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# **Safety evaluation of certain contaminants in food**

Prepared by the Sixty-fourth meeting  
of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert  
Committee on Food Additives  
(JECFA)

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This publication is a contribution to the **International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS)**.

The IPCS, established in 1980, is a joint venture of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The overall objectives of the IPCS are to establish the scientific basis for assessing the risk to human health and the environment to exposure from chemicals, through international peer review processes as a prerequisite for the promotion of chemical safety, and to provide technical assistance in strengthening national capacities for the sound management of chemicals.

## PREFACE

The monographs contained in this volume were prepared at the sixty-fourth meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), which met at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, 8–17 February 2005. These monographs summarize the data on selected food contaminants reviewed by the Committee.

The sixty-fourth report of JECFA has been published by the World Health Organization as WHO Technical Report No. 930. Reports and other documents resulting from previous meetings of JECFA are listed in Annex 1. The participants in the meeting are listed in Annex 3 of the present publication.

JECFA serves as a scientific advisory body to FAO, WHO, their Member States, and the Codex Alimentarius Commission, primarily through the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods, regarding the safety of food additives, residues of veterinary drugs, naturally occurring toxicants and contaminants in food. Committees accomplish this task by preparing reports of their meetings and publishing specifications or residue monographs and toxicological monographs, such as those contained in this volume, on substances that they have considered.

The monographs contained in the volume are based on working papers that were prepared by Temporary Advisers. A special acknowledgement is given at the beginning of each monograph to those who prepared these working papers. The monographs were edited by M. Sheffer, Ottawa, Canada.

The preparation and editing of the monographs included in this volume were made possible through the technical and financial contributions of the Participating Organizations of the International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS), which supports the activities of JECFA.

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Any comments or new information on the biological or toxicological properties of the compounds evaluated in this publication should be addressed to: Joint WHO Secretary of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives, International Programme on Chemical Safety, World Health Organization, Avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.