

GUIDELINE LEVELS FOR METHYLMERCURY IN FISH**CAC/GL 7-1991**

Codex Guideline Levels for Methylmercury in Fish were adopted by the Commission at its Nineteenth Session (1991), on the understanding that the levels would be kept under review by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants as well as the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products, especially as to the identification of predatory species of fish to which the higher guideline level applies.

Guideline level**Methylmercury**

All fish except predatory fish	0.5 mg/kg
Predatory fish (such as shark, swordfish, tuna, pike and others)	1 mg/kg

Note:

The Guideline levels are intended for methylmercury in fresh or processed fish and fish products moving in international trade. Lots should be considered as being in compliance with the proposed guideline levels if the level of methylmercury in the analytical sample, derived from the composite bulk sample, does not exceed the above proposed levels. Where these Guideline levels are exceeded, governments should decide whether and under what circumstances, the food should be distributed within their territory of jurisdiction and what recommendations, if any, should be given as regards restrictions on consumption, especially by vulnerable groups such as pregnant women.