated by the Committee at its fifty-fifth and sixty-first meetings (Annex 1, references 149 and 166). In each of these assessments, intakes of cadmium were calculated from available data on concentrations and food consumption taken from the Global Environment Monitoring System Food Contamination Monitoring and Assessment Programme (GEMS/Food) regional diets. Total intakes of cadmium estimated by the Committee at its sixty-first meeting ranged from 2.8 to 4.2 µg/kg bw per week, which equate to 40–60% of the current provisional tolerable weekly intake (PTWI) of 7 µg/kg bw per week. The seven commodity groups that contributed significantly to total intake of cadmium included rice, wheat, root vegetables, tuber vegetables, leafy vegetables, other vegetables and molluscs. These commodities accounted for 40–85% of the total intake of cadmium in the five GEMS/Food regions.

Before the sixty-first meeting of the Committee, the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (CCFAC) at its Thirty-sixth Session (CAC,

2004a) requested that the Committee evaluate the impact of different maximum levels (MLs) for cadmium in commodities that contribute significantly to intake, but this work could not be undertaken by the Committee at that time. CCFAC subsequently requested that this analysis be completed. Specifically, the Committee was asked:

- To conduct intake and impact assessments for the seven commodity groups, taking into account three possible MLs (i.e. the draft Codex ML proposed by CCFAC and one level lower and one level higher than the proposed ML). The draft proposed Codex MLs were as follows: rice, 0.4 mg/kg; wheat, 0.2 mg/kg; potatoes, 0.1 mg/kg; stem/root vegetables, 0.1 mg/kg; leafy vegetables, 0.2 mg/kg; other vegetables, 0.05 mg/kg; and molluscs (oysters, 3 mg/kg; other molluscs, 1 mg/kg).
- To evaluate the impact of three possible MLs on concentrations and intakes in subcategories of molluscs (i.e. bivalves, scallops and cephalopods) on the basis of the data submitted.

Table 1 summarizes the possible MLs (proposed, one level lower and one level higher) for each commodity group and the specific commodities included in each group as specified by CCFAC. JECFA evaluated one additional level (0.2 mg/kg) for rice, since this had been discussed previously by CCFAC as a possible ML. This assessment took into account the potential impact of each possible ML on the distribution of concentrations of cadmium in each commodity (i.e. how eliminating samples containing cadmium at concentrations greater than the ML affected the mean value of the resulting distribution, and the proportion of samples containing cadmium at concentrations greater than the ML) and the dietary intakes of cadmium from each individual commodity (i.e. how the mean concentrations of cadmium for each ML affected mean intake of cadmium).

## **2. ASSESSMENT FOR THE SIXTY-FIRST JECFA**

For the sixty-first JECFA, most cadmium concentration data used in the assessment were aggregated (i.e. means or medians representing a number of samples). In addition to these aggregated data, the Japanese government submitted a substantial number of data on individual samples (raw data). Mean values were calculated from the Japanese data and then included with the other aggregated data.

As recommended in the guidelines for conducting exposure assessments for contaminants in foods (CAC, 2004b), regional cadmium intakes were calculated using regional average concentration data and the GEMS/Food regional diets (WHO, 2003). The concentration data were grouped by commodity and geographic region (as per the GEMS/Food regional diets), and mean concentrations were calculated as the average of mean/median values reported for that region. Since sample sizes were not reported for all data, it was not possible to calculate weighted means. Cadmium intakes were calculated by multiplying the unweighted regional average concentration for each commodity by the amount consumed of the commodity, as specified in the GEMS/Food regional diets.

**Table 1. Commodities and MLs evaluated by sixty-fourth JECFA as requested by CCFAC**

| One level lower (mg/kg) | Proposed ML (mg/kg) | One level higher (mg/kg) | CCFAC commodity group                                      | Sub-categories  | Codex code | Codex code description                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 0.3                     | 0.4                 | 0.5                      | Rice, polished                                             |                 | CM 0649    | Rice, polished                             |
| 0.1                     | 0.2                 | 0.3                      | Wheat grain                                                |                 | GC 0654    | Wheat grain                                |
| 0.05                    | 0.1                 | 0.2                      | Potato                                                     |                 | VR 0589    | Potato                                     |
| 0.05                    | 0.1                 | 0.2                      | Stem and root vegetables (excluding potatoes and celeriac) |                 | VR 0075    | Roots and tubers                           |
|                         |                     |                          |                                                            |                 | VS 0078    | Stalk and stem vegetables                  |
| 0.1                     | 0.2                 | 0.3                      | Leafy vegetables                                           |                 | VL 0053    | Leafy vegetables including brassica leafy  |
| 0.01                    | 0.05                | 0.1                      | Other vegetables (excluding tomatoes and mushrooms)        |                 | VA 0035    | Bulb vegetables                            |
|                         |                     |                          |                                                            |                 | VB 0040    | Brassica vegetables                        |
|                         |                     |                          |                                                            |                 | VC 0045    | Fruiting vegetables - cucurbits            |
| 0.5                     | 1.0                 | 2.0                      | Molluscs (including cephalopods)                           |                 | IM 0150    |                                            |
| 0.5                     | 1.0                 | 2.0                      |                                                            | Marine bivalves | IM 0151    | Clams, cockles, mussels, oysters, scallops |
| 0.5                     | 1.0                 | 2.0                      |                                                            | Scallops        | IM 1005    |                                            |
| 1.0                     | 2.0                 | 3.0                      |                                                            | Cephalopods     | IM 0152    | Cuttlefish, octopus, squid                 |
| 2.0                     | 3.0                 | 4.0                      |                                                            | Oysters         | IM 1004    |                                            |

Estimated total cadmium intakes ranged from 2.8 to 4.2 µg/kg bw per week, which equate to approximately 40–60% of the current PTWI of 7 µg/kg bw per week. Commodities that contributed significantly to total cadmium intake (i.e. those contributing 10% or more of the PTWI from one GEMS/Food region, or 5% or more of the PTWI for two or more regions) included the following: rice, wheat, roots and tubers, leafy and other vegetables and molluscs. On average for the five

regional diets, these commodities accounted for about 65% of total cadmium intake.

### **3. ASSESSMENT FOR THE SIXTY-FOURTH JECFA**

The present assessment took into account the potential impact of different possible MLs on the distribution of concentrations of cadmium in each commodity (i.e. how eliminating samples containing cadmium at concentrations greater than the ML affected the mean value of the resulting distribution, and the proportion of samples containing cadmium at concentrations greater than the ML) and the dietary intakes of cadmium from each individual commodity (i.e. how the mean concentrations of cadmium for each ML affected mean intake of cadmium). Cadmium intakes were calculated for the seven commodity groups only; estimates of total cadmium intake from the previous JECFA evaluation provided a benchmark for evaluating the impact of MLs on intakes.

Conducting this assessment of possible MLs required information about the distribution of cadmium levels in each commodity group. Ideally, data reporting individual analytical results for each sample (raw data) would be used for such an assessment, rather than aggregated data. (Note that these individual samples may be either single units or composites of several units, as is often the case with Total Diet Study samples.) Since the previous JECFA assessment was based primarily on aggregated data, a data call was sent to Codex member countries requesting that any new concentration data be submitted for this evaluation.

#### **3.1 New cadmium data**

A substantial number of new data (primarily raw data) were received for this assessment. Although data on many commodities were submitted, only the data for the seven commodity groups identified by CCFAC were included in this assessment. Some countries also submitted national estimates of cadmium intake.

##### **3.1.1 Raw data**

Raw data were submitted to the JECFA Secretariat by Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Norway and the United States (Table 2). Note that many countries submitted all available cadmium data, which included many foods that were not being considered in this assessment. The information below relates only to the data relevant to the seven commodity groups specified in CCFAC's request.

Australia submitted results from their Total Diet Surveys conducted every other year between 1992 and 2000. Each Total Diet Survey data point represented a composite of three individual retail samples. In addition to the Total Diet Survey data, Australia submitted results from the Algal Biototoxin Survey (1996) and the Victorian Produce Monitoring Program (1988–1996).

Table 2. Summary of raw data submitted for the sixty-fourth JECFA

| Commodity                     | <i>n</i> |           |        |         |        |             |        |      |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|---------|--------|-------------|--------|------|
|                               | Total    | Australia | Canada | Germany | Japan  | New Zealand | Norway | USA  |
| <i>Grains</i>                 |          |           |        |         |        |             |        |      |
| Rice                          | 37 547   |           |        | 131     | 37 250 |             |        | 166  |
| Wheat                         | 940      | 57        |        | 209     | 382    | 2           |        | 290  |
| <i>Vegetables</i>             |          |           |        |         |        |             |        |      |
| Potatoes                      | 643      | 114       | 163    | 69      |        |             |        | 297  |
| Stem/root vegetables          | 1570     | 133       |        | 223     | 997    | 10          |        | 207  |
| Leafy vegetables              | 2043     | 177       |        | 927     | 673    | 12          |        | 254  |
| Other vegetables              | 3509     | 100       |        | 1335    | 1529   | 47          |        | 498  |
| <i>Molluscs</i>               |          |           |        |         |        |             |        |      |
| Oysters                       | 4478     | 31        | 2192   |         | 45     | 11          | 6      | 2193 |
| Scallops                      | 74       |           |        |         | 57     |             | 4      | 13   |
| Other bivalves                | 2471     | 12        |        | 103     | 166    | 11          | 25     | 2154 |
| Cephalopods                   | 98       |           |        |         | 98     |             |        |      |
| Molluscs, other               | 30       |           |        |         | 30     |             |        |      |
| <i>Grand total by country</i> |          | 624       | 2355   | 2997    | 41 227 | 93          | 35     | 6072 |

The Canadian government submitted data on cadmium levels in oysters from several different monitoring studies conducted on both the west coast (British Columbia) and the east coast (Nova Scotia and New Brunswick). The largest number of samples represented a study of oysters from the west coast conducted between 2001 and 2004; this was a collaborative effort involving the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries and Simon Fraser University. Additional data were reported by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, representing oyster samples collected on both the east and west coasts between 1989 and 2000. And finally, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Environment Canada analysed samples of wild oysters from beaches in British Columbia.

The German government (Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety, Berlin) submitted data for a variety of grains, vegetables and mussels. The samples had been collected and analysed between 2001 and 2004.

The Japanese government submitted a substantial number of monitoring data on a wide range of commodities, of which the majority were rice. The collection and analysis of foods were carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.

New Zealand submitted results from two Total Diet Surveys conducted in 1997–1998 and 2003–2004. The analytical results represented both individual sample and composites of up to five units per sample, depending upon the food.

From Norway, data were submitted on cadmium levels in bivalves. These were results from a surveillance programme conducted by the National Institute of Nutrition and Seafood Research between 2000 and 2003, in which samples were collected from the entire coast of Norway. The major focus of these studies was the blue mussel, although a small number of other molluscs (oysters and scallops) were included in the studies. For mussels, each data point represented a pooled sample of 25 mussels from different locations.

The United States submitted data for molluscs from monitoring programmes of the Food and Drug Administration and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Food and Drug Administration submitted data on a variety of molluscs (mussels, clams, oysters and scallops); these were results of compliance monitoring programmes conducted in 1989–1999. The Food and Drug Administration also submitted cadmium data for numerous vegetables and grains; these samples were collected and analysed between 1979 and 1981. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration submitted results from its 1986–1998 Mussel Watch Program; these data included results for oysters as well as mussels.

When compiling the new data, only those for raw commodities were used. All data for products that were cooked or processed (as determined by the food description or by documentation that accompanied the data) were excluded. Each data record was then assigned to one of the seven commodity groups. For

molluscs, data were further classified by subcategory (oysters, mussels, scallops, etc.) so the data could be evaluated by subcategory as requested by CCFAC.

A number of records were censored (i.e. results were reported as being below the limit of detection [LOD] or limit of quantification [LOQ] or less than a certain value). The percentage of censored records was determined for each of the seven commodity groups (Table 3). For most groups, less than 10% of the data was censored. The greatest proportion (34%) of censored data occurred in results for the group "other vegetables." As per the WHO guidelines for handling censored data (WHO, 1995), when 60% or less of the results are censored, a value of LOD/2 should be used for those results when calculating the mean. Since the LODs were not reported for all data sets, the following values were used for assigning a value to the censored results:

- LOD/2 if the LOD was reported;
- LOQ/2 if only the LOQ was reported;
- if no LOD or LOQ was reported but the results were reported as <x, a value of x/2 was assumed; or
- if none of the above was reported, one half the lowest value reported for the commodity group/country was assumed.

**Table 3. Censored data**

| Commodity            | % of censored values |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Rice                 | 8                    |
| Wheat                | 1                    |
| Potatoes             | 2                    |
| Stem/root vegetables | 21                   |
| Leafy vegetables     | 6                    |
| Other vegetables     | 34                   |
| Molluscs             | <1                   |

After values were assigned to all censored results, data for each commodity group were analysed (count, mean, standard deviation, minimum and maximum values) by country, by GEMS/Food region and for all data combined. Detailed results of these analyses are included in Appendix A. For most commodities, average cadmium levels across countries were comparable. For rice, average concentrations of Japanese samples were higher than those from other countries. With regard to data for molluscs, average values for oysters were considerably higher than for other subcategories, particularly for samples from Canada and New Zealand.

### **3.1.2 Aggregated data**

The major source of aggregated data was a report compiled by European Union Member States in 2004 on dietary exposure to toxic elements (EC, 2004). The specificity of the data reported by countries varied; while some reported results for individual vegetables, others reported results by broader, less specific groups (e.g. all vegetables). Data were included in this JECFA assessment only if the description was specific enough to be grouped by the commodity groups specified by CCFAC.

Other aggregated data were submitted by Spain, Sweden, Thailand and the United Kingdom. Spain provided data from samples collected between 2001 and 2003; these were mainly finfish and shellfish, although some molluscs (cephalopods and mussels) were also included. Sweden's National Food Administration reported cadmium levels in retail samples of rice collected in 2001. Data were reported by Thailand and the United Kingdom; however, due to the nature of the data, they could not be incorporated in this assessment. Thailand provided data for molluscs, but the results were reported as ranges (i.e. the number of samples falling within a certain range) rather than the mean/median value for all samples. The United Kingdom provided a report of its 2000 Total Diet Study, but the cadmium concentrations were reported for broad categories rather than for the commodities of interest in this assessment.

The selected aggregated data were grouped by commodity, and weighted means were then calculated based on sample size. Appendix B provides details of the cadmium data for each commodity and the calculation of the weighted means. The weighted means for each commodity are summarized in Table 4 below.

### **3.1.3 Cadmium intake estimates**

The previous (2003) cadmium assessment addressed estimates of total intake from all commodities, but the goal of the recent assessment undertaken was quite different in scope and methodology. The focus of the 2005 assessment was to estimate the impact of three or four possible MLs on cadmium concentrations and intakes from selected commodities rather than to estimate the total average cadmium intake from all commodities. National estimates of cadmium intakes were submitted by Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, but the estimates did not take into account the impact of different MLs.

The Japanese government (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries) submitted a probabilistic intake estimate for cadmium resulting from four possible MLs for rice. Since rice is a staple in the Japanese diet and also a major source of cadmium in their diet, this model provided estimates of the greatest potential impact on total cadmium intake by the Japanese population. The model incorporated national data on food consumption and cadmium levels in foods. Consumption data were obtained from Japan's National Nutrition Survey conducted from 1995 through 2000, which included records on approximately 53 000 adults 20 years of age and older. Conversion factors were applied to multi-ingredient foods reported in the survey to



allow for estimation of consumption of commodities. Cadmium concentration data for about 130 different foods were obtained from surveys conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. Since the number of foods reported in the consumption survey was greater than the number of foods analysed for cadmium levels, concentration values for similar foods were used as surrogates when there was not a one-to-one match between consumption and concentration data. The probabilistic estimates of cadmium intake were derived from a Monte Carlo simulation using the Japanese version of Crystal Ball 2000 (Kozo Keikaku Engineering, Inc.). Lognormal distributions were assumed for food consumption amounts, and a binary distribution was assumed for frequency of consumption (eaters versus non-eaters). For foods with cadmium levels above the LOQ, lognormal distributions were assumed if more than 100 samples exceeded the LOQ; for foods with fewer than 100 samples above the LOQ, medians were used as fixed values. For samples with analytical values below the LOQ, one half the value of the LOQ was substituted when less than 60% of the samples were below the LOQ, and the LOQ value was used when more than 60% of samples were below the LOQ. Four intake scenarios were performed — one for each of four possible MLs for cadmium in rice (0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5 mg/kg). For all other foods, the MLs were fixed at the level currently proposed by CCFAC.

### **3.2 Comparison of new and previous concentration data**

The previous JECFA assessment provided an estimate of total cadmium intake based on the five GEMS/Food regional diets and regional average cadmium concentrations calculated from aggregated data. Since the current assessment is an addendum to the previous work but is based on different cadmium data, it was important to show that the new data were comparable to those used previously.

Table 4 compares the new cadmium concentration data (both raw and aggregated data) with the aggregated data used in 2003. The data are reported by GEMS/Food region, since the regional diets are the basis for estimating cadmium intakes. Most data submitted for both the 2003 and 2005 assessments were from countries in the Far Eastern and European (which includes Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States) regions; a limited number of data from Middle Eastern countries were available in the previous assessment.

Average concentrations of cadmium based on the new data are reported in the left section of Table 4. For rice, average concentrations of cadmium were higher in Japanese samples (0.062 mg/kg) than in samples from other countries (0.017 mg/kg). The average concentration of cadmium in wheat was 0.054 mg/kg. Average concentrations of cadmium in vegetables ranged from 0.012 to 0.040 mg/kg. For molluscs, average concentrations of cadmium derived from more than 7000 samples were as follows: oysters, 1.38 mg/kg; mussels, 0.43 mg/kg; and other bivalves or cephalopods, 0.20 mg/kg.

All three sets of cadmium values are comparable, with a few exceptions:



Table 4. (contd)

Table 4. (contd)

| Commodity                      | 64th JECFA (2005)                       | 64th JECFA (2005)         | 61st JECFA (2003) <sup>a</sup> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                                | Raw data                                | Aggregated data           | Aggregated data                |
|                                | European + Far Eastern GEMS/Food region | European GEMS/Food region | Far Eastern GEMS/Food region   |
|                                | Mean (mg/kg)                            | Mean (wtd) (mg/kg)        | Mean (unwtd) (mg/kg)           |
|                                | SD                                      | n                         | partial n                      |
|                                | n                                       | Mean (unwtd) (mg/kg)      | Mean (unwtd) (mg/kg)           |
| a.4. bivalves, other           | 232                                     | 0.191                     | 0.201                          |
|                                |                                         | 100                       | 0.102                          |
| b. Cephalopods                 | 98                                      | 0.172                     | 0.262                          |
|                                |                                         | 810                       | 0.218                          |
| c. Molluscs, other             | 30                                      | 0.043                     | 0.025                          |
|                                |                                         | 145                       | 0.239                          |
| All molluscs excluding oysters | 2673                                    | 0.391                     | 0.389                          |

SD, standard deviation; unwtd, unweighted; wtd, weighted

<sup>a</sup> Notes regarding the 2003 data:

- Not all data submissions indicated the sample size for the reported mean/median values. The "partial n" indicates the total of the sample sizes that were reported.
- The means were calculated as the average of all mean/median values reported. They were not weighted by sample size.
- The data for molluscs were not specific enough to separate them by subcategories.
- The subcategories are subsets of the data reported above for "all molluscs combined."

- As noted above, cadmium levels in rice samples from Japan are higher than those observed in other countries.
- For molluscs as a whole (all data combined), the mean concentration is higher than the regional averages from the 2003 JECFA assessment. This is mainly due to the fact that oysters accounted for more than half of the new raw data for molluscs. The previous averages were more similar to new data for “molluscs other than oysters.”
- Slight differences are noted in the mean values for all categories of vegetables. These differences are most likely due to differences in the specific vegetables that were included in each grouping of data. For the current work, CCFAC was very specific in defining each commodity group (Table 1), whereas the previous assessment was more inclusive and was based on slightly different groupings of commodities (e.g. potatoes were included in “roots/tubers.”

Since the assessment of the impact of different MLs requires use of raw data, aggregated data were not used in the assessment. Nevertheless, they provided information to confirm that both the new and previous data sets were comparable.

### **3.3      *Impact of different possible MLs on cadmium concentrations***

The purpose of this task was to estimate the change in mean cadmium values if samples exceeding a given possible ML were excluded from the calculation and to estimate the proportion of samples that contained cadmium concentrations greater than the ML. For five of the commodity groups (wheat, potatoes, stem/root vegetables, leafy vegetables and other vegetables), the data from different countries were sufficiently similar to allow all data to be combined for this assessment. Owing to the substantial difference in concentrations of cadmium in rice (by region) and in molluscs (by subcategory), the potential impact of MLs was evaluated separately for subsets of these data. Two estimates of the impact of MLs on concentrations of cadmium were calculated for rice (low estimates were based on European data only, and high estimates were based on all data combined) and for molluscs (low estimates were based on data for oysters and other molluscs separately, and high estimates were based on data for all molluscs combined). Although CCFAC requested that cephalopods be evaluated at a proposed ML of 2.0 mg/kg (Table 1), the data for cephalopods were combined with the group “molluscs excluding oysters” for the assessment, since the mean cadmium level was similar to that of other subcategories in this group.

For each commodity group or subgroup, a baseline mean concentration of cadmium was calculated from all data for the group. For each of the three or four possible MLs (proposed, one level higher and one or two levels lower), the mean was recalculated after excluding values greater than the ML, and the percentage reduction from the baseline mean was calculated. The number and percentage of total data points exceeding the ML were also calculated for each ML.

Results of the assessments for all commodities are summarized in Table 5. Results for each commodity are also reported separately in the graphs that follow (see Figure 1). The greatest impacts of MLs on concentrations of cadmium in individual commodities were seen for stem/root vegetables, other vegetables and molluscs excluding oysters, with reductions in mean values of 41%, 68% and 42%, respectively, when the lowest MLs were used.

**Table 5. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations: Summary of assessments**

|                                 | ML<br>(mg/kg) | <i>n</i> ><br>ML | % ><br>ML | mean<br>(mg/kg) | % reduction<br>from baseline<br>(mean) |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| GRAINS                          |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| RICE - ALL DATA COMBINED        |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Total <i>n</i> : 37 547         |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML:  |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Two levels lower                | 0.2           | 1243             | 3         | 0.054           | 12                                     |
| One level lower                 | 0.3           | 295              | 1         | 0.059           | 3                                      |
| Proposed                        | 0.4           | 94               | <1        | 0.060           | 2                                      |
| One level higher                | 0.5           | 39               | <1        | 0.061           | <1                                     |
| Baseline (all data)             |               |                  |           | 0.061           |                                        |
| RICE - DATA FOR EUROPEAN REGION |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Total <i>n</i> : 297            |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML:  |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Two levels lower                | 0.2           | 2                | 1         | 0.015           | 12                                     |
| One level lower                 | 0.3           | 0                |           | 0.017           | 0                                      |
| Proposed                        | 0.4           | 0                |           | 0.017           | 0                                      |
| One level higher                | 0.5           | 0                |           | 0.017           | 0                                      |
| Baseline (all data)             |               |                  |           | 0.017           |                                        |
| WHEAT GRAIN                     |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Total <i>n</i> : 940            |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML:  |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| One level lower                 | 0.1           | 94               | 10        | 0.042           | 22                                     |
| Proposed                        | 0.2           | 13               | 1         | 0.051           | 6                                      |
| One level higher                | 0.3           | 4                | <1        | 0.052           | 3                                      |
| Baseline (all data)             |               |                  |           | 0.054           |                                        |

Table 5. (contd)

|                                                            | ML<br>(mg/kg) | n ><br>ML | % ><br>ML | mean<br>(mg/kg) | % reduction<br>from baseline<br>(mean) |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| VEGETABLES                                                 |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| POTATOES                                                   |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| Total n: 643                                               |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML:                             |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| One level lower                                            | 0.05          | 163       | 25        | 0.022           | 39                                     |
| Proposed                                                   | 0.1           | 16        | 2         | 0.034           | 8                                      |
| One level higher                                           | 0.2           | 2         | <1        | 0.036           | 3                                      |
| Baseline (all data)                                        |               |           |           | 0.037           |                                        |
| STEM AND ROOT VEGETABLES (excluding potatoes and celeriac) |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| Total n: 1570                                              |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML:                             |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| One level lower                                            | 0.05          | 242       | 15        | 0.017           | 41                                     |
| Proposed                                                   | 0.1           | 57        | 4         | 0.023           | 16                                     |
| One level higher                                           | 0.2           | 5         | <1        | 0.027           | 3                                      |
| Baseline (all data)                                        |               |           |           | 0.028           |                                        |
| LEAFY VEGETABLES                                           |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| Total n: 2043                                              |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML:                             |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| One level lower                                            | 0.1           | 143       | 7         | 0.031           | 22                                     |
| Proposed                                                   | 0.2           | 26        | 1         | 0.037           | 7                                      |
| One level higher                                           | 0.3           | 7         | <1        | 0.039           | 2                                      |
| Baseline (all data)                                        |               |           |           | 0.040           |                                        |
| OTHER VEGETABLES (excluding tomatoes and fungi)            |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| Total n: 3509                                              |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML:                             |               |           |           |                 |                                        |
| One level lower                                            | 0.01          | 948       | 27        | 0.004           | 68                                     |
| Proposed                                                   | 0.05          | 149       | 4         | 0.009           | 27                                     |
| One level higher                                           | 0.1           | 36        | 1         | 0.011           | 9                                      |
| Baseline (all data)                                        |               |           |           | 0.012           |                                        |

Table 5. (contd)

|                                | ML<br>(mg/kg) | <i>n</i> ><br>ML | % ><br>ML | mean<br>(mg/kg) | % reduction<br>from baseline<br>(mean) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| MOLLUSCS                       |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| ALL MOLLUSCS COMBINED          |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Total <i>n</i> : 7151          |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML: |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| One level lower                | 0.5           | 4005             | 56        | 0.253           | 75                                     |
| Proposed                       | 1             | 2415             | 34        | 0.409           | 60                                     |
| One level higher               | 2             | 1063             | 15        | 0.638           | 37                                     |
| Baseline (all data)            |               |                  |           | 1.010           |                                        |
| OYSTERS                        |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Total <i>n</i> : 4478          |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML: |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| One level lower                | 2             | 1049             | 23        | 0.839           | 39                                     |
| Proposed                       | 3             | 424              | 9         | 1.082           | 22                                     |
| One level higher               | 4             | 190              | 4         | 1.210           | 13                                     |
| Baseline (all data)            |               |                  |           | 1.384           |                                        |
| MOLLUSCS EXCLUDING OYSTERS     |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Total <i>n</i> : 2673          |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| Level relative to proposed ML: |               |                  |           |                 |                                        |
| One level lower                | 0.5           | 681              | 25        | 0.227           | 42                                     |
| Proposed                       | 1             | 173              | 6         | 0.321           | 18                                     |
| One level higher               | 2             | 14               | 1         | 0.378           | 3                                      |
| Baseline (all data)            |               |                  |           | 0.391           |                                        |

### 3.4 Impact of different possible MLs on cadmium intakes

For the intake assessment completed by the Committee at its sixty-first meeting, intakes of cadmium, both by commodity and total, were calculated from the GEMS/Food regional diets and the regional average concentrations of cadmium derived from aggregated data. Total intakes ranged from 2.8 to 4.2 µg/kg bw per week, which corresponds to approximately 40–60% of the PTWI of 7 µg/kg bw per week.

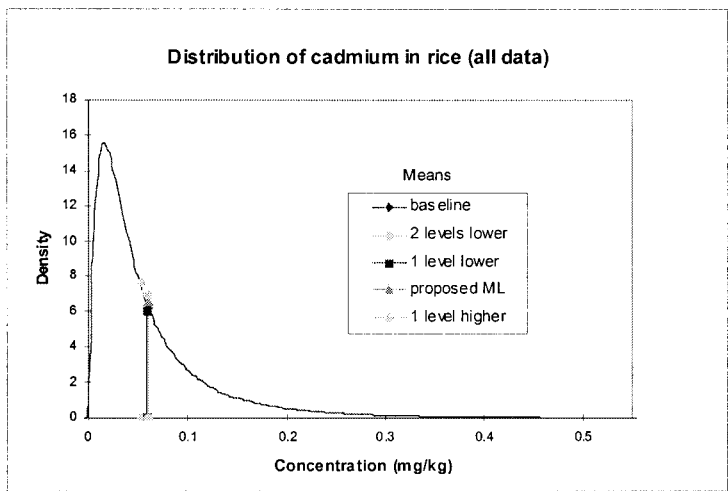
Since the present assessment required the use of raw rather than aggregated data, it was necessary to recalculate the intakes using the average concentration



values derived from the new raw data. The GEMS/Food regional diets were used for the calculation, as they had been in the previous JECFA assessment. Slight differences in the intakes estimated for the previous and the current assessment resulted from differences in consumption amounts for the commodity groups. As noted previously, CCFAC was more specific in its definitions of the commodity groups for this assessment, so the consumption amounts used in each of the assessments were slightly different for some commodities (particularly for vegetables). Mean cadmium concentration values used for the two estimates were also somewhat different.

**Figure 1. Impact of different possible MLs on cadmium concentrations in A) rice, B) wheat, C) potatoes, D) stem and root vegetables, E) leafy vegetables, F) other vegetables, G) oysters and H) molluscs other than oysters**

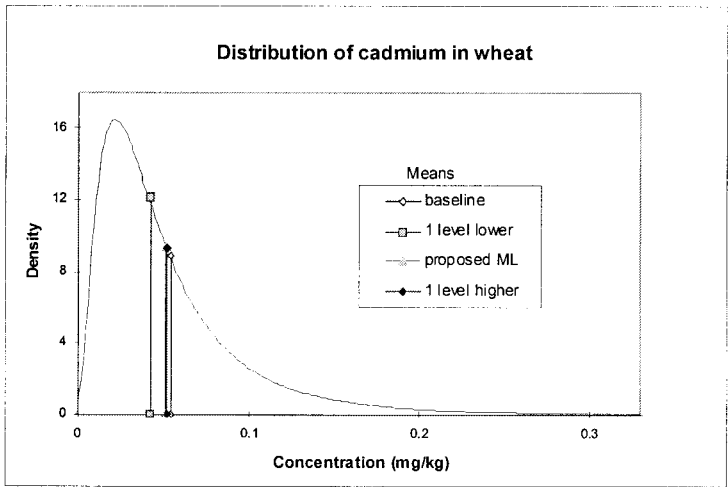
**A. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations in rice (all data)**



| Rice                | Possible ML<br>(mg/kg) | Mean<br>(mg/kg) | Maximum<br>value (mg/kg) | % samples<br>> ML |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Baseline (all data) |                        | 0.061           | 1.20                     |                   |
| Two levels lower    | 0.2                    | 0.054           |                          | 3                 |
| One level lower     | 0.3                    | 0.059           |                          | 1                 |
| Proposed ML         | 0.4                    | 0.060           |                          | <1                |
| One level higher    | 0.5                    | 0.061           |                          | <1                |

Figure 1. (contd)

B. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations in wheat



|                     | Possible ML<br>(mg/kg) | Mean (mg/kg) | Maximum<br>value<br>(mg/kg) | % samples<br>> ML |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Baseline (all data) |                        | 0.054        | 0.470                       |                   |
| One level lower     | 0.1                    | 0.042        |                             | 10                |
| Proposed ML         | 0.2                    | 0.051        |                             | 1                 |
| One level higher    | 0.3                    | 0.052        |                             | <1                |

C. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations in potatoes

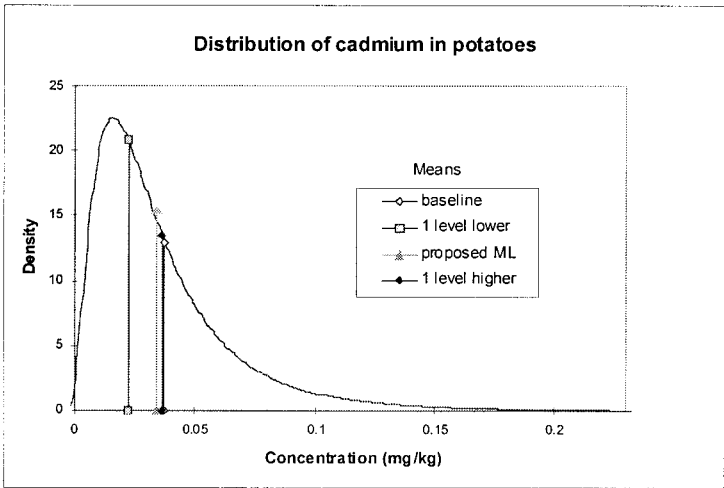
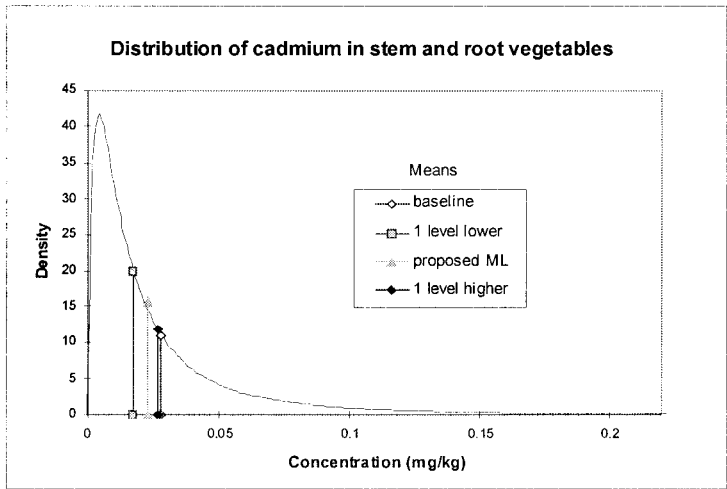


Figure 1. (contd)

|                     | Possible ML<br>(mg/kg) | Mean<br>(mg/kg) | Maximum<br>value (mg/kg) | % samples<br>> ML |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Baseline (all data) |                        | 0.037           | 0.220                    |                   |
| One level lower     | 0.05                   | 0.022           |                          | 25                |
| Proposed ML         | 0.1                    | 0.034           |                          | 2                 |
| One level higher    | 0.2                    | 0.036           |                          | <1                |

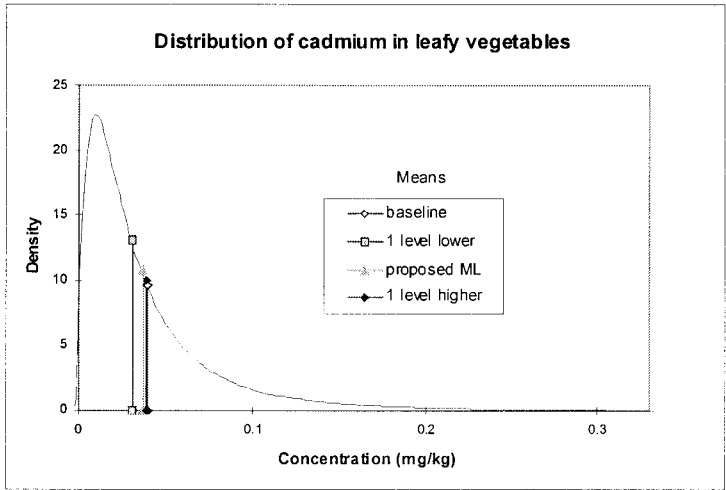
D. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations in stem and root vegetables



|                     | Possible ML<br>(mg/kg) | Mean<br>(mg/kg) | Maximum<br>value (mg/kg) | % samples<br>> ML |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Baseline (all data) |                        | 0.028           | 0.330                    |                   |
| One level lower     | 0.05                   | 0.017           |                          | 15                |
| Proposed ML         | 0.1                    | 0.023           |                          | 4                 |
| One level higher    | 0.2                    | 0.027           |                          | <1                |

Figure 1. (contd)

E. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations in leafy vegetables



|                     | Possible ML<br>(mg/kg) | Mean<br>(mg/kg) | Maximum<br>value (mg/kg) | % samples<br>> ML |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Baseline (all data) |                        | 0.040           | 0.490                    |                   |
| One level lower     | 0.1                    | 0.031           |                          | 7                 |
| Proposed ML         | 0.2                    | 0.037           |                          | 1                 |
| One level higher    | 0.3                    | 0.039           |                          | <1                |

F. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations in other vegetables

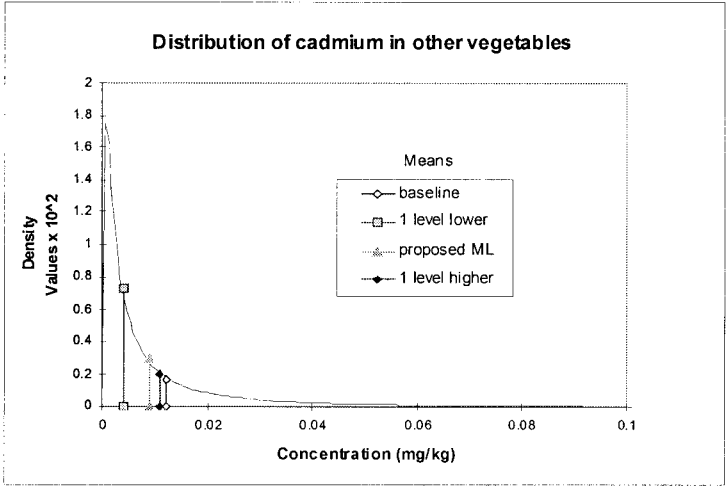
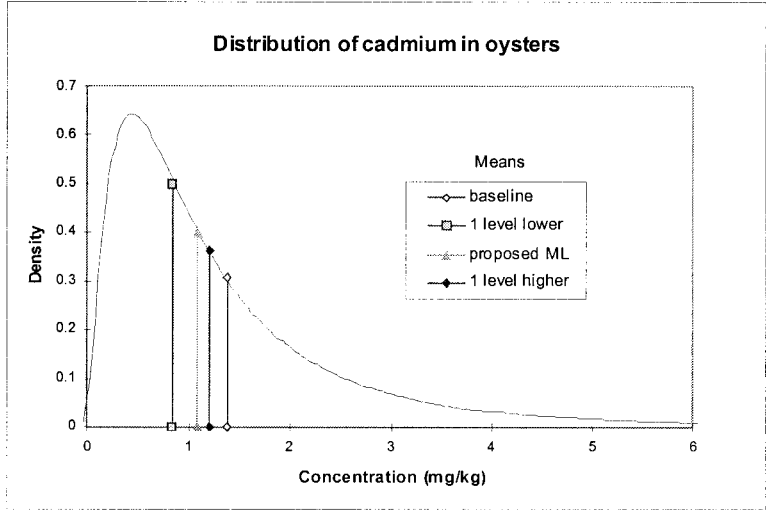


Figure 1. (contd)

|                     | Possible ML<br>(mg/kg) | Mean<br>(mg/kg) | Maximum<br>value (mg/kg) | % samples<br>> ML |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Baseline (all data) |                        | 0.012           | 0.240                    |                   |
| One level lower     | 0.01                   | 0.004           |                          | 27                |
| Proposed ML         | 0.05                   | 0.009           |                          | 4                 |
| One level higher    | 0.1                    | 0.011           |                          | 1                 |

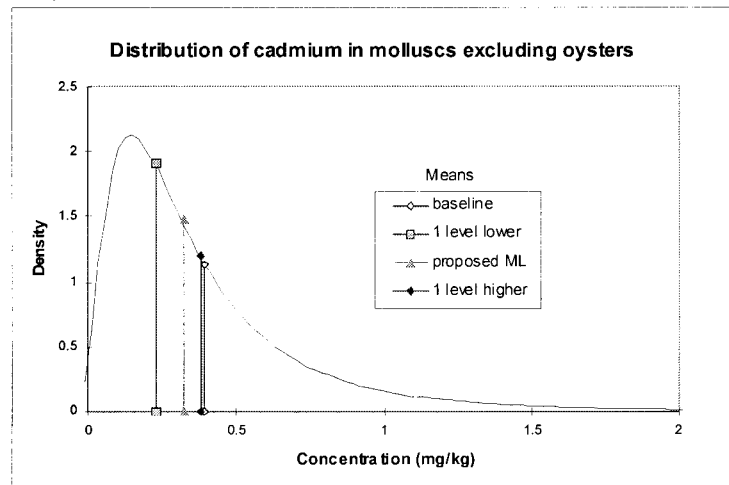
G. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations in oysters



|                     | Possible ML<br>(mg/kg) | Mean<br>(mg/kg) | Maximum<br>value (mg/kg) | % samples<br>> ML |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Baseline (all data) |                        | 1.384           | 9.81                     |                   |
| One level lower     | 2                      | 0.839           |                          | 23                |
| Proposed ML         | 3                      | 1.082           |                          | 9                 |
| One level higher    | 4                      | 1.210           |                          | 4                 |

Figure 1. (contd)

## H. Impact of different MLs on cadmium concentrations in molluscs other than oysters



|                     | Possible ML<br>(mg/kg) | Mean<br>(mg/kg) | Maximum<br>value (mg/kg) | % samples<br>> ML |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Baseline (all data) |                        | 0.391           | 9.0                      |                   |
| One level lower     | 0.5                    | 0.227           |                          | 25                |
| Proposed ML         | 1                      | 0.321           |                          | 6                 |
| One level higher    | 2                      | 0.378           |                          | 1                 |

An additional adjustment was made for estimating cadmium intake from molluscs. The GEMS/Food regional diets include total consumption amounts for “molluscs including cephalopods” but provide no information about consumption of mollusc subcategories. Since the new concentration data showed that cadmium levels in oysters tend to be higher than levels in other molluscs, it was preferable to calculate intake from oysters separately from other molluscs. National consumption data from Australia, France, New Zealand and the United States were used to derive average proportions of oyster and total mollusc consumption that could be applied to the regional diets (Table 6). Since mollusc consumption is highest for the GEMS/Food European region, data from these countries provided a good basis for deriving the adjustment factor. Oyster consumption was estimated to be about 16% of total mollusc consumption.

Table 7 summarizes the updated cadmium intake estimates for each commodity group. Intakes are expressed in terms of actual intake ( $\mu\text{g/kg}$  bw per day) and percentage of the daily equivalent of the PTWI of  $7 \mu\text{g/kg}$  bw per week (i.e.  $1 \mu\text{g/kg}$  bw per day). Baseline intakes for the five GEMS/Food regions, expressed as a percentage of the daily equivalent of the PTWI, ranged from 1% to 34% for rice, 3% to 29% for wheat, 1% to 15% for potatoes, <1% to 14% for stem/root

vegetables, <1% to 3% for leafy and other vegetables, <1% to 15% for all molluscs combined and <1% to 5% for subcategories of molluscs.

**Table 6. Proportional consumption of molluscs by subcategory based on national consumption data**

| Country     | Percentage of total mollusc consumption |          |         |       |                  |                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|----------|---------|-------|------------------|-------------------|
|             | Bivalves                                |          |         |       | Cephalo-<br>pods | Other<br>molluscs |
|             | Oysters                                 | Scallops | Mussels | Clams |                  |                   |
| France      | 24                                      | 6        | 70      | nr    | nr               | nr                |
| Australia   | 14                                      | 19       | 14      | 2     | 51               | nr                |
| New Zealand | 19                                      | 7        | 47      | 3     | 14               | 9                 |
| USA         | 8                                       | 8        | 4       | 67    | 9                | 4                 |
| Average     | 16                                      | 10       | 34      | 18    | 19               | 3                 |

nr, not reported; assumed 0 when calculating average

The impact of different possible MLs on cadmium intakes was evaluated for commodities/regions for which intakes were significant (i.e. 10% or more of the daily equivalent of the PTWI in one region or 5% or more of the daily equivalent of the PTWI in two or more regions). The remaining commodities/regions contributed minimally to total cadmium intake, and it was assumed that different MLs would have little or no impact on intakes. For rice, only the intake estimates based on all concentration data combined were assessed, since they provided a more conservative estimate. For molluscs, assessments were conducted for oysters and other molluscs only; since the majority of data for molluscs were for oysters, the combined data set was not considered representative of molluscs as a whole. Results of this assessment are reported in Table 8. Baseline intake for each commodity group, calculated from the mean of all concentration data for that commodity, is reported in terms of µg/kg bw per day and as a percentage of the daily equivalent of the PTWI. Intakes for each scenario (total intake and reduction from baseline) are reported in terms of percentage of the daily equivalent of the PTWI. The lowest MLs generated reductions in intakes as follows, expressed here as a percentage of the PTWI: rice, 4%; wheat, 6%; potatoes, 6%; stem/root vegetables, 5%; oysters, 1%; and other molluscs, 2%. The proposed ML and one level higher had little or no impact on mean intakes of cadmium.

Results of the probabilistic intake assessment submitted by the Japanese government are presented in Tables 9 and 10. In this case, the impact on total cadmium intake was assessed for four possible MLs for rice only. Intakes were originally reported on a weekly basis but were converted for this assessment to a daily basis for comparability to the intakes calculated from the GEMS/Food regional diets. Total mean daily cadmium intake was estimated to be 45% and 48% of the daily equivalent of the PTWI at the lowest and highest possible MLs, respectively (Table 9). The lowest ML for rice (0.2 mg/kg) resulted in a slight reduction (3% of the daily equivalent of the PTWI) in total mean intake. There was

Table 7. Baseline cadmium intakes from selected commodities<sup>a</sup>

| Commodity                                                  | Middle Eastern<br>GEMS/Food region |                        | Far Eastern<br>GEMS/Food region |                        | African GEMS/<br>Food region |                        | Latin American<br>GEMS/Food region |                        | European<br>GEMS/Food region |                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                                            | µg/kg bw<br>per day                | %<br>PTWI <sup>b</sup> | µg/kg bw<br>per day             | %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | µg/kg bw<br>per day          | %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | µg/kg bw<br>per day                | %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | µg/kg bw<br>per day          | %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> |
| High estimate:                                             |                                    |                        |                                 |                        |                              |                        |                                    |                        |                              |                        |
| Rice - all data                                            | 0.050                              | 5                      | 0.341                           | 34                     | 0.105                        | 11                     | 0.088                              | 9                      | 0.012                        | 1                      |
| Rice - Japan only                                          | 0.050                              | 5                      | 0.346                           | 35                     | 0.107                        | 11                     | 0.089                              | 9                      | 0.012                        | 1                      |
| Low estimate:                                              |                                    |                        |                                 |                        |                              |                        |                                    |                        |                              |                        |
| Rice - other countries                                     | 0.014                              | 1                      | 0.095                           | 9                      | 0.029                        | 3                      | 0.025                              | 2                      | 0.003                        | 0                      |
| Wheat                                                      | 0.295                              | 29                     | 0.124                           | 12                     | 0.025                        | 3                      | 0.105                              | 11                     | 0.160                        | 16                     |
| Potatoes                                                   | 0.036                              | 4                      | 0.014                           | 1                      | 0.013                        | 1                      | 0.025                              | 3                      | 0.148                        | 15                     |
| Stem and root vegetables (excluding potatoes and celeriac) | 0.004                              | 0                      | 0.052                           | 5                      | 0.140                        | 14                     | 0.059                              | 6                      | 0.016                        | 2                      |
| Leafy vegetables                                           | 0.005                              | 1                      | 0.008                           | 1                      | 0.000                        | 0                      | 0.011                              | 1                      | 0.034                        | 3                      |
| Other vegetables (excluding tomatoes and mushrooms)        | 0.025                              | 2                      | 0.012                           | 1                      | 0.004                        | 0                      | 0.013                              | 1                      | 0.027                        | 3                      |
| High estimate:                                             |                                    |                        |                                 |                        |                              |                        |                                    |                        |                              |                        |
| All molluscs including cephalopods                         | 0.000                              | 0                      | 0.081                           | 8                      | 0.008                        | 1                      | 0.014                              | 1                      | 0.154                        | 15                     |
| Low estimate:                                              |                                    |                        |                                 |                        |                              |                        |                                    |                        |                              |                        |
| Oysters only                                               | 0.000                              | 0                      | 0.018                           | 2                      | 0.002                        | 0.2                    | 0.003                              | 0.3                    | 0.034                        | 3                      |



Table 7. (contd)

| Commodity                                                          | Middle Eastern<br>GEMS/Food region |                        | Far Eastern<br>GEMS/Food region |                        | African GEMS/<br>Food region |                        | Latin American<br>GEMS/Food region |                        | European<br>GEMS/Food region |                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                                                    | µg/kg bw<br>per day                | %<br>PTWI <sup>b</sup> | µg/kg bw<br>per day             | %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | µg/kg bw<br>per day          | %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | µg/kg bw<br>per day                | %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | µg/kg bw<br>per day          | %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> |
| Low estimate:                                                      | 0.000                              | 0                      | 0.026                           | 3                      | 0.003                        | 0.3                    | 0.004                              | 0.4                    | 0.050                        | 5                      |
| Subtotal intake from seven commodities based on 2005 cadmium data: |                                    |                        |                                 |                        |                              |                        |                                    |                        |                              |                        |
| High estimate:                                                     | 0.41                               | 41                     | 0.63                            | 63                     | 0.30                         | 30                     | 0.31                               | 31                     | 0.55                         | 55                     |
| Low estimate:                                                      | 0.38                               | 38                     | 0.35                            | 35                     | 0.22                         | 22                     | 0.24                               | 24                     | 0.47                         | 47                     |
| Total intakes as per 2003 JECFA                                    | 0.428                              | 40                     | 0.617                           | 60                     | 0.47                         | 50                     | 0.378                              | 40                     | 0.548                        | 50                     |

<sup>a</sup> Baseline intake is based on mean concentration of all data for a given commodity and GEMS/Food regional diets.

<sup>b</sup> PTWI<sub>d</sub> = daily equivalent of the PTWI = 1 µg/kg bw per day (derived from PTWI of 7 µg/kg bw per week).

Table 8. Impact of different possible MLs on cadmium intakes: Summary of scenarios<sup>a</sup>

| Commodity                                             | GEMS/<br>Food<br>region | GEMS/<br>Food<br>regional<br>diets —<br>con-<br>sump-<br>tion<br>(g/kg<br>bw per<br>day) | Cadmium intakes based on mean concentrations for baseline and each ML scenario |                                     |                                                |                                     |                 |                                                |                                     |          |                                                |                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
|                                                       |                         |                                                                                          | Baseline (all<br>data)                                                         |                                     | Two levels lower                               |                                     | One level lower |                                                | Proposed ML                         |          | One level higher                               |                                     |          |
|                                                       |                         |                                                                                          | Intake<br>( $\mu\text{g/kg}$<br>bw per<br>day)                                 | Intake<br>as %<br>PTWI <sup>b</sup> | Intake<br>( $\mu\text{g/kg}$<br>bw per<br>day) | Intake<br>as %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | $\Delta^c$      | Intake<br>( $\mu\text{g/kg}$<br>bw per<br>day) | Intake<br>as %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | $\Delta$ | Intake<br>( $\mu\text{g/kg}$<br>bw per<br>day) | Intake<br>as %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | $\Delta$ |
| Rice<br>(based on<br>mean of all<br>data<br>combined) | Middle<br>Eastern       | 0.81                                                                                     | 0.050                                                                          | 5                                   | 0.044                                          | 4                                   | -1              | 0.048                                          | 5                                   | 0        | 0.050                                          | 5                                   | 0        |
|                                                       | Far<br>Eastern          | 5.59                                                                                     | 0.341                                                                          | 34                                  | 0.302                                          | 30                                  | -4              | 0.330                                          | 33                                  | -1       | 0.341                                          | 34                                  | 0        |
|                                                       | African                 | 1.72                                                                                     | 0.105                                                                          | 11                                  | 0.093                                          | 9                                   | -2              | 0.102                                          | 10                                  | -1       | 0.105                                          | 11                                  | 0        |
|                                                       | Latin<br>American       | 1.44                                                                                     | 0.088                                                                          | 9                                   | 0.078                                          | 8                                   | -1              | 0.085                                          | 9                                   | 0        | 0.088                                          | 9                                   | 0        |
|                                                       | Middle<br>Eastern       | 5.46                                                                                     | 0.295                                                                          | 29                                  |                                                |                                     |                 | 0.229                                          | 23                                  | -6       | 0.278                                          | 28                                  | -1       |
| Wheat                                                 | Far<br>Eastern          | 2.30                                                                                     | 0.124                                                                          | 12                                  |                                                |                                     |                 | 0.096                                          | 10                                  | -2       | 0.117                                          | 12                                  | 0        |
|                                                       | Latin<br>American       | 1.95                                                                                     | 0.105                                                                          | 11                                  |                                                |                                     |                 | 0.082                                          | 8                                   | -3       | 0.099                                          | 10                                  | -1       |
|                                                       | European                | 2.97                                                                                     | 0.160                                                                          | 16                                  |                                                |                                     |                 | 0.125                                          | 12                                  | -4       | 0.151                                          | 15                                  | -1       |
| Potatoes                                              | European                | 4.01                                                                                     | 0.148                                                                          | 15                                  |                                                |                                     |                 | 0.088                                          | 9                                   | -6       | 0.136                                          | 14                                  | -1       |

Table 8. (contd)

| Commodity                                                          | GEMS/<br>Food<br>region | GEMS/<br>Food<br>regional<br>diets —<br>con-<br>sump-<br>tion<br>(g/kg<br>bw per<br>day) | Cadmium intakes based on mean concentrations for baseline and each ML scenario |                                                  |                                    |                                     |                 |                                    |                                     |    |                                    |                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                                                                    |                         |                                                                                          | Baseline (all<br>data)                                                         |                                                  | Two levels lower                   |                                     | One level lower |                                    | Proposed ML                         |    | One level higher                   |                                     |
|                                                                    |                         |                                                                                          | Intake<br>(µg/kg<br>bw per<br>day)                                             | Intake<br>as %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> <sup>b</sup> | Intake<br>(µg/kg<br>bw per<br>day) | Intake<br>as %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | Δ <sup>c</sup>  | Intake<br>(µg/kg<br>bw per<br>day) | Intake<br>as %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> | Δ  | Intake<br>(µg/kg<br>bw per<br>day) | Intake<br>as %<br>PTWI <sub>d</sub> |
| Stem/root<br>vegetables<br>(excluding<br>potatoes,<br>celeriaceae) | Far<br>Eastern          | 1.85                                                                                     | 0.052                                                                          | 5                                                | 0.031                              | 3                                   | -2              | 0.043                              | 4                                   | -1 | 0.050                              | 5                                   |
|                                                                    | African                 | 5.01                                                                                     | 0.140                                                                          | 14                                               | 0.085                              | 9                                   | -5              | 0.115                              | 12                                  | -2 | 0.135                              | 14                                  |
|                                                                    | Latin<br>American       | 2.11                                                                                     | 0.059                                                                          | 6                                                | 0.036                              | 4                                   | -2              | 0.049                              | 5                                   | -1 | 0.057                              | 6                                   |
| Molluscs                                                           |                         |                                                                                          |                                                                                |                                                  |                                    |                                     |                 |                                    |                                     |    |                                    |                                     |
| - Oysters<br>only                                                  | European                | 0.02                                                                                     | 0.034                                                                          | 3                                                | 0.020                              | 2                                   | -1              | 0.026                              | 3                                   | 0  | 0.029                              | 3                                   |
| - All other<br>molluscs                                            | European                | 0.13                                                                                     | 0.050                                                                          | 5                                                | 0.029                              | 3                                   | -2              | 0.041                              | 4                                   | -1 | 0.048                              | 5                                   |
| - Oysters<br>only                                                  | Far<br>Eastern          | 0.01                                                                                     | 0.018                                                                          | 2                                                | 0.010                              | 1                                   | -1              | 0.013                              | 1                                   | -1 | 0.015                              | 1                                   |
| - All other<br>molluscs                                            | Far<br>Eastern          | 0.07                                                                                     | 0.026                                                                          | 3                                                | 0.015                              | 2                                   | -1              | 0.022                              | 2                                   | -1 | 0.026                              | 3                                   |

<sup>a</sup> Includes only commodities/regions for which baseline intake estimates = 5% or > PTWI<sub>d</sub>.  
<sup>b</sup> PTWI<sub>d</sub> = daily equivalent of the PTWI = 1 µg/kg bw per day (calculated from PTWI of 7 µg/kg bw per week).  
<sup>c</sup> Δ = change from baseline (% PTWI<sub>d</sub>).

Table 9. Japanese model: impact of different possible MLs for rice on total cadmium

| Intake percentile | Total cadmium intake                  |                  |                                       |                   |                                      |                          |                   |                  |                                  |                   |                  |                          |                                       |                  |                          |  |  |  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
|                   | Two levels lower (0.2 mg/kg for rice) |                  |                                       |                   | One level lower (0.3 mg/kg for rice) |                          |                   |                  | Proposed ML (0.4 mg/kg for rice) |                   |                  |                          | One level higher (0.5 mg/kg for rice) |                  |                          |  |  |  |
|                   | µg/kg bw per week                     | µg/kg bw per day | % PTWI/PTWI <sub>d</sub> <sup>a</sup> | µg/kg bw per week | µg/kg bw per day                     | % PTWI/PTWI <sub>d</sub> | µg/kg bw per week | µg/kg bw per day | % PTWI/PTWI <sub>d</sub>         | µg/kg bw per week | µg/kg bw per day | % PTWI/PTWI <sub>d</sub> | µg/kg bw per week                     | µg/kg bw per day | % PTWI/PTWI <sub>d</sub> |  |  |  |
| Mean              | 3.18                                  | 0.45             | 45                                    | 3.29              | 0.47                                 | 47                       | 3.33              | 0.48             | 48                               | 3.35              | 0.48             | 48                       |                                       |                  |                          |  |  |  |
| 50                | 2.79                                  | 0.40             | 40                                    | 2.85              | 0.41                                 | 41                       | 2.86              | 0.41             | 41                               | 2.86              | 0.41             | 41                       |                                       |                  |                          |  |  |  |
| 75                | 3.85                                  | 0.55             | 55                                    | 3.94              | 0.56                                 | 56                       | 3.97              | 0.57             | 57                               | 3.98              | 0.57             | 57                       |                                       |                  |                          |  |  |  |
| 90                | 5.21                                  | 0.74             | 74                                    | 5.45              | 0.78                                 | 78                       | 5.54              | 0.79             | 79                               | 5.57              | 0.80             | 80                       |                                       |                  |                          |  |  |  |
| 95                | 6.27                                  | 0.90             | 90                                    | 6.67              | 0.95                                 | 95                       | 6.85              | 0.98             | 98                               | 6.93              | 0.99             | 99                       |                                       |                  |                          |  |  |  |
| 97.5              | 7.38                                  | 1.05             | 105                                   | 8.01              | 1.14                                 | 114                      | 8.32              | 1.19             | 119                              | 8.46              | 1.21             | 121                      |                                       |                  |                          |  |  |  |

<sup>a</sup> PTWI<sub>d</sub> = daily equivalent of the PTWI = 1  $\mu\text{g/kg}$  bw per day, derived from a PTWI of 7  $\mu\text{g/kg}$  bw per week.

no impact on total mean intake at the proposed and higher MLs. Greater reductions in total intake were seen at the upper percentiles.

Total mean intake from rice was estimated to be about 20% of the PTWI in the Japanese model (Table 10), compared with the highest estimates based on the GEMS/Food regional diets of 33–34% of the PTWI from rice. The consumption values in the GEMS/Food regional diets, which are based on Food Balance Sheet data, are generally assumed to be about 15% higher than values for actual average food consumption (WHO, 2003). Despite the difference in actual estimates of intake of cadmium from rice, both the probabilistic model and the GEMS/Food estimates demonstrated that each of the four possible MLs for rice had little or no impact on mean cadmium intake.

**Table 10. Japanese model: contribution of commodities to total cadmium intake**

| Commodity               | Cadmium intake (µg/kg bw per week) <sup>a</sup> | Percentage of total intake | Percentage of PTWI |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Fishery products        | 0.45                                            | 13                         | 6                  |
| Meat                    | 0.09                                            | 3                          | 1                  |
| Fruits                  | 0.10                                            | 3                          | 1                  |
| Vegetables              | 0.69                                            | 21                         | 10                 |
| Soya beans              | 0.21                                            | 6                          | 3                  |
| Wheat                   | 0.36                                            | 11                         | 5                  |
| Rice                    | 1.39                                            | 42                         | 20                 |
| Other cereals and beans | 0.05                                            | 1                          | 1                  |

<sup>a</sup> Results of scenario based on proposed ML for rice (0.4 mg/kg).

## **4. COMMENTS**

### **4.1 Data on concentrations of cadmium in food**

In order to conduct this assessment, information about the distribution of concentrations of cadmium in each commodity group (e.g. analytical results for each sample, or raw data) was required. Raw data were submitted by Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Norway and the United States. Some aggregated data were also submitted by the European Union, Spain, Sweden and Thailand.

Average concentrations of cadmium, based on the new data on individual samples, were similar to those used in the intake assessment completed by the Committee at its sixty-first meeting (Table 4). For rice, average concentrations of cadmium were higher in samples from Japan (0.062 mg/kg) than in samples from other countries (0.017 mg/kg). The average concentration of cadmium in wheat was 0.054 mg/kg. Average concentrations of cadmium in vegetables ranged from

0.012 to 0.040 mg/kg. For molluscs, average concentrations of cadmium derived from more than 7000 samples were as follows: oysters, 1.38 mg/kg; mussels, 0.43 mg/kg; and other bivalves or cephalopods, 0.20 mg/kg.

#### **4.2      *Assessment of the impact of different possible MLs on mean concentrations of cadmium***

For five of the commodity groups (wheat, potatoes, stem/root vegetables, leafy vegetables and other vegetables), the data from different countries were sufficiently similar to allow all data to be combined for this assessment. Owing to the substantial difference in concentrations of cadmium in rice (by region) and in molluscs (by subcategory), the potential impact of MLs was evaluated separately for subsets of these data. Two estimates of the impact of MLs on concentrations of cadmium were calculated for rice (low estimates were based on European data only, and high estimates were based on all data combined) and for molluscs (low estimates were based on data for oysters and other molluscs separately, and high estimates were based on data for all molluscs combined).

For each commodity group or subgroup, a baseline mean concentration of cadmium was calculated from all data on concentrations. For each of the three or four MLs (proposed, one level higher and one level or two levels lower), the mean was recalculated after excluding values greater than that ML, and the percentage reduction from the baseline mean was calculated. The number and percentage of total data points exceeding the ML were also calculated for each ML (Table 5). The greatest impacts of MLs on concentrations of cadmium in individual commodities were seen for stem/root vegetables, other vegetables and molluscs (41%, 68%, and 42%, respectively, when the lowest MLs were used).

#### **4.3      *Assessment of the impact of different possible MLs on mean intakes of cadmium***

For the intake assessment completed by the Committee at its sixty-first meeting (Annex 1, reference 166), intakes of cadmium, both by commodity and total, were calculated from the GEMS/Food regional diets and the regional average concentrations of cadmium derived from aggregated data. Total intakes ranged from 2.8 to 4.2 µg/kg bw per week, which corresponds to 40–60% of the PTWI of 7 µg/kg bw per week.

For the present assessment, intakes of cadmium were recalculated for the seven commodity groups on an individual basis; total intakes of cadmium calculated in the previous intake assessment were used as benchmarks (Table 7). Baseline intakes were calculated from food consumption reported in the GEMS/Food regional diets, as in the previous assessment, and values for average baseline concentrations of cadmium were derived from the new raw data. Intakes were recalculated based on the mean concentration of cadmium from each of the MLs. The impact of each ML on intake of cadmium was reported in terms of the reduction from baseline intake.

Baseline intakes for the five GEMS/Food regions, which were calculated as daily intakes and expressed as a percentage of the daily equivalent of the PTWI, ranged from 1% to 34% for rice, 3% to 29% for wheat, 1% to 15% for potatoes, <1% to 14% for stem/root vegetables, <1% to 3% for leafy vegetables, <1% to 3% for other vegetables, <1% to 3% for oysters and <1% to 5% for other molluscs (Tables 8 and 11). The lowest MLs generated reductions in intakes as follows, expressed here as a percentage of the daily equivalent of the PTWI: rice, 4%; wheat, 6%; potatoes, 6%; stem/root vegetables, 5%; oysters, 1%; and other molluscs, 2%. The proposed ML and one level higher had little or no impact on mean intakes of cadmium.

A probabilistic intake assessment for cadmium in rice using national data from Japan was submitted to the Committee. This intake assessment considered four different possible MLs and showed results similar to those based on the GEMS/Food regional diets. Total mean intake of cadmium from rice was estimated to be about 1.4 µg/kg bw per week, or 20% of the PTWI, compared with daily equivalent estimates based on the GEMS/Food diets of 33–34% of the PTWI from rice. The consumption values in the GEMS/Food diets, which are based on data from Food Balance Sheets, are generally assumed to be about 15% higher than values for actual average food consumption (WHO, 2003). Despite the difference in actual estimates of intake of cadmium from rice, both the probabilistic model and the GEMS/Food estimates demonstrated little or no impact on mean intake of cadmium from rice for the four possible MLs.

## 5. EVALUATION

The Committee concluded that the effect of different MLs on overall intake of cadmium would be very small. At the proposed Codex MLs, mean intake of cadmium would be reduced by approximately 1% of the PTWI. The imposition of MLs one level lower would result in potential reductions in intake of cadmium of no more than 6% (wheat grain, potatoes) of the PTWI. At the proposed Codex MLs, no more than 9% of a commodity would be violative (oysters). MLs one level below those proposed would result in approximately 25% of molluscs, potatoes and other vegetables being violative.

The use of different possible MLs to truncate the tail of the distribution of a contaminant in commodities has little impact on the intake of the contaminant from that commodity, unless a large proportion of the commodity is excluded by the ML. The Committee noted that in its previous assessment (Annex 1, reference 166), the total intake of cadmium was only 40–60% of the PTWI of 7 µg/kg bw per week; therefore, a variation of 1–6% attributable to the use of the proposed Codex MLs, and one level higher or lower, is of no significance in terms of risk to human health.

Table 11. Summary of impact of different MLs for cadmium

|                                                            | Level relative to proposed ML | ML   | Impact on cadmium concentration |                | Impact on cadmium intakes                                           |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                                                            |                               |      | % reduction from baseline mean  | % samples > ML | Reduction in highest intakes (as % PTWL <sub>d</sub> ) <sup>a</sup> |  |
| Rice - all data combined                                   |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                                     |  |
| Baseline mean concentration (mg/kg)                        | Two levels lower              | 0.2  | 12                              | 3              | 4                                                                   |  |
| Highest baseline intake (% PTWL <sub>d</sub> )             | One level lower               | 0.3  | 3                               | 1              | 1                                                                   |  |
|                                                            | Proposed                      | 0.4  | 2                               | <1             | 1                                                                   |  |
|                                                            | One level higher              | 0.5  | <1                              | <1             | 0                                                                   |  |
| Wheat grain                                                |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                                     |  |
| Baseline mean concentration (mg/kg)                        | One level lower               | 0.1  | 22                              | 10             | 6                                                                   |  |
| Highest baseline intake (% PTWL <sub>d</sub> )             | Proposed                      | 0.2  | 6                               | 1              | 1                                                                   |  |
|                                                            | One level higher              | 0.3  | 3                               | <1             | 1                                                                   |  |
| Potatoes                                                   |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                                     |  |
| Baseline mean concentration (mg/kg)                        | One level lower               | 0.05 | 39                              | 25             | 6                                                                   |  |
| Highest baseline intake (% PTWL <sub>d</sub> )             | Proposed                      | 0.1  | 8                               | 2              | 1                                                                   |  |
|                                                            | One level higher              | 0.2  | 3                               | <1             | 1                                                                   |  |
| Stem and root vegetables (excluding potatoes and celeriac) |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                                     |  |
| Baseline mean concentration (mg/kg)                        | One level lower               | 0.05 | 41                              | 15             | 5                                                                   |  |
| Highest baseline intake (% PTWL <sub>d</sub> )             | Proposed                      | 0.1  | 16                              | 4              | 2                                                                   |  |
|                                                            | One level higher              | 0.2  | 3                               | <1             | 0                                                                   |  |



Table 11. (contd)

|                                                 | Level relative to proposed ML | ML   | Impact on cadmium concentration |                | Impact on cadmium intakes                              |  |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                                                 |                               |      | % reduction from baseline mean  | % samples > ML | Reduction in highest intakes (as % PTWId) <sup>a</sup> |  |
| Leafy vegetables                                |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                        |  |
| Baseline mean concentration (mg/kg)             | One level lower               | 0.1  | 22                              | 7              | not evaluated                                          |  |
| Highest baseline intake (% PTWId)               | Proposed                      | 0.2  | 7                               | 1              |                                                        |  |
|                                                 | One level higher              | 0.3  | 2                               | <1             |                                                        |  |
| Other vegetables (excluding tomatoes and fungi) |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                        |  |
| Baseline mean concentration (mg/kg)             | One level lower               | 0.01 | 68                              | 27             | not evaluated                                          |  |
| Highest baseline intake (% PTWId)               | Proposed                      | 0.05 | 27                              | 4              |                                                        |  |
|                                                 | One level higher              | 0.1  | 9                               | 1              |                                                        |  |
| Molluscs                                        |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                        |  |
| - Oysters                                       |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                        |  |
| Baseline mean concentration (mg/kg)             | One level lower               | 2    | 39                              | 23             | 1                                                      |  |
| Highest baseline intake (% PTWId)               | Proposed                      | 3    | 22                              | 9              | 1                                                      |  |
| - Molluscs excluding oysters                    |                               |      |                                 |                |                                                        |  |
| Baseline mean concentration (mg/kg)             | One level lower               | 0.5  | 42                              | 25             | 2                                                      |  |
| Highest baseline intake (% PTWId)               | Proposed                      | 1    | 18                              | 6              | 1                                                      |  |
|                                                 | One level higher              | 2    | 3                               | 1              | 0                                                      |  |

<sup>a</sup> This represents the reduction in intake for the GEMS/Food region with the highest intake from this commodity. PTWId = daily equivalent of the PTWI = 1 µg/kg bw per day, derived from a PTWI of 7 µg/kg bw per week.

## 6. REFERENCES

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**APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF RAW DATA ON CADMIUM CONCENTRATIONS  
IN COMMODITIES, BY COUNTRY AND REGION**

| Commodity            |             | n      | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |       |        |       |
|----------------------|-------------|--------|-------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|
|                      |             |        | Mean                          | SD    | Min    | Max   |
| RICE                 |             |        |                               |       |        |       |
| All data combined    |             | 37 547 | 0.061                         | 0.062 | <0.001 | 1.200 |
| By region:           | European    | 297    | 0.017                         | 0.026 | <0.001 | 0.226 |
|                      | Far Eastern | 37 250 | 0.062                         | 0.062 | 0.005  | 1.200 |
| By country:          | Germany     | 131    | 0.023                         | 0.019 | 0.002  | 0.109 |
|                      | Japan       | 37 250 | 0.062                         | 0.062 | 0.005  | 1.200 |
|                      | USA         | 166    | 0.012                         | 0.029 | <0.001 | 0.226 |
| WHEAT                |             |        |                               |       |        |       |
| All data combined:   |             | 940    | 0.054                         | 0.048 | 0.001  | 0.470 |
| By region:           | European    | 558    | 0.041                         | 0.034 | 0.003  | 0.347 |
|                      | Far Eastern | 382    | 0.072                         | 0.057 | 0.001  | 0.047 |
| By country:          | Australia   | 57     | 0.033                         | 0.038 | 0.003  | 0.170 |
|                      | Germany     | 209    | 0.041                         | 0.032 | 0.005  | 0.347 |
|                      | Japan       | 382    | 0.072                         | 0.057 | 0.001  | 0.470 |
|                      | New Zealand | 2      | 0.027                         | 0.002 | 0.025  | 0.028 |
|                      | USA         | 290    | 0.043                         | 0.035 | 0.003  | 0.207 |
| POTATOES             |             |        |                               |       |        |       |
| All data combined    |             | 643    | 0.037                         | 0.029 | 0.001  | 0.220 |
| By region:           | European    | 574    | 0.038                         | 0.031 | 0.001  | 0.220 |
|                      | Far Eastern | 69     | 0.023                         | 0.012 | 0.003  | 0.058 |
| By country:          | Australia   | 114    | 0.083                         | 0.027 | 0.055  | 0.220 |
|                      | Germany     | 163    | 0.019                         | 0.015 | 0.001  | 0.092 |
|                      | Japan       | 69     | 0.023                         | 0.012 | 0.003  | 0.058 |
|                      | USA         | 297    | 0.031                         | 0.020 | 0.002  | 0.182 |
| STEM/ROOT VEGETABLES |             |        |                               |       |        |       |
| All data combined    |             | 1570   | 0.028                         | 0.033 | 0.001  | 0.330 |
| By region:           | European    | 573    | 0.027                         | 0.028 | 0.001  | 0.160 |
|                      | Far Eastern | 997    | 0.028                         | 0.035 | 0.003  | 0.330 |
| By country:          | Australia   | 133    | 0.045                         | 0.037 | 0.003  | 0.160 |

**Appendix A** (contd)

| Commodity         |             | <i>n</i> | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |       |       |       |
|-------------------|-------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                   |             |          | Mean                          | SD    | Min   | Max   |
|                   | Germany     | 223      | 0.016                         | 0.018 | 0.001 | 0.120 |
|                   | Japan       | 997      | 0.028                         | 0.035 | 0.003 | 0.330 |
|                   | New Zealand | 10       | 0.020                         | 0.012 | 0.006 | 0.045 |
|                   | USA         | 207      | 0.028                         | 0.025 | 0.002 | 0.132 |
| LEAFY VEGETABLES  |             |          |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined |             | 2043     | 0.040                         | 0.044 | 0.001 | 0.490 |
| By region:        | European    | 1370     | 0.036                         | 0.040 | 0.001 | 0.370 |
|                   | Far Eastern | 673      | 0.049                         | 0.050 | 0.003 | 0.490 |
| By country:       | Australia   | 177      | 0.023                         | 0.043 | 0.003 | 0.320 |
|                   | Germany     | 927      | 0.038                         | 0.041 | 0.001 | 0.370 |
|                   | Japan       | 673      | 0.049                         | 0.050 | 0.003 | 0.490 |
|                   | New Zealand | 12       | 0.018                         | 0.007 | 0.008 | 0.030 |
|                   | USA         | 254      | 0.042                         | 0.036 | 0.001 | 0.195 |
| OTHER VEGETABLES  |             |          |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined |             | 3509     | 0.012                         | 0.021 | 0.000 | 0.240 |
| By region:        | European    | 1980     | 0.007                         | 0.016 | 0.000 | 0.240 |
|                   | Far Eastern | 1529     | 0.019                         | 0.025 | 0.003 | 0.220 |
| By country:       | Australia   | 100      | 0.021                         | 0.049 | 0.002 | 0.240 |
|                   | Germany     | 1335     | 0.006                         | 0.013 | 0.001 | 0.240 |
|                   | Japan       | 1529     | 0.019                         | 0.025 | 0.003 | 0.220 |
|                   | New Zealand | 47       | 0.003                         | 0.004 | 0.000 | 0.022 |
|                   | USA         | 498      | 0.007                         | 0.008 | 0.001 | 0.054 |
| MOLLUSCS, ALL     |             |          |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined |             | 7151     | 1.013                         | 1.120 | 0.000 | 9.810 |
| By region:        | European    | 6755     | 1.062                         | 1.132 | 0.000 | 9.810 |
|                   | Far Eastern | 396      | 0.176                         | 0.211 | 0.005 | 1.300 |
| By country:       | Australia   | 43       | 0.518                         | 0.356 | 0.100 | 2.000 |
|                   | Canada      | 2192     | 2.163                         | 1.286 | 0.040 | 9.810 |
|                   | Germany     | 103      | 0.159                         | 0.123 | 0.000 | 0.839 |
|                   | Japan       | 396      | 0.176                         | 0.211 | 0.005 | 1.300 |
|                   | New Zealand | 22       | 1.757                         | 2.225 | 0.078 | 6.700 |

**Appendix A** (contd)

| Commodity                                                 |             | n    | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |       |       |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                                                           |             |      | Mean                          | SD    | Min   | Max   |
|                                                           | Norway      | 35   | 0.541                         | 0.781 | 0.100 | 4.100 |
|                                                           | USA         | 4360 | 0.536                         | 0.459 | 0.001 | 9.000 |
| MOLLUSCS - BY SUBCATEGORY                                 |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| BIVALVES, ALL (See breakout by bivalve subcategory below) |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined                                         |             | 7023 | 1.029                         | 1.123 | 0.000 | 9.810 |
| By region:                                                | European    | 6755 | 1.062                         | 1.132 | 0.000 | 9.810 |
|                                                           | Far Eastern | 268  | 0.193                         | 0.196 | 0.010 | 0.770 |
| By country:                                               | Australia   | 43   | 0.518                         | 0.356 | 0.100 | 2.000 |
|                                                           | Canada      | 2192 | 2.163                         | 1.286 | 0.040 | 9.810 |
|                                                           | Germany     | 103  | 0.159                         | 0.123 | 0.000 | 0.839 |
|                                                           | Japan       | 268  | 0.193                         | 0.196 | 0.010 | 0.770 |
|                                                           | New Zealand | 22   | 1.757                         | 2.225 | 0.078 | 6.700 |
|                                                           | Norway      | 35   | 0.541                         | 0.781 | 0.100 | 4.100 |
|                                                           | USA         | 4360 | 0.536                         | 0.459 | 0.001 | 9.000 |
| CEPHALOPODS                                               |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined                                         |             | 98   | 0.172                         | 0.262 | 0.005 | 1.300 |
| By region:                                                | Far Eastern | 98   | 0.172                         | 0.262 | 0.005 | 1.300 |
| By country:                                               | Japan       | 98   | 0.172                         | 0.262 | 0.005 | 1.300 |
| MOLLUSCS, OTHER                                           |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined                                         |             | 30   | 0.043                         | 0.025 | 0.005 | 0.100 |
| By region:                                                | Far Eastern | 30   | 0.043                         | 0.025 | 0.005 | 0.100 |
| By country:                                               | Japan       | 30   | 0.043                         | 0.025 | 0.005 | 0.100 |
| SUBCATEGORIES - BIVALVES                                  |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| OYSTERS                                                   |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined                                         |             | 4478 | 1.384                         | 1.242 | 0.001 | 9.810 |
| By region:                                                | European    | 4433 | 1.395                         | 1.244 | 0.001 | 9.810 |
|                                                           | Far Eastern | 45   | 0.301                         | 0.155 | 0.100 | 0.680 |
| By country:                                               | Australia   | 31   | 0.531                         | 0.364 | 0.160 | 2.000 |
|                                                           | Canada      | 2192 | 2.163                         | 1.286 | 0.040 | 9.810 |
|                                                           | Japan       | 45   | 0.301                         | 0.155 | 0.100 | 0.680 |
|                                                           | New Zealand | 11   | 3.272                         | 2.309 | 0.265 | 6.700 |

**Appendix A** (contd)

| Commodity             |             | n    | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |       |       |       |
|-----------------------|-------------|------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                       |             |      | Mean                          | SD    | Min   | Max   |
|                       | Norway      | 6    | 0.772                         | 0.326 | 0.480 | 1.350 |
|                       | USA         | 2193 | 0.633                         | 0.497 | 0.001 | 6.752 |
| <b>SCALLOPS</b>       |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined     |             | 74   | 0.181                         | 0.311 | 0.010 | 2.100 |
| By region:            | European    | 17   | 0.401                         | 0.565 | 0.062 | 2.100 |
|                       | Far Eastern | 57   | 0.115                         | 0.125 | 0.010 | 0.560 |
| By country:           | Japan       | 57   | 0.115                         | 0.125 | 0.010 | 0.560 |
|                       | Norway      | 4    | 0.950                         | 0.889 | 0.200 | 2.100 |
|                       | USA         | 13   | 0.232                         | 0.312 | 0.062 | 1.220 |
| <b>MUSSELS</b>        |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined     |             | 2239 | 0.433                         | 0.399 | 0.000 | 9.000 |
| By region:            | European    | 2239 | 0.433                         | 0.399 | 0.000 | 9.000 |
|                       | Australia   | 7    | 0.600                         | 0.294 | 0.200 | 1.100 |
| By country:           | Germany     | 103  | 0.159                         | 0.123 | 0.000 | 0.839 |
|                       | New Zealand | 11   | 0.242                         | 0.128 | 0.078 | 0.455 |
|                       | Norway      | 25   | 0.420                         | 0.829 | 0.100 | 4.100 |
|                       | USA         | 2093 | 0.447                         | 0.397 | 0.001 | 9.000 |
| <b>OTHER BIVALVES</b> |             |      |                               |       |       |       |
| All data combined     |             | 232  | 0.191                         | 0.201 | 0.008 | 1.000 |
| By region:            | European    | 66   | 0.194                         | 0.168 | 0.008 | 1.000 |
|                       | Far Eastern | 166  | 0.190                         | 0.213 | 0.020 | 0.770 |
| By country:           | Australia   | 5    | 0.320                         | 0.383 | 0.100 | 1.000 |
|                       | Japan       | 166  | 0.190                         | 0.213 | 0.020 | 0.770 |
|                       | USA         | 61   | 0.183                         | 0.139 | 0.008 | 0.723 |

Max, maximum; Min, minimum; SD, standard deviation

## APPENDIX B: WEIGHTED MEANS FOR AGGREGATED CADMIUM DATA

| Data source                    | Country     | GEMS region | Group # | Commodity          | n   | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |        | Year      |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------|--------------------|-----|-------------------------------|----------|--------|-----------|
|                                |             |             |         |                    |     | Mean                          | Mean * n | Max    |           |
| EU SCOOP report<br>memo to FAO | Italy       | EUR         | 1       | rice               | 42  | 0.070                         | 2.940    | 0.360  | 1997–2002 |
|                                | Sweden      | EUR         | 1       | rice, polished     | 44  | 0.024                         | 1.056    | <0.001 | 2001      |
|                                |             |             |         | sum:               | 86  |                               | 3.996    |        |           |
|                                |             |             |         | weighted mean:     |     | 0.046                         |          |        |           |
| EU SCOOP report                | Ireland     | EUR         | 2       | flour              | 2   | 0.050                         | 0.100    | 0.050  | 1999      |
| EU SCOOP report                | Netherlands | EUR         | 2       | flour              | 8   | 0.030                         | 0.240    | 0.018  | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report                | Netherlands | EUR         | 2       | flour              | 70  | 0.038                         | 2.660    | 0.009  | 2000      |
| EU SCOOP report                | Netherlands | EUR         | 2       | flour              | 176 | 0.045                         | 7.920    | 0.010  | 2001      |
| EU SCOOP report                | Netherlands | EUR         | 2       | flour              | 5   | 0.021                         | 0.105    | 0.009  | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report                | Finland     | EUR         | 2       | wheat              | 36  | 0.036                         | 1.296    | 0.009  | 1991      |
| EU SCOOP report                | Italy       | EUR         | 2       | wheat flour        | 2   | 0.030                         | 0.060    | 0.020  | 1997–1998 |
| EU SCOOP report                | Italy       | EUR         | 2       | wheat, durum grain | 239 | 0.037                         | 8.843    | 0.009  | 1996      |
| EU SCOOP report                | Italy       | EUR         | 2       | wheat, soft grain  | 178 | 0.035                         | 6.230    | 0.011  | 1996      |
|                                |             |             |         | sum:               | 716 |                               | 27.454   |        |           |
|                                |             |             |         | weighted mean:     |     | 0.038                         |          |        |           |
| EU SCOOP report                | Finland     | EUR         | 3       | potato             | 100 | 0.010                         | 1.000    | 0.003  | 2000      |

## Appendix B (contd)

| Data source     | Country        | GEMS region | Group # | Commodity      | n   | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |        |       | Year      |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|---------|----------------|-----|-------------------------------|----------|--------|-------|-----------|
|                 |                |             |         |                |     | Mean                          | Mean * n | Min    | Max   |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland        | EUR         | 3       | potatoes       | 13  | 0.069                         | 0.892    | 0.015  | 0.160 | 2000–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 3       | potatoes       | 69  | 0.022                         | 1.518    | 0.007  | 0.082 | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 3       | potatoes       | 7   | 0.018                         | 0.126    | 0.007  | 0.033 | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Portugal       | EUR         | 3       | potatoes       | 53  | 0.038                         | 2.019    | <0.007 | <0.1  | 1998–2000 |
| EU SCOOP report | Sweden         | EUR         | 3       | potatoes       | 75  | 0.010                         | 0.750    | 0.001  | 0.028 | 2000      |
| EU SCOOP report | United Kingdom | EUR         | 3       | potatoes       | 20  | 0.026                         | 0.512    | 0.007  | 0.129 | 1997      |
|                 |                |             |         | sum:           | 353 |                               | 6.817    |        |       |           |
|                 |                |             |         | weighted mean: |     | 0.021                         |          |        |       |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 4       | beetroot, red  | 1   | 0.080                         | 0.080    |        |       | 1998      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 4       | beetroot, red  | 1   | 0.006                         | 0.006    |        |       | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Finland        | EUR         | 4       | carrot         | 33  | 0.031                         | 1.023    | 0.005  | 0.150 | 1993      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 4       | carrot         | 1   | 0.029                         | 0.029    |        |       | 2001      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 4       | carrot         | 1   | 0.083                         | 0.083    |        |       | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 4       | carrot         | 1   | 0.020                         | 0.020    |        |       | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 4       | carrot         | 1   | 0.013                         | 0.013    |        |       | 1999      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 4       | carrot         | 3   | 0.019                         | 0.057    | 0.005  | 0.011 | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland        | EUR         | 4       | carrots        | 3   | 0.120                         | 0.360    | 0.060  | 0.179 | 2000–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy          | EUR         | 4       | celery         | 5   | 0.090                         | 0.450    | 0.060  | 0.190 | 1997–1998 |



## Appendix B (contd)

| Data source     | Country     | GEMS region | Group # | Commodity       | n  | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |       |       | Year      |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|---------|-----------------|----|-------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-----------|
|                 |             |             |         |                 |    | Mean                          | Mean * n | Min   | Max   |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 4       | celery          | 1  | 0.010                         | 0.010    |       |       | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 4       | celery          | 1  | 0.510                         | 0.510    |       |       | 1998      |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR         | 4       | parsnips        | 2  | 0.075                         | 0.150    | 0.050 | 0.100 | 2000–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 4       | radish          | 2  | 0.025                         | 0.050    | 0.020 | 0.030 | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR         | 4       | rhubarb         | 3  | 0.087                         | 0.261    | 0.022 | 0.200 | 2000–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 4       | tuber           | 1  | 0.010                         | 0.010    |       |       | 1997      |
|                 |             |             |         | sum:            | 60 |                               | 3.112    |       |       |           |
|                 |             |             |         | weighted mean:  |    | 0.052                         |          |       |       |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 5       | chard           | 1  | 0.380                         | 0.380    |       |       | 1998      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 5       | chicory         | 5  | 0.005                         | 0.025    | 0.005 | 0.005 | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report | Finland     | EUR         | 5       | Chinese cabbage | 30 | 0.005                         | 0.150    | 0.001 | 0.032 | 1993      |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy       | EUR         | 5       | endive          | 5  | 0.030                         | 0.150    | <0.01 | 0.050 | 1997–1998 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 5       | endive          | 1  | 0.025                         | 0.025    |       |       | 1999      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 5       | endive          | 1  | 0.042                         | 0.042    |       |       | 2001      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 5       | endive          | 4  | 0.034                         | 0.136    | 0.021 | 0.046 | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Finland     | EUR         | 5       | lettuce         | 28 | 0.013                         | 0.364    | 0.005 | 0.068 | 1993      |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR         | 5       | lettuce         | 9  | 0.151                         | 1.363    | 0.026 | 0.440 | 2000–2001 |

## Appendix B (contd)

| Data source     | Country     | GEMS region | Group # | Commodity        | n   | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |       |       | Year      |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|---------|------------------|-----|-------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-----------|
|                 |             |             |         |                  |     | Mean                          | Mean * n | Min   | Max   |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy       | EUR         | 5       | lettuce          | 13  | 0.030                         | 0.390    | 0.010 | 0.060 | 1997–1998 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 5       | lettuce          | 9   | 0.036                         | 0.324    | 0.016 | 0.087 | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 5       | lettuce, crinkly | 1   | 0.069                         | 0.069    |       |       | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR         | 5       | spinach          | 2   | 0.550                         | 1.100    | 0.330 | 0.770 | 2000–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy       | EUR         | 5       | spinach          | 5   | 0.160                         | 0.800    | 0.090 | 0.290 | 1997–1998 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 5       | spinach          | 4   | 0.047                         | 0.188    | 0.013 | 0.061 | 2002      |
|                 |             |             |         | sum:             | 118 |                               | 5.506    |       |       |           |
|                 |             |             |         | weighted mean:   |     | 0.047                         |          |       |       |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR         | 6       | cabbage          | 13  | 0.086                         | 1.121    | 0.020 | 0.179 | 2000–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cabbage, white   | 2   | 0.005                         | 0.010    | 0.005 | 0.005 | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cabbage, white   | 1   | 0.040                         | 0.040    |       |       | 1998      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cabbage, white   | 3   | 0.004                         | 0.012    | 0.004 | 0.005 | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cauliflower      | 1   | 0.010                         | 0.010    |       |       | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cauliflower      | 1   | 0.260                         | 0.260    |       |       | 1998      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cauliflower      | 1   | 0.013                         | 0.013    |       |       | 1999      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cauliflower      | 15  | 0.020                         | 0.300    | 0.005 | 0.032 | 2001      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cauliflower      | 4   | 0.025                         | 0.100    | 0.005 | 0.053 | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 6       | cucumber         | 1   | 0.002                         | 0.002    |       |       | 2002      |

Appendix B (contd)

| Data source     | Country     | GEIMS region | Group # | Commodity               | n   | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |         |         | Year      |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|---------|-------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------|
|                 |             |              |         |                         |     | Mean                          | Mean * n | Min     | Max     |           |
| sent to FAO     | New Zealand | EUR          | 6       | cucumber                | 2   | 0.004                         | 0.008    | <0.0006 | <0.0008 | 1997–1998 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR          | 6       | leek                    | 15  | 0.068                         | 1.020    | 0.009   | 0.430   | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR          | 6       | onion                   | 1   | 0.002                         | 0.002    |         |         | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR          | 6       | onion                   | 1   | 0.010                         | 0.010    |         |         | 1997      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR          | 6       | onion                   | 1   | 0.040                         | 0.040    |         |         | 1998      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR          | 6       | onion                   | 4   | 0.065                         | 0.260    | 0.005   | 0.005   | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR          | 6       | onion, spring           | 1   | 0.090                         | 0.090    | 0.090   | 0.090   | 2000–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR          | 6       | onions                  | 10  | 0.129                         | 1.288    | 0.020   | 0.660   | 2000–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy       | EUR          | 6       | pepper, guinea          | 13  | 0.030                         | 0.390    | 0.020   | 0.050   | 1997–1998 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR          | 6       | peppers                 | 20  | 0.015                         | 0.300    | 0.010   | 0.020   | 2002      |
| sent to FAO     | New Zealand | EUR          | 6       | pumpkin                 | 2   | 0.007                         | 0.014    | 0.005   | 0.009   | 1997–1998 |
|                 |             |              |         | sum:                    | 112 |                               | 5.290    |         |         |           |
|                 |             |              |         | weighted mean:          |     | 0.047                         |          |         |         |           |
| EU SCOOP report | France      | EUR          | 7       | molluscs                | 145 | 0.239                         | 34.655   | <0.0005 | 3.450   | 2000      |
| EU SCOOP report | Portugal    | EUR          | 7A      | bivalve molluscs        | 34  | 0.104                         | 3.546    | <0.01   | 0.380   | 1998–2002 |
| EU SCOOP report | Greece      | EUR          | 7A      | bivalve molluscs, fresh | 14  | 0.186                         | 2.604    | 0.022   | 0.456   | 2000–2002 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR          | 7A4     | cockle                  | 15  | 0.024                         | 0.360    | 0.005   | 0.080   | 1999      |

## Appendix B (contd)

| Data source     | Country        | GEMS region | Group # | Commodity         | n    | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |       |       | Year      |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|---------|-------------------|------|-------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-----------|
|                 |                |             |         |                   |      | Mean                          | Mean * n | Min   | Max   |           |
| EU SCOOP report | United Kingdom | EUR         | 7A4     | cockles, winkles  | 7    | 0.130                         | 0.910    | 0.030 | 0.230 | 1996–1997 |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy          | EUR         | 7A      | molluscs, bivalve | 30   | 0.091                         | 2.730    | 0.366 |       | 2001      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain          | EUR         | 7A3     | mussel, blue      | 25   | 0.141                         | 3.525    |       | 0.270 | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain          | EUR         | 7A3     | mussel, blue      | 6    | 0.128                         | 0.768    |       | 0.150 | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain          | EUR         | 7A3     | mussel, blue      | 2    | 0.055                         | 0.110    |       | 0.060 | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain          | EUR         | 7A3     | mussel, blue      | 12   | 0.209                         | 2.508    |       | 0.296 | nr        |
| EU SCOOP report | Finland        | EUR         | 7A3     | mussels           | 5    | 0.077                         | 0.385    | 0.054 | 0.091 | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Greece         | EUR         | 7A3     | mussels           | 57   | 0.696                         | 39.655   | 0.048 | 2.450 | 1999–2002 |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland        | EUR         | 7A3     | mussels           | 2150 | 0.166                         | 357.330  | 0.050 | 0.440 | 1996–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy          | EUR         | 7A3     | mussels           | 30   | 0.100                         | 3.000    |       |       | 1995      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 7A3     | mussels           | 1    | 0.793                         | 0.793    |       |       | 1998      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 7A3     | mussels           | 47   | 0.079                         | 3.713    | 0.040 | 0.310 | 1999      |
| sent to FAO     | New Zealand    | EUR         | 7A3     | mussels           | 6    | 0.282                         | 1.694    | 0.046 | 0.521 | 1997–1998 |
| letter to JECFA | Spain          | EUR         | 7A1     | oyster            | 11   | 0.197                         | 2.167    |       | 0.257 | 2003      |
| EU SCOOP report | Greece         | EUR         | 7A1     | oysters           | 1    | 0.492                         | 0.492    | 0.492 | 0.492 | 2002      |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland        | EUR         | 7A1     | oysters           | 1    | 0.247                         | 0.247    | 0.247 | 0.247 | 1996–2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands    | EUR         | 7A1     | oysters           | 11   | 0.131                         | 1.441    | 0.060 | 0.620 | 1999      |

**Appendix B (contd)**

| Data source     | Country     | GEMS region | Group # | Commodity                     | n    | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |              | Year      |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|---------|-------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|----------|--------------|-----------|
|                 |             |             |         |                               |      | Mean                          | Mean * n | Min Max      |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR         | 7A1     | oysters, Pacific              | 549  | 0.333                         | 182.543  | 0.098 0.631  | 1996-2001 |
| EU SCOOP report | Ireland     | EUR         | 7A1     | oysters, flat                 | 275  | 0.429                         | 118.003  | 0.260 0.590  | 1996-2001 |
|                 |             |             |         | sum:                          | 3289 |                               | 728.523  |              |           |
|                 |             |             |         | all bivalves - weighted mean: |      | 0.222                         |          |              |           |
|                 |             |             |         | sum:                          | 2341 |                               | 413.481  |              |           |
|                 |             |             |         | mussels only – weighted mean: |      | 0.177                         |          |              |           |
|                 |             |             |         | sum:                          | 848  |                               | 304.892  |              |           |
|                 |             |             |         | oysters only – weighted mean: |      | 0.360                         |          |              |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Greece      | EUR         | 7B      | cephalopods                   | 2    | 0.002                         | 0.004    | <0.002 0.004 | 2001      |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy       | EUR         | 7B      | cephalopods                   | 42   | 0.002                         | 0.088    | 0.198        | 2001      |
| EU SCOOP report | Greece      | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish                    | 10   | 0.436                         | 4.360    | 0.050 1.300  | 1999-2000 |
| EU SCOOP report | Greece      | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish                    | 10   |                               | 0.000    |              |           |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish                    | 1    | 2.520                         | 2.520    |              | 1998      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish                    | 19   | 0.153                         | 2.907    | 0.020 0.260  | 1999      |
| EU SCOOP report | Netherlands | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish                    | 6    | 0.585                         | 3.510    | 0.090 1.591  | 2001      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain       | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish                    | 4    | 0.048                         | 0.192    | 0.071        | 2002      |

## Appendix B (contd)

| Data source     | Country | GEMS region | Group # | Commodity       | n   | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |        | Year      |
|-----------------|---------|-------------|---------|-----------------|-----|-------------------------------|----------|--------|-----------|
|                 |         |             |         |                 |     | Mean                          | Mean * n | Max    |           |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish      | 10  | 0.021                         | 0.210    | 0.080  | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish      | 8   | 0.033                         | 0.264    | 0.070  | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish      | 7   | 0.003                         | 0.021    | 0.004  | 2001      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish      | 6   | 0.142                         | 0.852    | 0.336  | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish      | 16  | 0.069                         | 1.104    | 0.124  | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | cuttlefish      | 10  | 0.303                         | 3.030    | 0.594  | 2003      |
| EU SCOOP report | Greece  | EUR         | 7B      | octopus         | 37  | 0.156                         | 5.757    | <0.002 | 1999-2001 |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | octopus         | 8   | nr                            |          | 0.002  | 2001      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | octopus         | 8   | 0.273                         | 2.184    | 0.715  | 2001      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | octopus         | 8   | 0.004                         | 0.032    | 0.015  | 2001      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | octopus         | 7   | 0.145                         | 1.015    | 0.252  | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | octopus         | 8   | 0.043                         | 0.344    | 0.075  | 2002      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | octopus         | 4   | 0.156                         | 0.624    | 0.425  | nr        |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy   | EUR         | 7B      | octopus, spider | 300 | 0.400                         | 120.000  | 0.140  | 1996      |
| EU SCOOP report | Greece  | EUR         | 7B      | squid           | 2   | 0.386                         | 0.772    | 0.058  | 2001      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | squid           | 5   | 0.010                         | 0.050    | 0.016  | 2001      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | squid           | 4   | 0.144                         | 0.576    | 0.206  | 2003      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | squid           | 28  | 0.142                         | 3.976    | 0.336  | 2003      |

Appendix B (contd)

| Data source     | Country | GEMS region | Group # | Commodity        | n              | Cadmium concentration (mg/kg) |          |       | Year |
|-----------------|---------|-------------|---------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------|-------|------|
|                 |         |             |         |                  |                | Mean                          | Mean * n | Max   |      |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | squid            | 8              | 0.073                         | 0.584    | 0.200 | 2002 |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | squid            | 7              | 0.004                         | 0.028    | 0.008 | 2001 |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | squid            | 8              | 0.017                         | 0.136    | 0.053 | 2001 |
| letter to JECFA | Spain   | EUR         | 7B      | squid            | 5              | 1.290                         | 6.450    | 2.180 | nr   |
| EU SCOOP report | Italy   | EUR         | 7B      | squid, broadtail | 212            | 0.070                         | 14.840   | 0.040 | 1997 |
|                 |         |             |         |                  | sum:           |                               | 176.431  |       |      |
|                 |         |             |         |                  | weighted mean: | 0.218                         |          |       |      |

EU, European Union; EUR, European region; FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; JECFA, Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives; Max, maximum; Min, minimum; nr, not reported; SCOOP, Scientific Cooperation on Food